

**St. John's Constituent District 9 Board of Trustees**  
**Regular Board Meeting (Via Zoom) Minutes**  
**October 19, 2021**

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

**Proceedings:**

**I. Call to Order & Moment of Silence:**

The board meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Board Vice Chair, Tamy Lockhart.

**II. Adoption of Agenda:**

Dr. Karen Simmons moved, with a second by Leon Green, to adopt the agenda. The motion passed 5-0.

**III. Approval of Minutes:**

Dr. Karen Simmons moved, seconded by Leon Green, to approve the minutes from the October 5, 2021, meeting. The motion passed 5-0.

**IV. Visitors/Public Comments:**

No public comments submitted by the established deadline.

Dr. Karen Simmons moved, seconded by Pat Cline, to move into Executive Session. The motion passed 6-0.

Rev. Gertie Ford recused herself from the hearings for students 8.2.21 and 8.3.21.

*Monica Smith joined the meeting at the start of Executive Session due to technical difficulties.*

**V. Executive Session:**

**A. Discipline Hearing**

5.2.21: (520) Assault, Simple

5.3.21: (520) Assault, Simple

5.1.21: (652) Cyberbullying

**VI. Open Session Reconvened:**

Monica Smith moved, seconded by Dr. Karen Simmons, to return to Open Session. The motion passed 7-0.

**VII. Vote on Executive Session Items:**

5.2.21 – A motion was made by Pat Cline, seconded by Leon Green, to place student 5.2.21 at Daniel Jenkins Academy until successful completion of the program. The motion passed 6-0.

*Ms. Bligen arrived at the start of the second hearing.*

5.3.21 – A motion was made by Renea Bligen, seconded by Pat Cline, to allow student 5.3.21 to return to school on strict board probation for the remainder of the school year. The motion passed 7-0.

5.1.21 – A motion was made by Renea Bligen, seconded by Monica Smith, to allow student 5.1.21 to return to school on strict board probation for the remainder of the school year. As part of the student's probation, the student will not be allowed to have a cell

phone in school. The student will turn the phone into the office when he/she arrives and retrieve it at dismissal.

The motion passed 7-0.

**VIII. District Updates:**

Ms. Terri Nichols provided updates on vacancies in District 9 and shared the following upcoming events:

- October 25, 2021 – Board of Trustees Meeting
- November 8, 2021 – Committee of the Whole Meeting
- November 15, 2021 – Board of Trustees Meeting
- December 13, 2021 – Committee of the Whole & Board of Trustees Meeting

**IX. Constituent Board Report:**

Ms. Smith presented the District 9 Annual Report to the County Board of Trustees on October 11, 2021. Ms. Smith would like to submit a Request for Information to Rev. Mack to follow up on the status of the location of the new school.

**X. Constituent Board School Liaison Report:**

A. School Updates – Reports attached.

**XI. Old Business:**

No Old Business discussed.

**XII. New Business:**

No New Business discussed.

**XIII. Announcements:**

The board commended the Department of Alternative Programs and Services on the great job they did with the board discipline training.

**XIV. Adjournment:**

Board Chair, Monica Smith, adjourned the meeting at 8:19 p.m.

## District 9 School Updates

October 19, 2021

### Mt. Zion Elementary – Tamy Lockhart

#### **Mt Zion School Improvement Council Meeting Notes, October 13, 2021, 5:00 pm**

Attendees: Tamy Lockhart, Anna Mims, Erin Rojas, Ashley Regan Burke, Holly Newman

- Eric Rojas has agreed to take over as chair and a vice chair will be recruited.
- Principal's Update: Ms. Mims has had a lot of interaction with parents this week as three classes had to go virtual. This has been stressful for all. They are uncomfortably close to having to go completely virtual because the school is small. Virtual instruction started today and fortunately the families have been supportive.
- The Seabrook Island Club held their Memorial Golf Tournament and donated almost \$10,000 for outdoor equipment for the school. They hope to add some soccer goals and to use some to finish the outdoor classroom. The Exchange Club gave money to add risers in the music room which will also increase social distancing.
- 6 more students joined CD last week. There are already 30 students. Many have siblings already at Mt Zion. We still have enough kids on the wait list to form another class. The kindergarten is sparser than the CD wait list.
- The new school will be the Mt Zion replacement and planning will start in January. The location will be announced before that. The common spaces will be planned for up to 900 students while the classroom space will start at 500 but can be expanded. Ms. Mimms and her boss are on the planning committee. There are resources to help with facilities that are tailored to STEM programs. They said they look for a space of 19 acres. The Brownsville property has environmental issues, and they are having discussions with real estate agents and neighbors of Mt Zion to look for other sites.
- They are organizing an order of STEM materials for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade (funded by Kiawah Cares). There is still money left in the grant.
- They are starting an ELA curriculum in January. It is an integrated way to teach students to read. Mt Zion teachers opted to start earlier than the rest of the district. It is part of a literacy grant to improve reading skills.
- We still need more SIC members.
- They are getting a new washer and dryer from the Whirlpool Care Council along with \$10,000 for renovations and laundry supplies. The grant specifies that the equipment be available to families of students so the laundry will be open to the community.

