

Orangeburg County School Board
Board Meeting
Clyburn Center
770 Stilton Road – Orangeburg SC, 29115
December 12, 2018 – 6:30 pm

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Moment of Silence
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Approval of the Minutes from November 27, 2018
6. Orangeburg Consolidated Transition Committee Report*
7. Executive Session
 - A. Personnel Matter: Interim Superintendent
 - B. Personnel Matter: Administrative Assistant
 - C. Finance Director Position
8. Return to Open Session
9. **Action**, if necessary, from Executive Session
10. Timeline for the Superintendent Search*
11. Adjournment

* Action may be taken

Orangeburg County School Board Meeting Minutes

Clyburn Center

770 Stilton Road – Orangeburg, SC 29115

December 12, 2018

Board Members Present: Peggy James-Tyler (Chair), Betty Pelzer, Vernell Goodwin, William O’Quinn, Idella Carson, Ruby Edwards, Mary Ulmer, R.L. Brown (late arrival), and Deborah Brunson.

Absent: None

Proceedings:

1. Call to Order & Notice to Media:

The board meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by the Board Chair, Peggy James-Tyler. In accordance with S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended, § 30-4-80(e), the following media outlets were notified of the time, date, place, and agenda of the meeting: *Orangeburg County Times and Democrat* and *The Advertizer-Herald*.

2. Moment of Silence:

Board Chair, Peggy James-Tyler, called for a moment of silence to remember the Schuler family whose child died in a car accident.

3. Pledge of Allegiance: Board Chair, Peggy James-Tyler, led the board in recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of the Agenda: Idella Carson moved, with a second by Vernell Goodwin, to approve the agenda as written. The motion passed 8-0.

5. Approval of the Minutes: Idella Carson moved, with a second by Ruby Edwards, to approve the minutes from the November 27, 2018 meeting. Vernell Goodwin asked that the minutes be amended to include a statement that their rooms and registration had been cancelled by the former district. Dr. Tiffany Richardson, South Carolina School Boards Association (SCSBA), said she would correct the minutes. Idella Carson moved, with a second by Ruby Edwards, to approve the November 27, 2018 minutes as amended to include the statement that the rooms and registrations were cancelled. The motion passed 9-0.

Board member R.L. Poppy Brown arrived at 6:32 p.m.

6. Orangeburg Consolidated Transition Committee Report: Dr. Richardson went to look for The Honorable Donnie Hilliard, mayor of Santee, who had not yet arrived.

Board Chair, Peggy James-Tyler, recognized Representative Jerry N. Govan, Jr. of the Orangeburg Legislative Delegation and invited him to comment. Representative Govan congratulated the board members on their election to the board. He thanked the Transition Committee for the work they have done over the past several months and encouraged the board to look closely at the things they worked on. As the board takes in information from the Transition Committee, the SCSBA, and other entities, he encouraged the board to be a sponge and absorb the information because they have a challenge to maintain a competitive advantage in education.

Board Chair, Peggy James-Tyler, thanked Representative Govan and announced that the Transition Committee was ready to present their report.

Mayor Hilliard presented on behalf of the Orangeburg Consolidated Transition Committee. Binders, with information from the committee's work over the last seven months, were provided to each board member. Mayor Hilliard recommended that the board appoint a fiscal agent from one of the school districts. The binders included the operating budget and budget guidelines for 2019-2020. Support service staff salaries will need to be factored in. An inventory of district property is included in the binder. Property has been found in the name of former school districts and will need to be transferred to the new district. Current legislation was included in the binder as well as copies of all the minutes from the Transition Committee's meetings.

7. **Executive Session:** Idella Carson moved, with a second by Mary Ulmer, to enter executive session for discussion of personnel matters regarding an interim superintendent, administrative assistant, and the finance director position. The motion passed 9-0. The Board entered executive session at 6:59 p.m.
8. **Return to Open Session:** The Board returned to open session at 8:41 p.m. Mary Berry Ulmer moved, with a second by Idella Carson, to return to open session. The motion passed 9-0.
9. **Action from Executive Session:** Board Chair, Peggy James-Tyler, stated that no action had been taken on the matters discussed in executive session. Idella Carson moved, and Debora Brunson seconded, a motion authorizing Orangeburg Consolidated District Five to act as fiscal agent. Vernell Goodwin clarified that the board is not hiring an individual or filling a position, rather the board is designating Orangeburg Consolidated District Five as their agent with fiscal authority for the purpose of writing checks for the Orangeburg County School Board to operate. The motion passed 9-0.
10. **Timeline for the Superintendent Search:** Judy LeGrand, Superintendent Search Coordinator of the SCSBA, presented the timeline for the superintendent search. She recommended that the board begin the search January 3, 2019. She suggested the board make available an online survey so people in the community can give input. She recommended that the board consider

holding focus groups, three nights in a row at each district office. These focus groups would be open to anyone who wants to give their thoughts and ideas of characteristics and qualities for the superintendent. After, SCSBA would come back and give their report on the input received and use that data to help the board develop the criteria they want to use. She stated that the semi-finalist level of the superintendent candidates is confidential. Once the district determines no less than three finalists, the names must be announced publicly, and the candidates will be brought in to meet parents and community members, and tour schools. Each candidate will then have a final interview with the board. While SCSBA will perform background checks on each candidate, board members may wish to do additional checking such as making phone calls or visiting the candidate's current district. The goal would be to announce the superintendent by April 15, 2019.

11. **Adjournment:** Board Chair, Peggy James-Tyler, announced that the next board meeting would be December 20, 2018 at the Orangeburg Consolidated District Four board room to go over policies. She also stated that there would be a board meeting on December 27, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Orangeburg Consolidated District Three area, the place to be announced, to discuss the interim administrative position. Idella Carson moved, and Vernell Goodwin seconded, a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 9-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.