

St. John's Constituent District 9 Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting Minutes

St. John's High School – Cafeteria

1518 Main Road, Johns Island, SC

Tuesday, August 15, 2023, 5:30 p.m.

Board Members Present: Board Chair – Rev. Gertie Smalls-Ford, Pat Cline, Dr. Karen Simmons-Palmer, Leon Green

Board Members Absent: Monica Smith, Jeff Fine

Proceedings:

I. Call to Order, Moment of Silence, & Pledge of Allegiance:

The board meeting was called to order at 5:46 p.m. by Rev. Gertie Smalls-Ford.

II. Adoption of Agenda:

Pat Cline moved, with a second by Karen Simmons-Palmer, to amend the agenda to include hardship. The motion passed 4-0.

III. Approval of Minutes:

A. May 16, 2023 – Regular Meeting

Pat Cline moved, with a second by Karen Simmons-Palmer, to approve the meeting minutes. The motion passed 4-0.

B. June 6, 2023 – Regular Meeting

Leon Green moved, with a second by Pat Cline, to approve the meeting minutes. The motion passed 4-0.

IV. Visitors/Public Comments:

Michele Leber – Questions about the new school.

Darlene Roberson

V. Special Presentation

Recognition of former District 9 Constituent Board Member, Renea Bligen – Plaque was presented.

A reception was held prior to the meeting for former member who served the D9 Board for 24 years.

VI. Executive Session:

Pat Cline moved, seconded by Karen Simmons-Palmer, to move into Executive Session. The motion passed 4-0.

A. Readmit Hearing

B. Hardship Request

VII. Open Session Reconvened:

Pat Cline moved, seconded by Karen Simmons-Palmer, to return to Open Session. The motion passed 4-0.

VIII. Vote on Executive Session Item:

A. Readmit Hearing

6A – A motion was made by Leon Green, seconded by Pat Cline, to readmit student 6A to Charleston County School District. The motion passed 4-0.

B. Hardship Request

6B – A motion was made by Pat Cline, seconded by Gertie Smalls-Ford, to approve the hardship request. The motion passed 4-0.

IX. Constituent Board Report:

A. Updates from Rev. Gertie Smalls-Ford, District 9 Constituent Board Chair – D9 Board agreed to meet once every third Tuesday, calendar of meetings was provided. Rev. Smalls-Ford attended D9 elem., middle, and high school graduations. Rev. Smalls-Ford also attended Code of Conduct Training for Board Chairs and Friends of Frierson meeting with Dr. Gallien. There will be a change in the presentation of the annual report.

X. Constituent Board School Liaison Report

A. School Updates –
St. John’s Principal, Jermaine Joyner – Teachers return 8.16.23. Freshman bridge week was great, they had tours, met teachers, had team building and the finale was great with a cookout. Football season starts 8.18.23. School is pushing to get students who were attending other schools to return to St. Johns. St. Johns High is embarking on their 100th school year. There are a few celebrations being planned.

XI. District Updates:

A. Updates from the District 9 Superintendent’s Designee, April Butler – Teachers and Teacher Assistants return 8.16.23. Students return 8.23.23. Board of Trustees meeting is 8.28.23.

XII. Old Business:

Request someone from capital to come and give an update on the progress of the new school.

XIII. New Business:

Board Liaison received resignation from board member Jennifer Young. The vacancy has been posted.

XIV. Announcements

XV. Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Approved 9.19.2023