### Frierson Elementary – Rev. Gertie Ford

#### **SIC: School Improvement Council – September 2021**

##### ***Tennis Update -By Elizabeth Poole***

- Barthes Tennis program "third serve" will come and provide free professional tennis coaching for Frierson Tennis team.
- Elizabeth Poole has secured a grant for bus transportation so that the older students can practice on the St. Johns tennis courts (these older students need to practice on full-sized courts).
- Covid restrictions have now possibly restricted the ability to have bus transportation for students to practice. The younger children will be practicing at Frierson. Possibility of building a full-size court in the future?
- Tennis parent volunteers needed. Tennis sign up forms will be going home with students soon.

##### ***Garden Committee Update – By Nicole Edwards***

- The main Frierson School Garden will contain 12 new raised beds which we have (thanks to funding by Kiawah Cares).
- We cannot install the 12 new raised beds until the district installs the garden path. Once the path is installed, we will install the solar well pump, irrigation and then finally the beds. We hope to have the garden ready for planting by spring.
- We also have a donor who has offered to fund phase 2 of the main garden which is the "garden pavilion". We are currently receiving bids for this build.
- The Primary garden has gotten 2 new raised beds for annual planting. Those beds have been installed, and we will have a garden workday in the next week or 2 to fill with soil.

***We have an amazing opportunity to partner with a school in Senegal to collaborate on environmental and gardening curriculum. The school is a 3yo, 4yo, 5yo school, so we will partner with our primary classes. We hope to find curriculum that the students can work in simultaneously, then share their experiences with each other.***

### **SIC and PTA: October 12, 2021 UPDATE**

- ESSR: Community Partnership Grant Application with hopes of Retention Bonus for a nurse for the 2022 school year.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Serve Foundation
- COVID Relief Fund to fund 4 Tennis Courts built on Frierson Campus; Small vans for transportation. This is a comprehensive program with High, Middle and Elementary Schools on Wadmalaw and John's Island.
- Michelle Foust will write a grant for funding of a Frierson Summer Program.

Green House Update: Stage 2 – Lack of Man Power by the district to build the Green House, Outdoor Pavilion, and Amphitheater.

- The Garden will be in the shape of a butterfly and named the “Butterfly Garden.”
- Ms. Nova, teacher at Frierson will be the French translator between the Senegaliens and Non-French speakers.
- **Cummings asked that capital funds be set aside for projects**
- **Frierson request time to speak on Gymnasium at the 10/25/21 board meeting**

**PTA – A. Foggy, PTA President opened the meeting**

#### **Events and Ideas**

- **Trunk or Treats with 10 vehicles of treats. Primary and Lower Els with walk to each with costumes if preferred by parents**
- **Nutritional treats are most desired for the trunks. Look in Wednesday Folder for date.**

#### **Book Fair- Ms. Minchner**

- **Dino Theme Book Fair Nov. 1-5. Enter thru the Compute Lab via Library.**
- **Wish list Fri-Mon. 50% of profits of books sold will fund Maker Space and Library.**
- **Book Fair 3:30 – 5:30 on November 4<sup>th</sup>**
- **2<sup>nd</sup> will be around the Data Conference.**
- **Class with the largest Student/Parent Participation wins a class party, i.e. Pizza.**

Edith L. Frierson Montessori School's Website: <http://www.ccsdschools.com/frierson>

Please visit the E.L. Frierson website to join and support our School Improvement Council and Parent Teacher's Association, get updated on Dr. Cummings Sunday Callouts, School Store, and PTA Membership.

Thank you for keeping our students, families, and school safe during drop-offs and pickups in our Car Rider lines.

## **Haut Gap Middle – Leon Green**

### October Haut Gap Happenings

- October 4-20- Band and Orchestra sign up period.
- October 8 and 28- Kona Ice during student lunch for positive student behavior incentive.
- October 11-20-HGMS Book Fair.
- October 11- Grade 6 science benchmark assessment.
- October 13-27- Student and staff school climate survey administration.
- October 18-22- Benchmark assessments in all Math and ELA classes.
- October 20- Unity Day. Students and staff wears orange to promote inclusion, unity, and anti-bullying.
- October 22- E Learning day for all students
- October 25-29- School spirit week. (crazy socks, team jerseys, costume fun, and special treats)

## **St. John's High – Dr. Karen Simmons**

1. The first quarter ends next week
2. Our intervention program is going very well. A staff of three have identified all students who are struggling and provide direct service during lunch, during independent work time during class, and afterschool
3. We will be scheduling our community circle with the police department and other community service providers in early November
4. We will have our first task force meeting next week to discuss issues of cultural awareness, competency, and teacher recruitment

Rev. Ford shared St. Johns High will host a Boys to Men Conference on Saturday, October 23rd, at the Wadmalaw Island Community Center.