

**St. John's Constituent District 9 Board of Trustees**  
**Regular Board Meeting (Via Zoom) Minutes**  
**November 16, 2021**

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

Board Members Absent: Renea Bligen

**Proceedings:**

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

The board meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Board Chair, Monica Smith.

**II. Adoption of Agenda:**

Rev. Gertie Ford moved, seconded by Leon Green, to adopt the agenda. The motion passed 4-0.

**III. Approval of Minutes:**

Dr. Karen Simmons moved, seconded by Rev. Gertie Ford, to approve the minutes from the October 19, 2021, meeting. The motion passed 4-0.

**IV. Visitors/Public Comments:**

Elizabeth Poole – Frierson's SIC Chair:

My name is Elizabeth Poole, SIC Chair at Edith L. Frierson. Our SIC would like to make a formal request for your support. Our SIC has decided that our main priority this year is to see that ESSER funds are used to fund a gymnasium project at Frierson. The gymnasium project status is district approved but currently is waiting for funding. We believe that this project would be an appropriate use of ESSER funds. Our students need a place to have PE and to move on rainy/cold days. Currently, we use a classroom for these purposes but it is not big enough. It would be a great place to also hold indoor sport activities as well as host auditorium space events. As we continue to grow in student populace, this space would serve our school well. I am asking the board to discuss how you can help us with this endeavor.

Monica Smith moved, seconded by Dr. Karen Simmons, to move into Executive Session. The motion passed 4-0.

Rev. Gertie Ford recused herself from the hearing for students 8.5.21.

**V. Executive Session:**

**A. Discipline Hearing**

5.4.21: (520) Assault, Simple

5.5.21: (520) Assault, Simple

5.6.21: (652) Cyberbullying

5.7.21: 1(580) Drug Possession,

2 (580) Drug Possession/(789) Weapon, (784) Knife, blade > 2 inches

**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:**

5.4.21 – A motion was made by Monica Smith, seconded by Leon Green, to place student 5.4.21 at Turning Point Academy for a minimum stay of 45 days on board probation for

the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year. The motion passed 3-0-1 (Rev. Gertie Ford abstained).

*Pat Cline arrived at the start of the second hearing.*

5.5.21 – A motion was made by Dr. Karen Simmons, seconded by Pat Cline, to place student 5.4.21 at Daniel Jenkins Academy until successful completion of the program. The motion passed 3-0-1 (G. Ford abstained from voting as she recused herself from this student's hearing).

5.6.21 – A motion was made by Renea Bligen, seconded by Monica Smith, to allow student 5.6.21 to return to school on strict board probation for the remainder of the school year. The motion passed 5-0.

5.7.21 – The hearing for student 5.7.21 will be rescheduled.

**VIII. District Updates:**

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

- November 22-26 schools closed for fall break.
- December 13, 2021 – Committee of the Whole & Board of Trustees Meeting

**IX. Constituent Board Report:**

Ms. Smith shared that Mr. Dale Metzger, Principal of the West Ashley Center for Advanced Studies, would like to attend an upcoming board meeting to share information about the center and its offerings. He also offered to give tours if the board would like.

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

A. School Updates – Reports attached.

*Ms. Cline excused herself from the meeting.*

**XI. Old Business:**

No Old Business discussed.

**XII. New Business:**

A. Board Member's Resignation

A motion was made by M. Smith, seconded by Karen Simmons to accept board member, Tamy Lockhart's resignation. The motion passed 4-0.

Dr. Simmons mentioned the bicycle distribution that she worked on with Mr. Charlie Brown last year. Dr. Simmons would like to connect with the area schools to obtain information on students that are in need. Rev. Ford will follow up Dr. Simmons to provide routing and contact information.

**XIII. Announcements:**

A motion was made by Monica Smith, seconded by Rev. Gertie Ford, to hold a Special Called meeting on November 29<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of a disciplinary hearing. The motion passed 4-0.

**Adjournment:**

Board Chair, Monica Smith, adjourned the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

## District 9 School Updates

November 16, 2021

### Frierson Elementary – Rev. Gertie Ford

School Improvement Council (SIC) met Tuesday, November 9th @ 5:00 PM followed by PTA @ 6:00 PM. Please visit Edith L. Frierson's website for meeting minutes and updates.

