

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charleston County School District was held on Monday, October 26, 2009 with the following members of the Board present: Chair – Mrs. Toya Hampton-Green, Vice Chair - Mr. Gregg Meyers, Mr. Chris Collins, Mr. Chris Fraser, Mrs. Ruth Jordan, Mrs. Elizabeth Kandrak, Mrs. Ann Oplinger, Mr. Arthur Ravenel, Mr. Ray Toler and Dr. Nancy J. McGinley – Superintendent of Schools and Executive Secretary. Staff members Mr. Michael Bobby, Dr. Doug Gepford, Mrs. Audrey Lane, Mr. Bill Lewis, Dr. Brenda Nelson, Mr. John Emerson, and Mr. Elliott Smalley were also in attendance.

The news media was duly notified of the meeting and representatives were present.

Chair – Toya Green called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m. Mrs. Oplinger motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jordan to convene into Executive Session to discuss agenda items listed below. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### **Executive Session Agenda Items**

1.1: Student Appeal Hearing

1.2: Contractual Matter

1.3: Legal Briefing

1.4: Personnel Matter

#### **II. CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 5:15 p.m. Chair – Mrs. Toya Hampton-Green called the meeting to order and led the group in a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **III. SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

**3.1: Mt. Pleasant Rotary Club** - The Board recognized Mr. Lew Mello with the Mt. Pleasant Rotary Club for their contributions to the district.

**3.2: Mitchell ES Principal Mr. Dirk Bedford** – The Board recognized members of Unitarian Church for their partnership with Mitchell Elementary School for supplying k-6 science experiences.

**3.3: 2010 Secondary Principal of the Year** – The Board recognized Mrs. Lucy Beckham - Principal at Wando High for receiving the 2010 National Association of Secondary School Administrators Principal of the Year Award.

#### **IV. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

##### **4.1: Superintendent’s Report**

Dr. McGinley shared the following:

- Last Tuesday State Superintendent Dr. Jim Rex surprised Ms. Katherine Henderson, English teacher at West Ashley High School, with the prestigious Milliken National Educator Award.
- Two weekends ago, the Trip Page Foundation sponsored a “Shinefest”. CCSD teachers received free admission. The Foundation will also donate half of its proceeds to CCSD schools.
- Since the last Board meeting, town hall meetings were held on James Island and in North Charleston. District Four principals gave compelling presentations about the new choices their schools are offering. Staff addressed questions about the “Four Zone” vision and other topics. Staff will bring a summary of feedback to the Board in November. The next meeting will be at Burke High tomorrow night from 6 to 8 pm.
- Dr. McGinley said it was brought to her attention last week that several people heard two Board members on a local radio station claiming that the district hosted an extravagant, catered lunch for principals. She said the PTA sponsored this donation as a token of appreciation for hardworking school leaders and the lunch was entirely paid for by Jim N’ Nick’s restaurant. No public money was spent. She asked everyone to work together to share truthful information with the public and clear up false impressions that erodes the public trust in the district.

Mrs. Kandrac added that Heery and Kahn Construction Companies extended an invitation to Board members to see the new high school and lunch was provided. Also, in response to Dr. McGinley's comment about the luncheon for principals, Mrs. Kandrac said she was not sure where that information came from but it is slander and libel. The statement about two Board members talking about the luncheon on the radio talk show is untrue and asked if there was a tape recording of the radio talk show. Mrs. Kandrac said Jim and Nicks is listed on the agenda from the Principal's meeting. However, she would like to know the amount spent over the last year on luncheons. Mr. Ravenel said a talk show host called him to ask questions relative to Board procedures, which he answered. That was the extent of his conversation with that person. He did not know anything about the luncheon, where it was or who sponsored it. Mr. Ravenel said he would like to know the source of the information.

## **V. VISITORS, PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

### **5.1: Visitors, Public Communications**

No visitors registered to address the Board at this meeting.

## **XI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/EXECUTIVE SESSION AGENDA ITEM**

### **6.1: Open and Executive Session Minutes of October 12, 2009**

Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jordan approval of the Open and Executive Session minutes of October 12, 2009. The motion was approved 8-1 (Kandrac opposed).

### **6.2: Motions of Executive Session of October 26, 2009**

The Board approved the following motions that were made in Executive Session on October 12, 2009:

**1.1: Student Appeals – A.** The Board agreed to hear a student appeal on Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3:00 p.m.

**B.** The Board denied a Student Transfer appeal. The motion was approved 8-1 (Kandrac opposed).

**1.2: Contractual Matter –** The Board approved a recommendation authorizing the Superintendent to approve a contract modification to Southern Management Group's construction management contract to manage the seismic evaluation of six District 20 campuses and manage the advance design to seismically renovate and expand or replace four District 20 campuses. The funding source is previously approved capital funds. The cost of this change order to manage the 6-seismic evaluations and 4 advance designs is not to exceed \$610,000. The motion was approved 9-0.

**1.3: Legal Briefing –** The Board received a legal briefing in Executive Session. No action was taken.

**1.4: Personnel Matter –** The Board approved the Superintendent's Evaluation Instrument with modifications. The motion was approved 7-2 (Kandrac and Ravenel opposed).

