Board Meeting Recap

This publication is prepared by the CCSD Office of Strategy and Communications as an unofficial recap of actions taken at the most recent meeting of the CCSD Board of Trustees. The minutes of the meeting will be approved at the Board's next meeting and posted as the official record.

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting: August 24, 2020

NOTE: Due to COVID-19, this meeting was conducted with limited in-person capacity and as a virtual meeting.

The Board voted to approve:

- Metrics to be used for allowing more students back to school for in-person instruction. The point scale system is explained in the Superintendent's Report (starting on page 24), which is available here. An increase in students on campus for in-person cannot occur until the COVID-19 rate of infection improves to the Medium Level and the metrics will be reviewed weekly to support CCSD's decision to move to Phase 2 when appropriate.
- The first two days of the school year (Tuesday, September 8, 2020 and Wednesday, September 9, 2020) to be early dismissal days. Students will be dismissed two hours early so school staff members can meet to review safety protocols and training.
- A new face covering policy (Policy ADD) per recommendation of the South Carolina School Boards Association. The policy establishes that face covers must be worn on buses and at school throughout the day for all staff and students (minus those with medical exemptions). Neck scarves, bandanas, gaiters, and masks with exhalation valves or vents are not allowed. More details about the policy can be found here.
- The reallocation of funds from the sale of the Archer campus. $2.1 million will be directed to the construction of the future District 3 (James Island) Bus Lot, and nearly $1.9 million will be used for future projects in District 20 (Downtown Charleston), which will require Board approval.
- The issues of the Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) to meet the district's cash flow requirements prior to the receipt of ad valorem taxes and State reimbursements. The issuance of the TAN is a borrowing in advance of the receipt of tax collections and State reimbursements and does not create an additional debt obligation of the School District. CCSD anticipates the need to issue the TAN in an amount not to exceed $28,000,000 to meet cash flow needs.
- The second reading of the policy for Title IX. The United States Department of Education recently issued new regulations regarding Title IX complaints related to allegations of sexual assault in schools, and districts must have a policy in place that implements the new regulations.
- The second reading of revisions to Policy ILB (Test/Assessment Administration). The old version referred to No Child Left Behind, a former federal law which is no longer in effect. The policy has been updated based on the Every Student Succeeds Act. The changes align with CCSD's current practice.

Presentations/Reports:

- Superintendent Postlewait, Chief Operating Officer Jeff Borowy, and Chief Academic Officer Karolyn Belcher and other members of the district's leadership team provided updates on the Safe Restart Plan, including the MUSC Playbook, installation of safety measures in schools, changes to the Virtual Academy, and details about the LEAP Days for K-8 students. The report also included an update from Chief Human Resources Office Bill Briggman on teacher vacancies and plans in place for substitute teachers.
- The Board recognized Priscilla Jeffery for her almost four years of service on the Board of Trustees and to the students and staff of Charleston County School District. The former educator, who served as the Strategic Education Committee chair in the Committee of the Whole, is moving away from Charleston and will no longer be on the CCSD Board. The Charleston Legislative Delegation is responsible for selecting her replacement.
- The Agreed upon Procedures Report for Phase IV of the One-Cent Sales Tax Program was presented for information.
- The Capital Projects Report for August 2020 and the monthly financial report were presented for information.