

CCSD Board Report

Monday, January 11, 2010

The following members were present: Ruth Jordan, Raymond Toler, Chris Collins, Chris Fraser, Toya Hampton-Green, Elizabeth Kandrak, Ann Oplinger, and Arthur Ravenel.

Moment of Silence, Pledge, and Oath of Office:

Ruth Jordan called for a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Special Recognition:

Clara Heinsohn, Director of Public Affairs and Volunteers, introduced Dr. Vashti Washington, Associate Superintendent, who recognized the Behind the Scenes Hero Award recipient, Ms. Joyce Nesmith, Director & Community Volunteers Coordinator, Beyond Our Walls, Inc.

Bill Lewis, Chief Operating Office for Capital Improvement, recognized Mr. Mac Burdette, Town Administrator for the Town of Mt. Pleasant, for the second Behind the Scenes Hero Award.

Superintendent's Report:

I want to start by saying Happy New Year to everyone...I hope you all had a nice holiday break. For many people, the New Year brings new beginnings, and that was certainly the case last Monday for students at North Charleston High School and the School of the Arts. Both are amazing new buildings—North Charleston underwent a \$30 million dollar renovation—with college-like features that will engage and motivate their students like never before. I want to thank everyone who helped get these schools ready for business on Monday, including teachers and administrators; Food Services; IT; the Facility Services team; Connie Dopierala; Judith Peterson; volunteer media coordinator and volunteers.

I also want to thank the Board for their leadership and support for the capital plan that has made these openings possible. Over the last five years, the plan has transformed the county, and we want to carry this momentum forward in the years to come. On the very near horizon, we have two more openings scheduled. We plan to open Sanders-Clyde Elementary and Haut Gap Middle schools on Tuesday, February 16, following the Presidents' Day weekend. This will provide time for new furniture and computer equipment to be installed, and teachers will be able to set up their classrooms the week before. Both schools are now in the final stages of construction and will go through a series of regulatory inspections.

In other news, we are on track with the plan to convert Midland Park Elementary into a primary school next year by moving the upper elementary grades to the Birney campus. As we've discussed previously with the Board, this will alleviate crowding and strengthen Midland Park's focus on teaching and learning in the early grades. The faculty was briefed on this last week, and this Wednesday there will be a parent meeting at Midland Park to walk the parents through the plan.

Finally, I want to mention two teachers who were recently honored for their excellence in the classroom. Today, Mrs. Karla Swain, a special education resource teacher at Mt. Zion Elementary, won our "Teacher of the Month" award...Her surprise video will be airing all month on our home page...And last week, in a slightly more upscale ceremony, Ms. Mary Beth Meggett was one of only two educators statewide honored by President Obama at the White House for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. Congratulations to Ms. Meggett.

Visitors addressed:

Robert New, Ann Cheek, Jim Fisher, Sally Newell, Corey Webb, Suzanne Reed, Bill Smyth, Ann Birdseye, Alan Hopkins, John Cusatis, Rene B. Miles, Robbin Mosier, and Karl Clarke addressed the Board in regards to naming the School of the Arts Theater after Rose Marie Myers. Ruth Jordan, Board Chair requested Mark Cobb, Executive Director of Facilities, to review the process of naming school facilities.

Approval of Minutes:

The Board approved the minutes of their open session and executive session meeting on December 14, 2009.

The Board approved motions of executive session from their meeting on January 11, 2010 as outlined below.

The Board approved the financial minutes for December 14, 2009.

Motions for Executive Session, January 11, 2009:

- 1.1 The Board discussed information regarding legal matters.
- 1.2 The Board approved the recommendation to overturn student expulsion appeals.
- 1.3 The Board approved the Award for the District-wide Visitor Management System.
- 1.4 The Board approved the recommendation to purchase Yamaha Grand Pianos for the School of the Arts.
- 1.5 The Board approved the recommended AE Selection for RFQ-09-CCSD-R-0001 to be funded by the Qualified School Construction Bonds.

Management Reports:

Michael Bobby, Chief Financial Operations Officer, presented information concerning the Capital Project Report - October 2009. He then presented information on the Charter School General Operating Funding Formula.

Charleston Achieving Excellence Update:

Superintendent Dr. McGinley presented on the Future Vision for CCSD Zone Concept which was approved by the Board.

Potential Consent Agenda Items:

The Board:

- 9.1 Approved Applications for Innovative Approach Pilot Program
- 9.2 Approved Funding for Invitation for Bid for APC Smart UPS Equipment and Accessories
- 9.3 Approved the Agreement for Services: CIS for Jane Edwards Elementary
- 9.4 Received the Internal Control Documentation Projection
- 9.5 Approved the school attendance and repurposing of the Midland Park Elementary Campus
- 9.6 Approved the Future Vision for Zone Concept

The next regular meeting of the Charleston County School District Board of Trustees will be held at 5:15 p.m. on Monday, January 25, 2010, in the Boardroom at 75 Calhoun Street in downtown Charleston. All are welcome.