

Anderson County Board of Education
907 North Main Street, Suite 202, Anderson, South Carolina 29621
June 18, 2018

Call to Order: Mr. Draisen called the meeting to order and Rev. Dr. Rufus Mitchell gave the invocation. Everyone joined in the pledge of allegiance to the American Flag.

Board Members Present: Mr. David Draisen, Dr. Gary Burgess, Mr. Nakia Davis, Rev. Dr. Rufus Mitchell, Mr. Mike Upton, and Mr. Joey Nimmer, Ex Officio.

Board Members Absent: Ms. Brenda Bradberry, Ms. Dana Grant, Mr. Mike Brock, and Mr. Dale Martin.

Approval of Agenda: Dr. Gary Burgess made the motion to approve the agenda. Rev. Dr. Rufus Mitchell seconded the motion and the Board members agreed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Nakia Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2018 meeting. Rev. Dr. Rufus Mitchell seconded the motion and the Board approved the minutes unanimously.

Recognition of Media and Patrons/Public Comment Period: No one from the media or public was present for comment.

Recognition of State of South Carolina Teacher of the Year: The Anderson County Board of Education invited Mr. Jeffrey Maxey to the June meeting to congratulate him as the South Carolina Teacher of the Year. He is a special education teacher at Starr Elementary School in Anderson County School District Three. Mr. Maxey was presented with a plaque to acknowledge and honor this achievement. The Board members are very proud to have one of our own win the title this year. Mr. Maxey told the group how pleased he is to be the recipient of this award and how much he is looking forward to traveling the state and the country as he competes for the National Teacher of the Year Award. In fact, one of the benefits that come with the award is a brand new BMW provided to him for his travels during the year. With his many upcoming speaking engagements, it will be a pleasure to travel in style!

Discussion of County Board Budget for FY 2018-19 and Consideration of Continuing Resolution: Mr. Nimmer, referred the Board members to the continuing resolution page in their packets which will allow us to continue using the budget from the 2017-18 fiscal year until the 2018-19 budget is passed. Mr. Nimmer attended the June 7th Anderson County Legislative Delegation meeting and they approved the resolutions to continue using the current year's budget for the Board of Education, the Alternative School, and the Districts One and Two Career and Technology Center. This is more of a procedural move for us right now to carry forward. The next page is the same proposed budget we talked about last month. There are no changes since we don't have any additional information on the State budget. This is probably the budget that I will suggest for approval providing the numbers come through on the revenue side as expected. Again, we are at a slight advantage since we do not rely on the state for our employee salary schedule. The largest adjustment, as far as expenditures go, is for employee benefits which continues to rise at an increasing rate. We have a slight increase with our telecommunications contract and the annual adjustment for our rent and that is the automatic increase that comes with the growth rate in the county based on the consumer price index in the Southeast along with the increase in population. This is the same growth rate that is used for the millage cap and Tier 3 reimbursement under Act 388 that ties into our lease as an accelerator.

Mr. Nimmer said he would take suggestions on how best to handle this. If the Board would like to pass this budget now, this will be the budget we use assuming the numbers are accurate. Or, we can have a special called meeting once the state budget is finalized to approve the budget then. Dr. Gary Burgess suggested the Board pass it now and amend it if necessary since we do not depend on a salary schedule from the state. Mr. Nakia Davis added that he thought that most of the school districts had done their budgets based on their best and most accurate means. Districts One, Two, and Three, used the Senate version of the state budget to prepare theirs, District Four used the House version for theirs, and District Five used a combination of both. Basically, it is a best guess at this point and they all are going under the assumption they will amend their budgets once the state budget is finalized. Mr. Upton verified the fact that no changes on millage increases or salary changes will take effect until the state budget is finalized and they present their final budgets to the Boards. Mr. Draisen asked if Ms. Bradberry had a chance to look over this and Mr. Nimmer answered yes, she had and he answered her questions.

Dr. Burgess made a recommendation to accept the 2018-19 Annual Budget and Mr. Upton seconded the recommendation. It was a unanimous vote among the members.

Next, Mr. Nimmer told the Board members it would be necessary to approve the continuing resolution using last year's budget in order to continue operating until a new budget is approved. Rev. Mitchell made a motion to continuing using the current 2017-18 budget until the new budget is approved and finalized. Mr. Upton seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Lastly, we have an updated schedule for the budget workshops. Normally, these are completed much earlier in the year, however, this year there is a delay. Therefore, Mr. Nimmer is proposing the Board of Education meeting be moved back a week to Monday July 23rd. This will allow additional time for the school districts to come in and have their budgets approved.

Dr. Burgess made a motion to move the Board Meeting to Monday, July 23, 2018 and Mr. Davis seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

Anderson County Alternative School Report: Mr. Nimmer reported that three students graduated on May 25th from the Alternative School. Now that the school has closed for the summer, there will be some upgrades made to the facility including new carpet and paint which will be paid for with the sales tax money.

Administrator's Report:

Mr. Nimmer reminded those up for re-election in November that the filing will open on August 1st and will close on August 15th said the deadline to file for the November 6th general election will be August 15, 2018. The seats open in 2018 are Seat 1 – Dr. Burgess; Seat 3 – Coach Martin; Seat 4 - Dana Grant; Seat 5 - Mike Brock; and Seat 6 - Nakia Davis.

Ms. Brenda Bradberry will have neck fusion surgery in Charleston on Monday to improve the long struggle with discomfort she has endured after the first surgery. When Mr. Nimmer spoke to her today, she was having a pretty good day and our hope is that this trend will continue for her.

Lastly, at the July meeting, Anderson County School District One will be making a recommendation for someone to fill the vacancy left on their school board after Mr. Doug Atkins resigned. Wendy Burgess has expressed an interest and her information is included in your packet. Mr. Atkins may also be interested in being reappointed to the seat.

Financial:

A. Tax Collections YTD vs. Budget: Mr. Nimmer referenced the information in the packet showing tax collection year to date vs. budget. Everyone has remained steady this year through the end of May. All the school districts are at or very close to meeting their budget in terms of revenue. As a reminder, the Board of Education and Alternative School lag behind because our reimbursement from the districts comes in at the end of June which will put us where we ought to be.

B. Assessment Totals: The green sheets, which show the assessment totals, are within \$1,000 of the value of a mil county-wide which is about where it was last month. According to the auditor, the slight dip was caused by automobile sales which is normal since the car sales usually coincide with the tax refunds booked earlier in the year. Dr. Burgess asked what the value of a mil county-wide is currently and Mr. Nimmer answered approximately \$769,755.00.

C. Education Sales & Use Tax: Through May 2018, we have collected sales tax totaling just under \$70 million dollars. The actual total is \$68,804,378.66. Remember 20% goes towards property tax relief and the rollback of debt service millage rates in each district and 80% is used for capital projects. It continues to perform ahead of projections.

Old Business: No old business was discussed.

New Business:

A. ADM Accounts Payable

B. SFS Accounts Payable

Dr. Gary Burgess made a motion to pay both bills, seconded by Mr. Mike Upton. The Board unanimously approved.

Adjourn: With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Gary Burgess, Secretary of the Anderson County Board of Education
This is a true and correct copy of notes taken at the meeting.