### **6.3: Financial Minutes of October 12, 2009**

Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jordan approval of the financial minutes of October 12, 2009. The motion was approved 9-0.

## **VII: MANAGEMENT REPORT**

### **7.1: Capital Projects Financial Report – August 2009**

The Board received the Capital Projects Financial Report of August 2009 as information. Mr. Bobby said the next report will reflect actions taken up to \$25 million to include the Rivers campus.

### **7.2: Classroom Modernization Progress**

The Board received an update on the progress of the Classroom Modernization Project. SmartBoard demonstrations were provided by students and teachers.

In response to Mr. Ravenel's question to upgrades for charter schools, Mr. Bobby said charter schools get an allocation upfront for whatever they need. Mr. Ravenel said under the law charter schools should get everything public schools get and the law is plain about that. Mr. Meyers spoke of the two laws that conflict

and stated that the district honors the general law which says the district must provide funding to charter schools and they can choose to do whatever they want to do with the funds. He said the district is trying to clarify if charter schools should receive funding in addition to what is required by the charter school funding formula. Mr. Ravenel responded that all charter schools get, at this point, is the average stipend paid to charter schools. The basic law says charter schools are public schools. Therefore, they are entitled to everything other public schools get. Mr. Bobby also responded to a question from Mr. Toler regarding the maintenance plan for the modernization project stating that the district would be better served if it could place technology people in schools to address technology issues.

### **VIII: CHARLESTON ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE UPDATE**

**8.1: School Redesign Update from School of the Arts Parents** – The School Redesign Update from School of the Arts Parents will be rescheduled for a future meeting.

#### **8.2: Charleston Children’s Zone –**

Mrs. Audrey Lane, Deputy for Organizational Advancement, updated the Board on the current state of planning for a Charleston Children’s Zone that would replicate the successful work of the Harlem Children’s Zone locally. The targeted areas are the Eastside/Neck Area, Charleston and North Charleston (Sanders Clyde ES, Mary Ford ES, Chicora ES, Burke HS, North Charleston HS, and James Simons ES). Dr. McGinley said this is a community-wide effort to identify academic obstacles associated with children who live in poverty areas.

### **IX. POTENTIAL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**9.1: APEX Learning** – *A recommendation to approve the three-year agreement with APEX.* Mrs. Oplinger motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jordan approval of the three-year agreement with APEX for APEX Online Software. The funding source is 2009-2010 title Set-Aside Funds in the amount of \$480,330. The motion was approved 9-0.

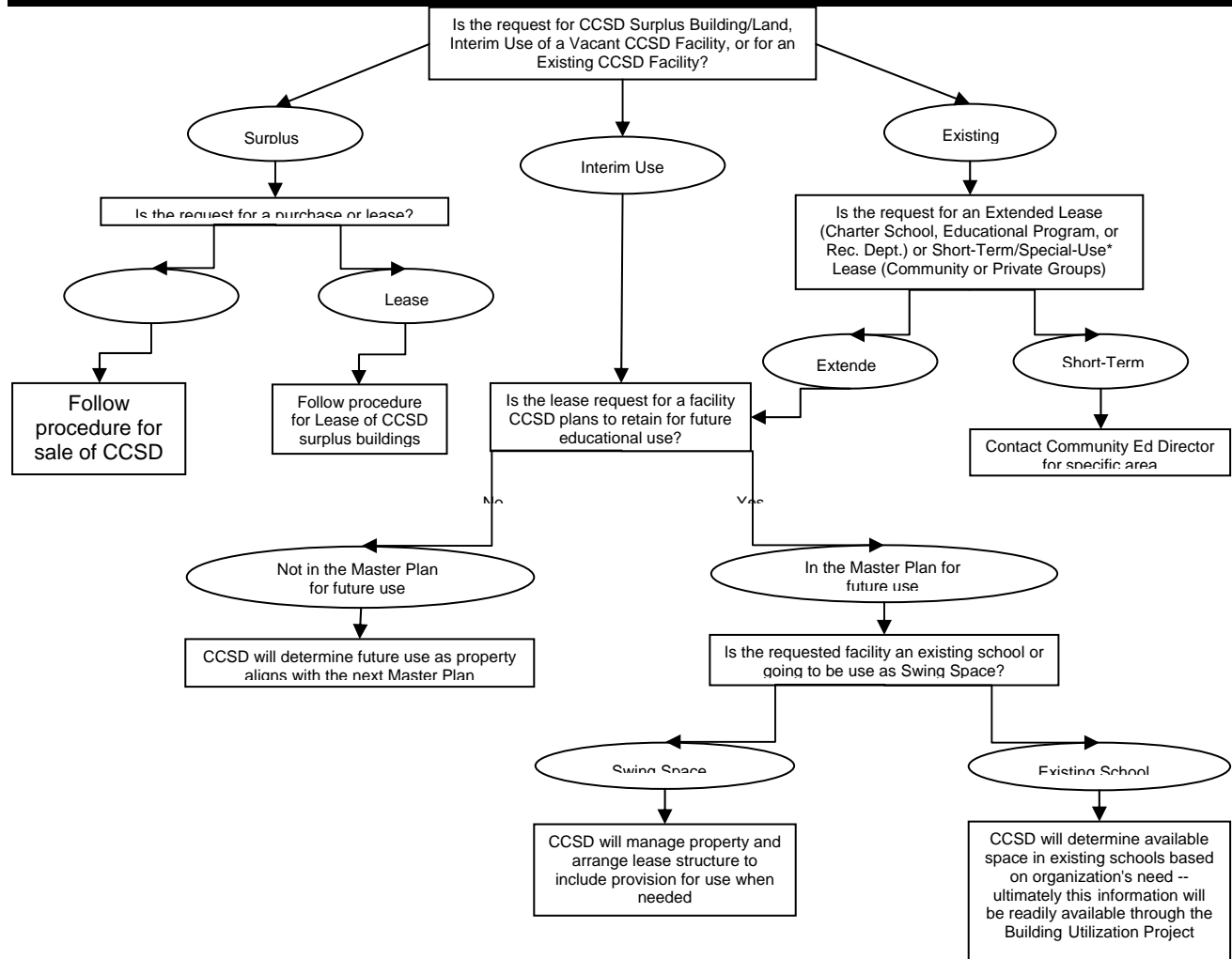
In response to a question from Mrs. Oplinger regarding APEX results, Mr. Martin presented data. Mr. Martin said the program was designed for middle and high school students with test prep, credit recovery and remediation.

