

Palmetto Unified School District
South Carolina Department of Corrections
Board of Trustees Meeting
Thursday, October 5, 2023

Mission Statement: Palmetto Unified School District and South Carolina Department of Corrections will provide students with relevant academic courses, highly effective career related vocational programs and necessary life skills to make a positive impact in society.

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

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

Board of Trustees Members Present

Mr. Michael Sumter, Chairman	Rev. Dr. Robert Reid
Dr. Mary Elaine Richardson	Rev. Ronald Bessant
Mr. Wade Keith Coones (via Teams)	Ms. Charmeka Childs (via Teams)
Mr. Tyson Grinstead (via Teams)	Dr. James Ann Sheley (via Teams)
Dr. Jamie Quinn, Vice Chairman (via Teams)	

District Office, PUSD and Headquarters Staff Members Present

Dr. Cynthia Cash-Greene, Superintendent	Mr. Rodney Zimmerman
Ms. Bazella Glover	Dr. Charlette Taylor
Ms. Gina Williams	Mr. Josh Brade (via Teams)
Mr. Russell Salter (via Teams)	Dr. Matthew Thompson
Dr. Casey O'Donnell-Chavis (via Teams)	Ms. Tamikah McDuffie (via Teams)
Chaplain Steven Hendricks	Mr. Jarrod Dubose-Schmitt
Ms. Nancy Jeter	

Meeting began at 10:02 am

Chairman Sumter – confirmed a quorum and meeting was called to order.

Pledge of Allegiance – led by **Chairman Sumter**

Invocation – **Chaplain Steven Hendricks**

Old Business – Minutes reviewed from April 6, 2023. **Dr. Richardson** acknowledged a correction on page 3 of April 6th minutes. **Chairman Sumter** questioned dates of meeting stating July 13th. **Dr. Richardson** reminded him about where the meeting was held on July 13th (Broad River Correctional Institution) and that meeting minutes were carried over from July 13th. Minutes were accepted, all were in favor.

New Business – **Ms. Glover** presented the Budget Update in the absence of Georganna Martin.

Superintendent's Report – **Dr. Cash-Greene** acknowledged all those present face to face and virtually. **Dr. Cash-Greene** reviewed Goal Attainment chart and emphasized that we were able to meet 5 of the 7 goals measured, however there are 8. WIN certificates were not measured due to lack of access to WIN software until March of this year. Goals numbers were given by **Dr. Cash-Greene** as seen in goal attainment data chart. **Dr. Cash-Greene** introduced **Mr. Rodney Zimmerman** who gave the Curriculum Update which included Apex updates and Study Buddies. Questions were answered about the Study Buddy and the tool was passed around to the Board members to take a closer look. **Dr. Cash-Greene** introduced **Dr. O'Donnell-Chavis** as Certified Teacher of the Year and emphasized that last year she led the district with the number of GEDs attained. **Mr. Russell Salter** was recognized as Classified Employee of the Year. Due to **Dr. Holiday** being away from the office, **Ms. Glover** was asked to give Adult Ed update. **Chairman Sumter** asked if the Adult Ed students use Apex as well to which **Ms. Glover** responded yes. **Dr. Cash-Greene** introduced **Dr. Thompson**, who has replaced Mr. Shipman as Vocational Director. Dr. Thompson gave a vocational update to the Board. Dr. Cash-Greene added to the vocational update by informing the Board that PUSD is contracting with a consultant working with Wateree High School to help them expand to agriculture education. **Dr. Cash-Greene** inquired if there were any technology updates at this time to which **Mr. Brade** responded none at this time. **Dr. Cash-Greene** asked **Mr. Brade** to share a little bit about the transition of the PUSD website and what SCDC is doing to upgrade it overall. **Mr. Brade** gave an update. Human Resources update was given by **Mr. Zimmerman** in the absence of **Ms. Grooms**. **Dr. Cash-Greene** informed the Board that Dr. Collins, who was formerly over SPED, has since retired and Mr. Ryan Bartola took over that role but he has since resigned. Post-Secondary Update was given by **Dr. Cash-Greene** as well. **Rev. Reid** inquired if Allen University was included in our partnerships to which **Dr. Cash-Greene** responded not yet. **Rev. Bessant** expressed his excitement in the different programs that are keeping inmates busy. **Dr. Richardson** asked what programs are offered at Camille Graham and Leath. **Dr. Cash-Greene** responded that there is a principal at Camille but asked Dr. Thompson to answer what is available at Leath. **Dr. Thompson** gave an update including the formation of a cooking class and at Camille, welding is offered. **Dr. Richardson** asked if there would be opportunities for higher education going to those two institutions. **Dr. Cash-Greene** responded that there was an offer,

but they pulled out due to changes in administration at the college level. **Dr. Cash-Greene** added that the Department of Justice has issued strict guidelines for the use of the Pell Grant. **Dr. Cash-Greene** mentioned the coding class being offered at Camille that will be relocating to Leath.

Chairman's Report – **Chairman Sumter** discussed the presentation to the SCABA conference in February 2024. **Dr. Cash-Greene** stated that PUSD would like to present from the standpoint of diversity and inclusion relevant to school board policy. She stated the title of the presentation would be about the impact and practices which impacts school to prison pipeline, further explaining the meaning of the title. She added that hopefully they will receive us and allow us to present. **Ms. Glover** added that the cosmetology program was moved from Leath to Goodman. **Ms. Childs** stated the presentation to the SCABA sounds very exciting and if there is a chance for collaboration with the Department of Juvenile Justice because the topic really aligns with their efforts. **Dr. Cash-Greene** responded that what we do has an impact on the Department of Juvenile Justice in terms of what happens as they transition into our environment so we will keep her posted. **Chairman Sumter** asked the Board if they are interested in volunteering for the committee to select our new slate of officers, please send an email this week or the beginning of next week. **Chairman Sumter** also thanked all the online administrators for all the work they are doing. Certificate of Achievement Award was presented to **Rev. Bessant** as well as a certificate to attend the Legislative Advocacy Conference at no cost. **Chairman Sumter** asked for comments. **Rev. Reid** piggy backed from **Ms. Childs** suggestion of the Department of Juvenile Justice being involved with PUSDs presentation to SCSBA. **Dr. Richardson** gave updates on the Department of Education and Clemson. **Chairman Sumter** thanked everyone for attending and asked if there was a request for an executive session, to which there was none. **Chairman Sumter** motioned to adjourn, motion seconded. Meeting adjourned.

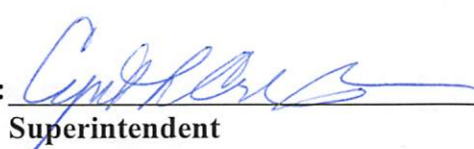
Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am

Next meeting January 4, 2024

Respectfully,

Gina Williams, Meeting Secretary
Palmetto Unified School District Board of Trustees

Approved by:


Superintendent

10/23/23