

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

May 20, 2025

Revised

Board Members Present: Mrs. Nadine Foxworth, Mrs. Patricia Atkinson, Ms. Ogleretta White, Mr. Derrick Weeks, Rev. Cynthia Brown, 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: Reverend Laverne Page, Jr. gave the invocation.

Welcome to Staff and Visitors Present: Mrs. Foxworth welcomed everyone to the May 20, 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 May 20, 2025 agenda. Mrs. Atkinson moved, seconded by Mr. Dozier, and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, and Rev. Brown).

Approval of Minutes: Mrs. Foxworth requested a motion to approve the April 1, 2025 Special Called Meeting and the April 18, 2025, monthly meeting minutes. Rev. Brown moved, seconded by Dozier, and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Mr. Dozier, and Rev. Brown)

Approval of Minutes: Mrs. Foxworth requested a motion to approve the April 15, 2025 monthly meeting minutes. Rev. Brown moved, seconded by Dozier, and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Mr. Dozier, and Rev. Brown)

Marion County School District Special Presentations: Dr. Bethea and Dr. Bunch recognized select students and staff for their outstanding accomplishments. Rev. Brown was recognized by the SCSBA for 15 years of service.

Reports from Administration / Review and Action Items:

Finance Report: Mrs. Angel Cooper presented the April 2025 financials. This report was presented as information. Mr. Weeks asked about the possibility of obtaining a food truck for the Culinary Arts Department. Dr. Bethea explained that it would be discussed during the Budget Workshop.

Facilities/Operations Report: Mr. Jason Jordan gave the Operations and Facilities updates. He provided recent projects and summer projects. The Board asked questions during this time. Mr. Jordan presented quotes for the MuHS track project. The Board agreed to move forward with a six-lane track. Mr. Jordan provide information on in-house lawn maintenance and job descriptions. The

Board asked for an executive session for contractual. Mr. Dozier inquired about a transit style bus to ensure storage capacity for band equipment.

Human Resources Report / Updates: Mrs. Stacy Wilbanks requested executive session for personnel actions.

Superintendent's Report / Update: Dr. Tracy Holcombe gave an update on the Read to Succeed Legislation around 3rd Grade Retention. The current state Superintendent and her administration have vowed to implement and enforce this to the letter of the law. She also gave an update on iReady data and EOC data. Dr. Holcombe stated that the low test scores in 8th grade reading are related to the flooding and Covid for that grade level and school. Dr. Bethea briefly updated 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. Mr. Dozier moved, seconded by Mr. Weeks, and the vote passed. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Mr. Dozier, Mr. Weeks, and Rev. Brown).

Dr. Bethea presented overnight/out of state travel for approval:

- MaHS JAG – Norfolk, VA Tours
- JMS Band – Carowinds Music Fest

Chairperson Foxworth asked for a motion to approve the requests. Rev. Brown moved, seconded by Mr. Weeks. The Board voted. Motion carried. (Mrs. Atkinson, Chairperson Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Rev. Brown, Ms. White, and Mr. Weeks).

No Public Participation

Agenda Items for Next Month / Calendar Reminders: Board members were allowed to express concerns or comments. Mr. Dozier expressed concerns for the 5K students at CBSA and the 4K students. Mrs. Foxworth asked about the theme-based schools. Dr. Bethea explained that only one school responded. The next MCBOE meeting will be June 9, 2025.

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

Open Session: Mrs. Foxworth requested a motion to come out of executive session. Ms. White 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, 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 to accept the Superintendent's recommendation for the May 20, 2025 personnel actions as well as the personnel actions addendum, seconded by Ms. White, and the Board voted unanimously to approve. (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Rev. Brown and Mr. Weeks).

The Special Called Budget Workshop will be Tuesday, May 27, 2025 at 5:30.

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

- PMS Distinguished Gentlemen – EOY Leadership Retreat

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

Adjournment: Mrs. Foxworth requested a motion. Ms. White moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Dozier to approve this request; and the vote was unanimous (Mrs. Foxworth, Mr. Dozier, Mrs. Atkinson, Ms. White, Rev. Brown and Mr. Weeks). The meeting adjourned at 10:13 pm.