

**MARION COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**MARION SCHOOL DISTRICT CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**719 North Main Street – Marion, South Carolina 29571**  
**June 4, 2024**

**Board Members Present:** Mrs. Nadine Foxworth, Mrs. Patricia Atkinson, , Rev. Cynthia V. Brown, Ms. Ogleretta White, Mr. Donnie Hill, Mrs. Susan Pridgen and Mr. Kevin Dozier.

**Call to Order & Notification of Board Workshop:** The Board meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mrs. Foxworth. In accordance with the S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80 (d) as amended, the local media was notified of the time, date and place of the meeting. Ms. Deciera Gause stated that the media was notified of the meeting and a copy of the agenda was also provided.

**Invocation:** The invocation was given by Rev. Chip Scruggs. The Board thanked Rev. Scruggs for the invocation.

**Welcome to Staff and Visitors Present:** Mrs. Foxworth welcomed everyone to June 4, 2024 Marion County School Board Meeting.

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

**Approval of Agenda:** Mrs. Foxworth asked for approval of the agenda. Mr. Weeks moved, seconded by Ms. White to approve June 4, 2024 agenda; and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Atkinson, Rev. Brown, Ms. White, Mr. Weeks and Mr. Dozier).

**Approval of Special Called Meeting Minutes:** Mrs. Foxworth asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Called Meeting for May 7, 2024. Mr. Hill moved, seconded by Mr. Weeks to approve the minutes and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Ms. White, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Atkinson, Mr. Weeks). 1 abstained (Mrs. Atkinson).

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Mrs. Foxworth asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2024 regular meeting. Mr. Weeks moved, seconded by Ms. White. Rev. Brown added a statement to the minutes. (see attached) Attorney Boykin explained the policy and the procedure for adding a statement to the minutes. Mrs. Foxworth also added a statement. (see attached) Mrs. Foxworth asked for a motion to approve the minutes plus the statements by board members (Rev. Brown and Mrs. Foxworth). Rev. Brown moved, seconded by Mr. Weeks and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Atkinson, Rev. Brown, Ms. White, Mr. Weeks).

**Marion County School District Special Presentations:** Dr. Bunch recognized the January MCSD Proud Award Recipient. Dr. Bunch recognized select students and staff for their outstanding accomplishments. The Board commended the students and staff for their outstanding accomplishments. Dr. Bethea expressed gratitude and appreciation to the students and staff.

**Reports from Administration / Review and Action Items:**

**Finance Report:** Mr. Matt Bessetti presented the May 2024 financials. This report was presented as information. No executive session requested.

**Facilities/Operations Report:** Mr. Jason Jordan presented the Operations and Facilities update. Mr. Jordan briefed the Board on all summer projects for athletics in the district. The Board asked questions during this time. Mr. Jordan provided a breakdown of the custodial services to include salary comparisons. The Board asked for executive session. Mr. Jordan provide the estimated cost

for lawn care services for the 2024-2025 school year. The Board asked for executive session. He presented options for the CBSA Transportation Office. Mrs. Foxworth asked for a motion. Mr. Dozier motioned to accept Option B for the CBSA Transportation Office, seconded by Ms. White and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Atkinson, Rev. Brown, Ms. White and Mr. Weeks).

**Human Resources Report / Updates** – Mrs. Wilbanks is asking for executive session for personnel actions.

**Superintendent's Report / Update:** Dr. Bethea asked Dr. Holcombe to give an academic update. She provided additional requested information on iReady data and an update on Policy IKE: Promotion, Retention and Acceleration of Students for 1<sup>st</sup> Reading and the AR IKE-R Promotion, Retention and Acceleration of Student for information only. The Board asked questions during this time. Dr. Bethea explained the difference between credit recovery, summer school, content recovery and academic recovery camp. She additionally presented the different offerings happening this summer in MCSD. Ms. Foxworth asked a motion to accept the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading for Policy IKE: Promotion, Retention and Acceleration of Students. Ms. White moved, seconded by Mr. Weeks and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Atkinson, Rev. Brown, Ms. White and Mr. Weeks). Dr. Burks presented Policy JLCD: Assisting Students and Medications for 1<sup>st</sup> Reading. Ms. Foxworth asked a motion to accept the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading for Policy JLCD: Assisting Students and Medications. Mrs. Atkinson moved, seconded by Ms. White and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Atkinson, Rev. Brown, Ms. White and Mr. Weeks).

#### **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. Mr. Hill moved, seconded by Mr. Dozier. Motion carried. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Atkinson, Rev. Brown, Ms. White and Mr. Weeks).

#### **No Public Participation**

**Agenda Items for Next Month / Calendar Reminders:** Board members were given the opportunity to express any concerns or comments that they may have. Policy BD: Organization of the Board. Mrs. Atkinson made a motion to change the verbiage under Board officer qualifications...bullet 3 (Must be have **40 hours and/or be at Level 2 training** in SCSBA's Boardmanship Institute before serving as an officer), seconded by Ms. White, the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Atkinson, Rev. Brown, Ms. White and Mr. Weeks). Limit electronic devices usage at the Board desk during the meeting. Attorney Boykin explained FOIA. Mrs. Atkinson recommended creating a policy pertaining to electronic devices at the board desk. Mrs. Atkinson, Mr. Hill and Mrs. Foxworth agreed to work on a policy for electronic device usage. There will be no July meeting.

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

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

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

**Custodial Services:** Mrs. Foxworth asked for a motion. Mrs. Atkinson motioned to hold the action for custodial services and refer back to Operations for further information, seconded by Ms. White

and the Board voted unanimous to approve. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Atkinson, Rev. Brown, Ms. White and Mr. Weeks).

**Contractual Matters:** Mrs. Foxworth asked for a motion. Ms. White motioned to send open landscaping contract proposals to bid with two for the 2024-25 SY with an extension of current contractors, seconded by Mr. Weeks and the vote passed (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mr. Hill, Rev. Brown, Ms. White and Mr. Weeks). 1 Nay (Mrs. Atkinson).

**Personnel:** Mrs. Foxworth asked for a motion. Mr. Dozier motioned to accept the recommendations for Personnel Actions and Personnel Actions Addendum, seconded by Mr. Weeks and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Atkinson, Rev. Brown, Ms. White and Mr. Weeks)

**Adjournment:** Mrs. Foxworth asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. White moved, seconded by Mrs. Atkinson to approve this request; and the vote was unanimous (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Atkinson, Rev. Brown, Ms. White and Mr. Weeks). The meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm.



## **ADMENDMENT TO THE MAY 21, 2024 MINUTES**

The following statements need to be added to the May 21, 20204 Minutes:

When Mr. Dozier asked which board member questioned his qualifications, Chairperson Nadine Foxworth read the Agenda Item submitted by Reverend Cynthia Brown and acknowledged that she had made the inquiry. (It should be noted that Reverend Brown's Agenda Item was submitted in a Group Text. This Group includes Chairperson Nadine Foxworth, Ms. Patricia Attkinson, Mr. Derrick Weeks, Mr. Kevin Dozier, Ms. Ogleretta White, Mr. Donnie Hill, Reverend Brown and Superintendent, Dr. Kandace Bethea. Reverend Brown's identity was never concealed; hence, Mr. Kevin Dozier had access to her identity prior to his posing the question as to who had questioned his qualifications.)