

Dorchester School District Two (D-2) Board Meeting

August 28, 2017

Observer: Vicki Westberg

1. Meeting called to order @ 6:03 PM
2. Prayer
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Welcome – Goalcast video: Former US Navy Admiral, William H. McRaven
5. Public Comments on Agenda Items - There were none
6. Approval of Minutes from August 14, 2017 meeting - Approved
7. School Highlights
 - A. Fort Dorchester Elementary School PTA Board was present & was recognized for receiving PTA State Board of Education Award. They were also congratulated for logging 14,000 volunteer hours and receiving numerous additional volunteer awards, including collecting and driving a truckload of donated supplies to a NC outer banks community after Hurricane Matthew.
 - B. Katie Hamell, 3rd grade teacher at Flowertown Elementary, made a short presentation to thank the Safari Club for the Scholarship that enabled her to attend last summer's "American Wilderness Leadership School in Wyoming". She generously offered to share her newly learned ideas, skills and teaching tools with interested fellow teachers.
8. Superintendent's Report
 - A. Mr. Pye said the school year is off to a good start with 26,300 students, expected to grow to 26,500 this year and as many as 30,000 by the next school year. New programs are being implemented according to plan. He said that, thanks to the County Council, the district was able to hire 39 new teachers with one position left to fill. (7th grade Language Arts at DuBose). Mr. Pye was present at Gregg Middle School and Summerville HS on the first two days of school to observe how well the student drop off/pick up traffic went. He said the first day had significant traffic backups but was running smoothly by the second day. Overall bus routes went well with the fewest number of late busses in several years. The transportation goal at the end of the school day is to load and exit all busses in 25 minutes. Mr. Pye stated that he had the opportunity to walk the halls at Summerville HS and was impressed with the students. He also praised Fort Dorchester Elementary School principle, Ms. Hess, for her excellent leadership with her school's PTA.
 - B. Financial Report - Draft was presented to and approved by the Board. Auditors will review mid-September. Final word was that the new school year is starting with adequate balance.

C. Personnel Report – Approved

- 9.** Unfinished business – None
- 10.** Other Business and Correspondence
 - A.** SCSBA School Law Conference Report – Parents are not able to opt out of assessment tests. Mr. Pye wants to make sure this is verified. He also made a statement against potential teacher rating/scores. Justin Farnsworth thanked the community for allowing them to attend this conference. He said immigration enforcement in schools was discussed at the conference but he did not say what the result was. Tonya Robinson also expressed thanks to the community and said that when attending statewide conferences she is often struck by how much “ahead of the game” or “right there” D-2 is on solving challenges faced by other school districts. Another Board Member said for everyone to be aware of lots of “4 year” changes.
- 11.** New Business
 - A.** There will be a “Called Meeting” Tuesday, August 29th at 6:00 PM
- 11.** Comments – There were no public comments
- 12.** 6:50 PM - Board adjourned to Executive Session for Legal Advice regarding Superintendent’s evaluation.