**TENNIS UPDATE** – There are currently 32 students receiving 1 hour of Tennis Tuesday and Wednesday each week at the Kiawah Island Tennis Courts. 3rd Serv is the umbrella that supports this wonderful weekly event. By January, hopefully funds provided through the ESSR will allow for Tennis Courts to be built on Campus.

**GARDEN UPDATE** – The gravel for the garden is on site, and Mr. Gillpen and Nurse Edwards are getting a weekend date to assist with having it spread in the garden.

**PAVILLION UPDATE** – Ruth met with the donor, Mr. Wyler and his wife, regarding the architect students building the pavilion (outdoor classrooms) which will allow students to see, learn, and participate.

**AMPHITHEATRE UPDATE** – Six designs for the amphitheatre are of interest to Dr. Cummings and the committee. Once the amphitheatre is completed, rental space for various events would be available.

**GYMNATORIUM UPDATE** – The gymnasium has been approved by the district but is still pending funding. ESSR Funds cannot be used for this project. Dr. Cummings suggested that the SIC Committee members be vigilant in making appeals to the Board of Trustees, the Committee of the Whole, and to the St. John's District 09 Constituent School Board.

#### **PARENTS TEACHER ASSOCIATION: PTA**

- The "Trunk or Treat" event was a huge success, as well as the Membership drive, which garnered 52 members.

- **"Spirit Night" is November 17th @ 5-8 PM** at Tolly's Pizza on Maybank Highway. Please mention Frierson Montessori School when making a purchase. Frierson will receive 20% revenue from sales. This information will go home in the Wednesday Folders.

- **"Walk-A-Thon – November 18th** – honoring the life of 7 year old Little Miss Naveah Butler, who lost her fight to cancer on November 18, 2019. This fundraiser will enable the school to place a lasting structure on the campus with flowers and other momentos.

- Students will walk 7 laps around the track wearing ribbons, healthy snacks will be available, and fifteen family members will join the walk. Classes will come out to see and perhaps participate at various times to observe Covid protocols.

- T-Shirt Sales produced a well-respected profit which will assist with future events.

- **Teacher Holiday Gifts** – Wish List to stock the teacher workroom with snacks and drinks.

- **Movie Night** – A "Save the Date" for December 3rd will go home in Wednesday Folders. Social distancing and safety procedures will be enforced; Family cohorts or pods groupings. Public Safety officials will assist with traffic.

- **Holiday Recital – In Planning Stage.**

**The Next PTA Meeting is November 16th.**

### Haut Gap Middle – Leon Green

#### **November 2021 Haut Gap Happenings**

We welcome Mr. Brett Sheridan to the Haut Gap Family. Mr. Sheridan is teaching seventh grade science and has relocated to Johns Island from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

PBIS events this month include grade level rewards and stores to spend PRIDE coupons. Kona Ice has been on campus twice this month, and students received dress down passes for maximizing PRIDE points.

November 2- Data conferences. Parents received student dashboards, SCREADY reports, MAP family reports, and HGMS dashboards.

November 3-Seventh grade math students who achieved their ALEKS goals were treated to popcorn and drinks during lunch.

November 6-Community drive through food distribution.

November 12- Mrs. Beard, 7/8 math teacher named as CCSD Unsung Hero!

November 12-Students achieving their reading counts goal for the first quarter were able to dress down.

November 14-community vaccination clinic for Covid 19 vaccine and booster shots.

November 18- faculty and staff will enjoy a potluck Thanksgiving lunch.

November 29- Progress reports will distributed this week.

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

- Honor Roll numbers for the first quarter are fantastic (111)
- The school will host an honor roll cookout on Friday to celebrate them
- Once a month St. Johns is adding a "Family Dinner" for the students to show appreciation for them. We will serve them lunch family style, waited on by our staff. Mr. Larson will be giving a "food for thought" speech for each dinner.
- St. John's began restorative circles for our newcomer students. School administration understands how difficult it must be to come here as a teenager without knowing the language, therefore they are starting an initiative to build a team of supporters to ease the transition.

**Approved 12.7.21**