

St. John's Constituent District 9 Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting (Via Zoom Conference Line) Minutes
September 15, 2020

Board Members Present: Monica Smith, Pat Cline, Tamy Lockhart, Karen Simmons, Renea Bligen, Cheryl Glover, Leon Green

Proceedings:

I. Call to Order & Moment of Silence:

The board meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m. by the Board Chair, Monica Smith.

II. Adoption of Agenda:

Renea Bligen moved, with a second by Karen Simmons, to adopt the agenda. The motion passed 7-0.

III. Approval of Minutes:

Pat Cline moved, seconded by Leon Green, to approve the minutes from the September 1, 2020, meeting. The motion passed 7-0.

IV. Public Comments:

There were no comments submitted.

V. Constituent Board Chair Report:

Ms. Smith did not have a formal report to share but reminded the board of the September 14, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting which included updates on the first week of school. The recording of the meeting is available on the district's YouTube channel.

VI. District Updates:

Ms. Ham shared that all vacancies in District 9 have been filled and responded to questions from board members regarding progress towards in-person schooling for all children and Cultural Competency training opportunities for board members.

Board members shared their children/grandchildren's first week of school experiences.

VII. Constituent Board School Liaison Report:

Report attached.

VIII. Old Business:

No Old Business discussed.

IX. New Business:

Pat Cline shared that parents are asking when they will have a real opportunity to give feedback to the Superintendent and Board of Trustees on temporary remote, face to face and virtual attendance. She provided examples of opportunities that were arranged in the past, including Coffee with the Superintendent. At this time parents are able to submit public comments for the boards review and they may email the Superintendent and/or board members to share their concerns.

Board members expressed interest in obtaining more information about internet and hot spot services available noting that there are some areas on the islands that are unable to receive service or have unstable connections which may prevent students from being able to complete their assignments remotely.

X. Public Notification:

Board of Trustees Meeting, September 28, 2020

XI. Adjournment:

Board Chair, Monica Smith, adjourned the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

District 9 School Updates

September 15, 2020

St. John's High - Dr. Karen Simmons

- 350 students enrolled, 123 are virtual learners
- Teachers are teaching both in person and virtually
- The school has a new football coach and also recently hired a new parent liaison
- Repairs to the school include a new roof and new HVAC unit
- The football team has a scrimmage on Thursday and the first volley ball game is scheduled at home on September 21st
- The school has two weight rooms and one is named in memory of Mr. Isaac Legare.

Mt. Zion Elementary – Tamy Lockhart

The Mt. Zion SIC is scheduled to meet on September 16, 2020. The following notes were shared with board members on September 18, 2020:

- The Mt. Zion SIC meeting was held on September 16, 2020, at 5 pm. Future meetings are planned for the second Wednesday of the month at 5. This month's meeting was moved due to a busy time due to the opening of schools.
- At the beginning called leap week, Mt Zion parents have been contacted and emails obtained, and if necessary, email accounts have been set up to facilitate communications including the newsletter. Here is the link <https://www.smores.com/413xf>
- They continue to work with community groups who are providing funding to ensure all families have Internet service.
- Ashley Burke has taken over for Kim LaBoard as the Chairperson of the SIC. Jean Howard will join as a community member and one other person will be sought as a community member. The SIC committee should be complete by the next meeting. Mt Zion is also in need of more parents on the PTA.
- The kindergarten and fifth grade are quite large, the former due to increased population on John's Island and the latter due to the end of a program for 5th graders at Haut Gap.
- Mt Zion will be working with tutors to see if they can serve via Zoom.
- Kiawah Cares will still be involved with boosting our STEM resources although due to cuts Carla will no longer be part of our team, however, Holly indicated they are happy to help with the expenses for training for more teachers to learn the Project Lead the Way methodology.
- Ms. Cline shared that according to a post on the school's website, Seabrook and Kiawah Island volunteers donated beach towels for Mt. Zion Elementary students.

Frierson Elementary – Leon Green

- Visited the school on the first day
- Dr. Cummings gave Mr. Green a tour of the building
- Noted that the Montessori program started with 89 children and are now up to 130+
- Site feeds a lot of students on a daily basis that are not all currently in school.
- Very impressed with what he saw. The school is doing pretty good!

Approved 10.6.20