

Palmetto Unified School District
South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC)
Board of Trustees Meeting
September 08, 2020

Mission Statement: To improve the academic, vocational, and life skills of offenders assigned to the South Carolina Department of Corrections so that they are better prepared to successfully re-enter society when released to the community.

Vision: Palmetto Unified School District educates and empowers participants to become employable, self-sufficient citizens.

Objective: To prepare educational staff members for the efficient and effective operation of SCDC schools.

Board of Trustees Members Present

Mr. Jay W. Ragley, Chairman

Mr. Ronald Bessant, Vice Chairman

Ms. Charmeka Childs

Dr. James Quinn

Rev. Dr. Robert J. Reid

Dr. M. Elaine Richardson

Mr. Michael Sumter

Executive Office Staff Members Present

Dr. Cynthia Cash-Greene, Superintendent

Ms. Beverly Holiday

Mr. John Shipman

Dr. Carmen Stone

Mr. Josh Brade

Dr. Jay Collins

Ms. Bazella Glover

Ms. Brenda Miller

Mr. Russell Salter

Ms. Vanessa Singleton

Other Members Present

Mr. Artemus Woods Jr, Chaplain

Ms. Georganna Martin

Prior to the Board Meeting Jay W. Ragley, Chairman, began by asking everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Artemus Woods, Chaplain, led the invocation

Mr. Jay W. Ragley, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. A quorum was present

Mr. Jay W. Ragley, Chairman, asked if all members had reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting from January 9, 2020. The members acknowledged that the minutes had been reviewed. Rev. Dr. Robert J. Reid motioned, and Mr. Ronald Bessant, Vice Chairman seconded and the minutes were accepted with a unanimous vote. The correction of Dr. M. Elaine Richardson's name was added to the motion.

Old Business

Action Item- No action taking Mr. Ronald Bessant, Vice Chairman made motion and Rev. Dr. Robert J. Reid seconded the motion.

New Business

2020-2021 Budget Action Item

- Ms. Bazella Glover gave the report for Ms. Georganna Martin. She stated that the budget had been submitted to SCDC.

Staffing Report

- Ms. Bazella Glover gave a personnel update PUSD has 121 staff members, 15 Vacancies, 3 pending interviews, and 7 positions pending at recruiting.

Superintendent's Report

- Dr Cynthia Cash-Greene wants to flex the 2020-2021 calendar due to Covid-19. Rev. Dr. Robert Reid made a motion and Mr. Michael Sumter seconded the motion. Calendar was approved.
- Dr Cynthia Cash-Greene reported on Employees Reporting 1 staff member is out with Covid-19, 8 staff members are out on non-related Covid-19, and 86 staff members are reporting to work. On March 20, 2020 100% of the staff members were telecommuting. 50% of the District Office staff were still working. Question asked by Dr. James Quinn. How does the instructional time compare to the in face to face instruction?

Dr. Cynthia Cash-Greene responded. The instructional time is not the same as face to face. The students received instructional package, via Zoom and Poly Cam 5 days a week and was supervised by the correctional officers. Some institutions were back face to face with 3 to 6 hours of instructional hours per day. The Vocational Staff was leading the way for our return. We have 2 EFA students at Kirkland Infirmary, 1 EFA student in Lock-up at Kirkland receiving instructional package to receive high school diploma credits.
- Dr. Cynthia Cash-Greene spoke on School Model. She announced that Denmark Technical College is partnering with Allendale CI. Claflin University is wanting to partner with SCDC across the state, starting in January of 2021. A question was asked by Dr. M. Elaine Richardson about the tablets being at all the institutions.

Dr Cash-Greene asked Dr. Carmen Stone to answer this question about the tablets. Dr. Stone stated that not all institution has the tablets. Dr. Stone also stated that the institutions that have the tablets Math and Language tutorials are downloaded. Dr. Cash-Greene also had Ms. Lakeisha Adams to speak on the Career Pathways that are also on the tablets. Ms. Adams stated that the Career Pathway material covers Financial Mindset, Digital Mindset and How to complete the FAFSA form. Dr. M. Elaine Richardson asked another question about is the study package downloaded to the tablets. Ms. Adams responses was she was not sure if they can. Dr. Cash-Greene responded that SCDC networking is working a partnering with LinkedIn.

- Dr. Cynthia Cash-Greene spoke on Legislation Request to change Regulation 43.229 that states PUSD will have no more than 3 EFA schools per region. At the present one region has 4 EFA school. Secondly, PUSD would like to begin a new four-year cohort towards graduation upon EFA students' entering South Carolina Department of Corrections. Requesting to increase the age of EFA students from 21 to 25 to obtain a high school diploma.
- Dr. Cynthia Cash-Greene asked Ms. Beverly Holiday to speak on the Goals. Ms. Holiday stated due to the pandemic, PUSD ended all face to face instruction mid-March 2020. The goals would stay the same from 2019-2020 to 2020-2021.
- Dr. Cynthia Cash-Greene thanked the Board of Trustees. She turned the meeting back over to Mr. Jay W. Ragley, Chairman.

Mr. Jay W. Ragley, Chairman, spoke that he and Mr. Ronald Bessant, Vice Chairman two-year terms were up for new nominees. He asked the Board of Trustees if they wanted to wait until the upcoming year to vote on new Chairman and Vice Chairman. Rev. Dr. Robert J. Reid made a motion to wait and requested the appointment of a committee. Dr. James Quinn seconded the motion. The next Board Meeting is February 11, 2021.

BOARD MEMBERS

The Board of Trustees members thanked the Palmetto Unified School District staff for all their hard work and outstanding job they are doing.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business on the agenda, Mr. Jay W. Ragley, Chairman, made a motion that the meeting be adjourned at 10:59 a.m. Mr. Ronald Bessant motioned, and Mrs. Charmeka Childs seconded the motion.

The next Board of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Brenda Miller, Superintendent Administrative Assistant
 Palmetto Unified School District Board of Trustees

Reviewed By: _____
 Dr. Cynthia Cash-Greene, Superintendent

