

MARION COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARION SCHOOL DISTRICT CONFERENCE ROOM
719 North Main Street – Marion, South Carolina 29571

April 15, 2025

Revised

Board Members Present: Mrs. Nadine Foxworth, Mrs. Patricia Atkinson, Ms. Ogleretta White, Mr. Derrick Weeks, Rev. Cynthia Brown, Mr. Donnie Hill and Mr. Kevin Dozier.

Call to Order & Notification of Board Meeting: Mrs. Foxworth called the board meeting to order. Under the S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80 (d) as amended, the local media was notified of the meeting's time, date, and place. Ms. Deciera Gause stated that the media was notified of the meeting, and a copy of the agenda was also provided.

Invocation: Pastor Chip Scruggs gave the invocation.

Welcome to Staff and Visitors Present: Mrs. Foxworth welcomed everyone to the April 15, 2025, Marion County School Board Meeting.

Establishment of Quorum: Mrs. Foxworth verified that a quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda: Mrs. Foxworth requested a motion to approve the April 15, 2025 agenda. Mr. Weeks moved, seconded by Mr. Dozier, and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Mr. Week, Rev. Brown and Mr. Hill).

Approval of Minutes: Mrs. Foxworth requested a motion to approve the March 18, 2025, monthly meeting minutes. Mr. Weeks moved, seconded by Mr. Hill, and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Mr. Dozier, Mr. Weeks, Rev. Brown and Mr. Hill)

Marion County School District Special Presentations: Dr. Bethea and Dr. Bunch recognized select students and staff for their outstanding accomplishments and the MSCD Proud Award Recipient.

Reports from Administration / Review and Action Items:

Finance Report: Mrs. Angel Cooper presented the March 2025 financials. This report was presented as information. Mrs. Cooper presented the FY 2025-2026 Budget Calendar. The Board will decide on a date for the Special Called Workshop. Dr. Bethea is recommending that the District consolidate steps 1-4 (at the same rate of pay) on the teacher salary schedule. Mrs. Foxworth requested a motion to approve the recommendation. Ms. White moved, seconded by Rev. Brown, and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Mr. Dozier, Mr. Weeks, Rev. Brown and Mr. Hill).

Facilities/Operations Report: Mr. Jason Jordan gave the Operations and Facilities updates. Mr. Jordan provided landscaping contracts information. The Board asked questions during this time. Mrs. Foxworth requested a motion. Mr. Dozier motioned to bring back in-house lawn care services to the district beginning SY 2025-2026. Seconded by Ms. White. Mrs. Atkinson asked questions and requested more information and asked the board to table the vote until next month. She attempted to amend the motion. Attorney Goodwyn stated that because the motion had been seconded, the board should complete the motion or Mr. Dozier could amend the motion. The board voted and the vote

passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Ms. White, Mr. Dozier, Mr. Weeks, Rev. Brown and Mr. Hill). 1 Nay (Mrs. Atkinson).

Human Resources Report / Updates: Mrs. Stacy Wilbanks asked for executive session for personnel actions, staff recommendations and teacher dismissal. Mrs. Foxworth stated that the board is requesting executive action for personnel action.

Superintendent's Report / Update: Dr. Tracy Holcombe asked for approval of the Math Textbooks from the State Adoption List. Mrs. Foxworth requested a motion. Mrs. Atkinson moved, seconded by Ms. White and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Mr. Dozier, Mr. Weeks, Rev. Brown and Mr. Hill). Dr. Holcombe presented the 2025 Summer School Programs and gave a brief summary of the K-8 iReady Spring to Spring Data Comparison. The Board asked questions during this time. There is a lot of concern about new athletic equipment and facilities for MuHS track. Dr. Bunch gave an update on the 2025-2026 Code of Conduct. Dr. Bethea gave a brief update of the recent happenings in MSCD and finalized her report with Departmental updates.

Review and Action: Dr. Bethea presented Student Transfers and Releases to the Board for approval. Mrs. Foxworth asked for a motion to approve the request. Mrs. Atkinson moved, seconded by Mrs. White. Mr. Dozier carried out the motion and board voted and the vote passed. (Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Mr. Dozier, Mr. Weeks, Rev. Brown and Mr. Hill).

Dr. Bethea presented the out of state / over-night travels:

- PMS Distinguished Gentlemen – Youth Leadership Day – Carowinds

Mrs. Foxworth asked for a motion to approve the field trip requests. Ms. White moved, seconded by Mr. Hill, and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Mr. Dozier, Mr. Weeks, Rev. Brown and Mr. Hill).

No Public Participation

Agenda Items for Next Month / Calendar Reminders: Board members were allowed to express concerns or comments. The Facilities Committee is planning to meet. The date will be determined at a later time. Ms. White gave an update on the Workforce Housing Project. Mrs. Foxworth requested a motion. Mrs. Atkinson moved to commit to partnering with the Workforce Housing Development through our school district surplus properties, seconded by Ms. White, and the vote passed. The Board gave an update from the COSSBA Conference. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Mr. Hill, Rev. Brown and Mr. Weeks).

Executive Session: Mrs. Foxworth requested a motion to go into executive session for Personnel / Contractual Matters / Legal Briefings / Legal Services / Superintendent Evaluation. Mr. Weeks moved, seconded by Ms. White to approve this request; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Mr. Hill, Rev. Brown and Mr. Weeks).

Open Session: Mrs. Foxworth requested a motion to come out of executive session. Mr. Weeks moved, seconded by Mr. Dozier to come out of executive session back into open session; and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mrs. Atkinson, Mr. Hill, Ms. White, Rev. Brown and Mr. Weeks).

Mrs. Foxworth stated that no action was taken in the executive session.

Personnel: Mrs. Foxworth requested a motion. Mrs. Atkinson moved that we execute a performance improvement plan for Marion County School District Superintendent as a response to our target expectations from the 2024-2025 academic year evaluation, seconded by Mr. Hill, and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Mr. Hill, Rev. Brown and Mr. Weeks).

Personnel: Mrs. Foxworth requested a motion. Mr. Dozier moved to accept the Superintendent's recommendations for classified support staff, personnel actions and personnel actions addendum one and two for April 15, 2025, seconded by Mrs. Atkinson, and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mrs. Atkinson, Mr. Hill, Ms. White, Rev. Brown and Mr. Weeks).

Personnel: Mrs. Foxworth requested a motion. Mr. Hill moved to affirm the report and the recommendation which terminates staff member A employment, seconded by Mr. Weeks and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Mr. Hill, Rev. Brown and Mr. Weeks).

Salary Study: Mrs. Foxworth requested a motion. Ms. White moved that all board members receive a copy of the salary study and the organizational structure before the next meeting, seconded by Mr. Dozier and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Mr. Hill, Rev. Brown and Mr. Weeks).

Legal Services: Mrs. Foxworth asked Attorney Goodwyn to step out for the next motion. Mrs. Foxworth requested a motion. Mrs. Atkinson moved that we employ and retain the law firm of Halligan, Mahoney and Williams to represent Marion County School District as our legal representative, **seconded by Rev. Brown** and the vote passed. 6 Yes (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Mr. Hill, and Rev. Brown). 1 Nay (Mr. Weeks).

Adjournment: Mrs. Foxworth requested a motion. Ms. White moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Hill to approve this request; and the vote was unanimous (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Mr. Hill and Mr. Weeks). The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.