

Anderson County Board of Education
907 North Main Street, Suite 202, Anderson, South Carolina 29621
May 20, 2019

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

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

Board Members Absent: Mr. John Martin was unable to attend.

Approval of Agenda: Ms. Brenda Bradberry made the motion to approve the agenda. Dr. Gary Burgess seconded the motion and the Board members agreed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Dr. Gary Burgess made the motion to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2019 meeting. Ms. Brenda Bradberry seconded the motion and the Board approved the minutes unanimously.

Recognition of Media and Patrons/Public Comment Period: Two representatives from Anderson County District Two requested time to address the Board to explain concerns they have regarding the fate of their superintendent, Dr. Richard Rosenberger, since a few members serving on the School Board would like to see him removed. Mr. David Draisen welcomed them and explained the role of the Anderson County Board of Education is to approve the recommendation of a particular District to fill a vacancy on their Board. Normally, the District sends the name of their top candidate with their recommendation to the County Board for approval once he/she has been vetted and screened thoroughly.

The representatives were then allotted time to share their views, concerns, as well as making it very clear that they want Dr. Rosenberger to remain in his present position as the Superintendent of the District Two. They clearly expressed that their opinion is shared by the majority of parents, students, and faculty.

At this point in time, the District Two Board Members are unable to come to an agreement. More information will follow as the discussion from both sides continues through the process.

Anderson County Alternative School Report: Mr. Nimmer stated that as of May 6th there are 121 students currently enrolled, last month they had 117, and last year at this time we had 115 students. Full capacity is about 130 students. On the back of the report they have listed the number of students that left the Alternative School as well as why they left. Mr. Nimmer also mentioned that 19% of these students are receiving special education services which is a larger number than we've seen previously.

Administrator's Report: Mr. Nimmer told the Board he has been working on the County Board's budget but still needs information from the Conference Committee before it can be completed. One of those things is the State budget. The Conference Committee met last week and will again today while the full State House will be in session over the next three days. We are hoping for a consensus by the end of the week and that they will take it to the respective floors for a vote. He is also waiting for local growth figures from the assessor and the auditor's office to get the most current information in to the budget. This needs to be approved by the end of May, so we may need to have a Called Meeting to accomplish this.

Secondly, Mr. Nimmer passed the proposed budget calendar to the Board members listing the dates for the budget workshops with the meetings with the individual school districts. The five districts must have their budgets to Mr. Nimmer by Monday, June 3rd and he will have the books to the County Board members later that week. The dates for the budget workshops have been set and agreed upon by the districts. The Legislative Delegation meeting will be held on June 13th.

Lastly, the Anderson County Alternative School is mailing invitations to their graduation ceremony and awards day which will be held on May 31th at 10:00 am at the River Street Baptist Church.

Financial:

A. Tax Collections YTD vs. Budget: Mr. Nimmer referred to the tax collection report year-to-date stating that all the Districts are between 92 to 95 percent with two months left to report. He anticipates everyone meeting their budget numbers. The Alternative School and County Board are ahead of where we were last year at this time. Mr. Nimmer reminded the Board members that both entities receive reimbursements in June which will then bring the numbers to where they should be and expects they will exceed our budget numbers as well.

B. Assessment Totals: Mr. Nimmer stated the tax assessment totals have remained incredibly steady during all of 2019. The value of a mil county-wide is \$785,523 which is up about \$40,000 a mil from last year. Some growth will be added to that prior to calculating the ad valorem taxes and real property tax collection for the fiscal year 2019-20.

C. Education Sales & Use Tax: Since the inception of the penny sales tax in March, 2015, we have collected \$91,636,576.15 through the month of April, 2019. As a reminder, 20% comes off the top to be used to roll back debt service millage for all classifications of property. The remaining 80% is used for capital projects.

Old Business: Mr. Mike Upton mentioned that he and his wife attended the Teacher of the Year Banquet in Columbia recently since they knew the media specialist from Wren High, Tamara Cox, who was one of the finalist. They enjoyed themselves at the event and the Board Members were pleased to have the County Board represented.

New Business:

A. ADM Accounts Payable

B. SFS Accounts Payable

Mr. Mike Brock made a motion to pay both bills, seconded by Rev. Dr. Rufus Mitchell. 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.