

CCSD Board Report

Monday, August 10, 2009

The following members were present: Gregg Myers, Raymond Toler, Ruth Jordan, Toya Hampton Green, Elizabeth Kandrak, Chris Collins, Chris Fraser, and Arthur Ravenel. Ann Oplinger was not present.

Moment of Silence, Pledge, and Oath of Office :

Chair Toya Green called for a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Special Recognition:

Dr. Brenda Nelson, CCSD's Director of Community Outreach, read a proclamation regarding the First Day Festival. The proclamation was formally accepted by Jacquie Kennedy with the City of Charleston.

Director of Public Affairs and Volunteers Clara Heinsohn recognized the four CCSD Board Members who have reached another level of participation in the SC School Board Association's Boardmanship Institute program. Chris Collins has reached level one. Elizabeth Kandrak and Toya Green have reached level two, and Ruth Jordan has reached level three.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. McGinley provided updates on the following topics:

- Lucy Beckham from Wando was named one of **only three national finalists for Principal of the Year**. She is traveling to Washington, D.C. for the final competition.
- The **Summer Leadership Institute** focused on strategic priorities for this year including **improving literacy** through **teacher quality** and **extended time**. The summer *Quick Start* program, which will continue throughout the year, began in CCSD's 3rd, 6th and 9th grade academies.
- "**Literacy Clusters**" were launched which will improve collaboration across grade levels. For the first time, elementary, middle and high school administrators in the *same* geographic feeder patterns are coming together to share literacy data and effective practices, and embrace the concept of **collective accountability**. Ninth grade reading levels are *everyone's responsibility*. High school principals facilitate the clusters, and each group is bringing back a plan for how their feeder pattern will work together to improve literacy throughout the year.

School starts next Tuesday—August 18th and several events are planned to prepare students, families, and employees.

- The "It's Cool to be in School" event on Saturday and Charleston's "First Day Festival" on Sunday will families to gain information, resources and supplies to students. Hands of Christ has already served **over 2100 children** with free school supplies, and these distributions will continue all week.
- In addition to using CCSD's district-wide ParentLink system to call parents with back-to-school information, CCSD is taking an extra step this year by creating a "**Help Line**" for

parents. This Thursday and Friday, and next Monday and Tuesday, parents can call **937-6366** from 7:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. if they have any questions and need a quick and accurate answer.

Last year, CCSD started school with 1,000 more students in classrooms than we had the year before. The District plans to do even better this year.

Visitors addressed:

Stephen Cofer-Shabiga and Beverly Gadsden Burch spoke about investing funds for seismic updates at the Rivers campus.

Ellen Smalls shared her concerns regarding a bus stop.

Approval of Minutes:

The Board approved the minutes of their open session and executive session meeting on July 20, 2009.

The Board approved motions of executive session from their meeting on August 10, 2009 as outlined below.

The Board approved the financial minutes for July 20, 2009.

Motions for Executive Session, March 23, 2009:

- 1.1 The Board approved the transfers of two students and approved the transfers of four students depending on the availability of space.
- 1.2 The Board approved a recommendation for a student to start the school year at Ft. Johnson Middle.
- 1.3 The Board appointed Yvonne Commodore as Principal of Lincoln High.
- 1.4 This item was moved to be a Potential Consent Agenda Item and is now item 9.9.
- 1.5 The Board received information regarding a personnel matter.
- 1.6 The Board received information regarding a business presentation.

Management Reports:

No information was presented.

Charleston Achieving Excellence Priority Items:

No information was presented.

Potential Consent Agenda Items:

The Board:

- 9.1 Approved the second reading of Policy GCQF- Dismissal of Professional Staff.

- 9.2 Approved the recommendation to approve the purchase of Creative Curriculum for CCSD Early Childhood Program.
- 9.3 Approved a recommendation to review the modification to extend James Island Charter High School Facility Use Agreement through June 20, 2010.
- 9.4 Approved a recommendation to approve the modification to change location of the premises from McNair campus site to Orange Grove campus site.
- 9.5 Approved a recommendation to include land clearing costs for new land purchase adjacent to James Island Charter High School (JICHHS) campus in program costs for the future JICHHS capital project in the 2010 building program.
- 9.6 Approved the recommendation to approve a request from the Town of Sullivan's Island to use the new Moultrie School campus.
- 9.7 Received information regarding seismic upgrades.
- 9.8 Received information regarding surplus properties.
- 9.9 Approved the bid #1004 for classroom audio system installation and services for the 2005- 2009 Building Program and FY10 Fixed Cost of Ownership Project.

The next regular meeting of the Charleston County School District Board of Trustees will be at 5:15 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 2009 in the Boardroom at 75 Calhoun Street in downtown Charleston. All are welcome.