

**FLORENCE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT FIVE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VIA CONFERENCE CALL
April 27, 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Jerry A. Lee, Chairman
Mr. Andrew B. Gaster
Mr. Raymond A. Haselden
Mr. Christopher G. Marsh

Mr. Ervin J. Richardson
Mr. Joshua B. Timmons
Mrs. Faith L. Truesdale

STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. Randy Smiley, Superintendent
Mr. Adam Kennedy
Mrs. Beth Snowden
Mrs. Mirandi Squires

Mr. Sam Tuten
Mr. Randy Willis
Mrs. Tina Williams, Recorder

The Board of Trustees of Florence County School District Five met for regular session on Monday, April 27, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. at the District Office. Because of the Covid-19 Pandemic, Chairman Lee, the administrative staff, and two principals were present for the meeting, and the board members and one principal participated via conference call.

1. **Welcome and Call to Order** – Chairman Lee welcomed those present and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Confirmation of Notice to Media** – Chairman Lee stated that in accordance with the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended, Section 30-4-80(e), the following were notified of this meeting: *Morning News*, *NPO News*, WMBF-TV, WPDE-TV, and www.fsd5.org.
3. **Approval of Agenda** – The Agenda was approved by general consent of the Board.
4. **Public Forum** – There was no one present to address the Board in Public Forum.
5. **Consent Agenda (A-C)** – Chairman Lee reviewed the items of the Consent Agenda which included Board Minutes for March 23, 2020, regular session; the Monthly Financial Statement for March 2020; and the School Food Service Statement for March 2020. A discussion ensued concerning Medicaid Funding and Food Services. All items passed by general consent of the Board.
6. **Superintendent's Report**
 - A. Budget Update – In a budget update, Mr. Smiley told members that when the Legislature reconvenes, they are expected to pass a continuance bill for next year's budget. He said if changes did occur in the fall, there would be an amended budget presented. Mr. Marsh inquired about a second round of funding in September or October. Mr. Smiley responded that the legislature is unsure how much overage will be available because of unplanned expenses due to COVID-19.
 - B. CARES Funding – Mr. Smiley said the CARES allocation the district received from the federal government is \$407,151. He said the funds can be utilized in 12 areas to help meet budgetary needs in relation to COVID-19.

- C. Instructional Packets – Mr. Smiley told the Board that teachers have finished grading packet one and packet two is due back on April 29, 30, and May 1. Packet three will be mailed home on April 30, and due back on May 18, 19, and 20. Seniors grades will be finalized by May 15. Mr. Smiley reiterated that the schools were following up with students in an effort to encourage student success with the instructional packets. Mr. Marsh asked if there was a possibility of lower income districts being brought up to standard with E-Learning. Mr. Smiley said the state recently has sent out a survey in regards to our technical needs. However, he said the state doesn't give technology funds to districts any longer, and one-to-one would cost approximately \$500,000 to \$600,000 plus other associated cost and yearly renewal fees. Mr. Smiley explained the details of E-Learning and how the infrastructure of connectivity in our district would continue to inhibit the full capability of utilizing E-Learning. The principals all commended their staff for an outstanding job during the unusual circumstances the district has faced.
- D. Graduation – Mr. Tuten gave a detailed outline of the graduation plan in lieu of our regular graduation ceremony because of the Covid-19 Pandemic. He said administration and the graduation committee had worked hours on end to design a plan that would meet the governor's order as well as honor our graduating class in a family event. It will encompass a combination of class night and graduation into a showcase. Mr. Smiley also said other ideas are being planned to honor our graduates. A detailed discussion ensued concerning the flexibility of the plan if the governor's orders change in this regard.
- E. School Breakfast/Lunch Program – Mr. Smiley told the board that the district is serving 2,500 meals a week, which includes breakfast and lunch for five days. In an effort to help reduce cost, the schedule has been reduced from five days a week delivery to three days a week. Mr. Haselden commended Mrs. Carmichael and food service workers for the outstanding job preparing and delivering meals.
- F. Wi-Fi Remote Service – Mr. Smiley informed the board that the Wi-Fi buses have been going into the community on a regular basis for student internet accessibility. Mr. Kennedy said the Wi-Fi AT&T service on the buses has experienced technical issues in which he has to depend on technical support from the state department. The district plans to continue to offer the service for a period of time, and if participation doesn't increase, the service will be discontinued.

7. For Action Agenda

- A. Second Reading of Proposed 2020-21 Proposed School Calendar** – Mr. Haselden moved, seconded by Mrs. Truesdale, that the Board approve the Second Reading of the 2020-21 Proposed School Calendar as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
- B. First Reading of 2020-21 Proposed General Fund Budget** – Mr. Marsh moved, seconded by Mr. Gaster, that the Board approve the First Reading of the 2020-21 Proposed General Fund Budget. The motion carried unanimously.
- C. Textbook Adoptions** – Mrs. Truesdale moved, seconded by Mr. Haselden, that the Board approve the textbook adoption as presented by Mrs. Snowden. (Exhibit A). The motion carried unanimously.

- 8. Adjournment** - There being no further business, Mr. Timmons moved, seconded by Mr. Marsh, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.