**9.2: CCSD Surplus Building & Land Management Procedures** – *A recommendation to approve the strategy and process for sale and/or lease of CCSD properties already identified and approved by the Board of Trustees. Proceeds from the sale of properties will be used to restore the district’s fund balance.* Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Fraser approval of the CCSD Surplus Building and Land Management Procedures. The motion was approved 8-1 (Toler opposed).

Mr. Bobby and Mr. Williams responded to questions from individual Board members on the number of properties for sale and status of those properties. Mr. Bobby said Laing is the number one priority. The second property on the priority list is Charlestowne Academy. After Mr. Bobby outlined the transparent process for marketing, and Mr. Williams shared the flow chart below which illustrates the process for sale and short term/long term leases.

## CCSD PROPERTY REQUESTS

\* A process map to achieve consistency and improve customer service when handling multiple requests for CCSD properties



**9.3: Recommendation for Naming the Garrett Academy Athletic Field** – A recommendation to approve the naming the athletic field at Garrett Academy the “Rick Burns Field”, at no cost to the district. Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jordan approval of naming the athletic field at Garrett Academy the “Rick Burns Field”. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.4: Results of January 2009 E-Rate Audit by KPMG on Behalf of USAC.** – The Board received the results of January 2009 E-Rate Audit by KPMG on behalf of USAC as information.

**9.5: Qualified School Construction Bond Recommendation**–A recommendation to approve the issuance of bonds to access the funds allocated to Charleston County School District as a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act legislation. – Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jordan approval of the recommendation to approve the issuance of bonds under the Qualified School Construction Bonds to access the funds allocated to Charleston County School District as a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act legislation. These proceeds will be accessed 50% this year (October 2009) and 50% next year (October 2010). The first half of the direct allocation is \$13,500,000. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.6: Comprehensive Health Advisory Committee Submissions for 2009-2010** – A recommendation to approve the individuals to serve on the Health Advisory Committee. Mrs. Oplinger motioned, seconded by Mr.

Meyers approval of the individuals recommended to serve on the Health Advisory Committee. The motion was approved 9-0.

Mr. David Spurlock responded to a question from Mrs. Kandrac regarding student representatives on the Health Advisory Committee.

**9.7: Board Policy – First Reading – Tobacco-Free Schools Policy** – *A recommendation to approve the first reading of the Tobacco-Free Schools Policy.* Mr. Meyers motioned on behalf of the Policy Committee approval of the First Reading of the Tobacco-Free Schools Policy. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.8: Board Policy Regulation - Accommodating Disabilities and ADA Reasonable Accommodation Checklist** – *The Board received the Accommodating Disability Regulation and ADA Reasonable Accommodation Checklist as information.*

**9.9: Approval of Home Instruction Application** – *A recommendation to approve a Home Instruction Application.* – Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jordan approval of a Home Instruction Application. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.10: CCSD 4K Expansion** – *A recommendation to approve the CCSD 4k Expansion to provide full-day services for four year olds eligible for Free and Reduced Meals within five years. Staff will examine potential support for 0-3 programming in areas of high needs with a possible Early Learning Center pilot by the 2013-2014 school year. The estimated total is \$1,183,000 and the funding sources are GOF and EIA.* Mr. Collins motioned, seconded by Mrs. Oplinger approval of the CCSD 4K Expansion plan. The motion was approved 8-1 (Kandrac opposed).

During discussion of 4K Expansion, Mr. Fraser suggested a separate item in next year's budget because he does not want to take anything away from other items in the budget. Mrs. Kandrac said more parent education is needed to prepare parents to help educate students.

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Collins motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by consensus.

Approved:

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Nancy J. McGinley, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools