

**St. John's Constituent District 9 Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting (Via Zoom) Minutes
September 21, 2021**

Board Members Present: Monica Smith, Dr. Karen Simmons, Leon Green, Rev. Gertie Smalls-Ford, Pat Cline, Tamy Lockhart, Renea Bligen, Monica Smith

Proceedings:

I. Call to Order & Moment of Silence:

The board meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Board Chair, Monica Smith.

II. Adoption of Agenda:

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

III. Approval of Minutes:

Tamy Lockhart moved, seconded by Pat Cline, to approve the minutes from the September 7, 2021, meeting. The motion passed 7-0.

IV. Visitors/Public Comments:

No public comments submitted by the established deadline.

V. District Updates:

Mr. Bill Briggman, Board Liaison, provided an update on vacancies in District 9.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

- September 27, 2021 – Board of Trustees Meeting
- October 11, 2021 – Committee of the Whole Meeting
- October 25, 2021 – Board of Trustees Meeting

VI. Constituent Board Report:

Ms. Smith shared that she is waiting for confirmation of the date and time for District 9's Annual Report to the Board of Trustees.

VII. Constituent Board School Liaison Report:

A. School Updates – Report attached.

VIII. Old Business:

Ms. Cline expressed thanks from the District 9 Board to the school district and members of the Operations Team for the two public meetings held regarding the new school in District 9.

IX. New Business:

Ms. Cline thanked the Board of Trustees for implementing the mask mandate as of September 20th.

The board briefly reviewed the ESSER priorities that were discussed during the September 7, 2021, meeting.

X. Announcements:

Consolidated Board Chairman, Rev. Dr. Eric Mack, is hosting a Vaccine Clinic at St. John's High School on Saturday, October 2, 2021, from 11 – 1 p.m.

XI. Adjournment:

Board Chair, Monica Smith, adjourned the meeting at 5:51 p.m.

District 9 School Updates

September 21, 2021

Tamy Lockhart – Mt. Zion Elementary

Mt. Zion SIC Meeting, Sept 8, 2021 5:00 pm

The current chair will have to step down as chair so the election process must be decided.

Principal Update:

- The state scores have come out. Mt Zion has a slight increase which is opposite of most schools.
- Last testing was 2019 and there is improvement in both Math and English. SC report cards is the site where you can view some of the data.
- It will be missing 2020 data.
- New Staff have arrived and the mood is very good. 7 new teachers including in the 3rd grade, 1st grade, Kindergarten, and Guidance.
- The basketball all nets have been replaced.
- There are two public meetings that will be held at Mt. Zion on the 14th and Angel Oak on the 16th at 6 pm in person in the cafeteria. They are waiting for flyers. The group felt that this has been rushed, should be held outdoor.
We will try to find out more information to confirm whether these dates will be changed.
- COVID has not been a problem so far for Mt. Zion.
- There are 236 kids are in person but some are home due to COVID, and some may return in the future.
- They are waiting for CD furniture to add a few more children.
The decision to close a school is not 5% infection, (just the COVID numbers), but also buses, nurses and other factors.
- The process for electing new SIC members has been to advertise for members and allow anyone to submit names and then vote.
- Erin indicated she was fine with becoming the chair. The newsletter is being read by about 150 people so it is a good place to post information about SIC and to recruit participants.
Ashley will provide the content for this and the same form can be used as last year. Ashley can set up an electronic form to be filled out.
- The voting can be done using these forms. The Google form seems to be easy for most to use.
We have another month to submit the nominations
- The information can be sent twice to make sure everyone is seeing it. We can get this translated to Spanish.
- The content will also look for community and parent members. There was a discussion about how to attract new community members.
- During the October meeting we can work on what our initiatives will be with the new members.
- Ms. Parker shared with us that developers are still lying about school zones and that Mt. Zion is completely under appreciated.
- Amanda indicated that she also has been advocating for what a great school Mt. Zion is.
Ms. Mims is hoping for another trailer that can be used to expand CD because that brings the families into the Mt. Zion community.

Frierson Elementary – Rev. Gertie Ford

- iPads and Chromebooks will continue to go home daily. Please make sure your child's device is charged and ready for the next day's work.
- Tuesday, September 14th was SIC Meeting at 5:30pm and PTA Meeting was at 6:00 pm via Zoom.
- Friday, September 17th was Spirit Day. Everyone could wear their favorite sports team or school shirt and jeans for free.
- Monday, September 20th, Frierson begun the day with a schoolwide presentation by Author, Stacey C. Bauer. BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.
- The grand unveiling of the NEW Upper-Grade playground; Mid Monday Morning.
- Tuesday, September 21st, "The International Day of Peace", Students engaged in work understanding how we create a peaceful world. Look for pictures of these events on our website.
- Dr. Cummings: "Thank you to ALL our families for keeping safe. Please remember that when you drive into school, stay in the left lane so that everyone is safe and the flow of traffic is not stopped. Please stay in your vehicle and keep moving until one of our staff opens your door. You will be directed to the right so that you can buckle your child safely.
PLEASE WATCH DEPARTING VEHICLES.

Haut Gap Middle – Leon Green

Haut Gap Happenings- September 2021

- September 13-17-**Sleep Challenge**-students challenged to get 8 hours of sleep each night for one week. Nursing services are stressing how sleep recharges the body and mind. Many students do not get the recommended 8 hours each night.
- September 15-**Produce distribution**- Community members were able to drive through Haut Gap and receive produces bags which included oranges, lettuce, onions, strawberries, and tomatoes.
- September 17- **PBIS celebration** for all students earning 95 PRIDE points. Students were able to dress down. Another celebration is scheduled for Friday, September 24th for all students who have all assignments completed.
- September is **Friendship Month**- activities are in place throughout the month during lunch periods. Each activity is designed to assist students in making new friends. One such activity, used skittle candy and provided students with the opportunity to mix it up during lunch. Students were encouraged to sit with someone they did not know and have a conversation using the conversation starters provided.
- September 27- **School picture day**

St. John's High – Dr. Karen Simmons

- Art Teacher received a grant for \$2,997, 00 from the SC Arts Commission.
- Mr. Larson presented at the John's Island Council about 5 years ago and 5 years ahead.
- Working with local business to develop an Employment Recruitment table during student lunches.
- Mr. Larson met with Berkley Electric Cooperative with the goal of developing a curriculum for interested students focusing on all aspects of the organization.
- This week, the administrative team is meeting with all teachers for their "Academic Conference" focusing on the effective implementation of Restorative Practices, Active - Language Engagement Strategies, and the use of our Advisory Course.
- Policy ADD has been implemented without issue, going very well.