

CCSD Board Report

Monday, January 25, 2010

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

Call to Order, Invocation/Moment of Silence, and Pledge of Allegiance:

Ruth Jordan called the meeting to order. Doug Farmer, Chaplin from Crisis Ministries, led the invocation which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Special Recognition:

Elliot Smalley, Deputy of Strategic Planning & Communications, introduced Jean Siewicki who recognized Sara Lyles Long for being named the national winner of the Club-Z Award.

Dr. McGinley recognized the District receiving the Broad Center Achievement Award.

Steve Burger, Principal of Stiles Point Elementary recognized Mary Beth Meggett for receiving the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science teaching.

Melvin Middleton, Principal of Sanders Clyde recognized the spelling bee finalist, Kalyn Lewis (1st Place), Amy Lewis (2nd Place) and their teaching coach, Latrea Hutchinson.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. McGinley shared the following information in her report.

Last week the state's Adequate Yearly Progress or "AYP" report was released revealing the new PASS test moved South Carolina from an above grade-level proficiency standard on the PACT which was among the five most rigorous in the country to an on grade level standard this year. AYP requires that all sub-groups within a school hit certain proficiency benchmarks, and the new PASS proficiency standard played a role in this year's calculation. She mentioned how proud she was that this year; the number of schools more than doubled making AYP, from 21 to 50. There were 31 schools that moved from "Not Met" to "Met" AYP this year, compared with only three schools moving in the other direction. And in a very telling statistic, schools far out-paced the rest of the state: 69% of CCSD schools made AYP this year, compared with only 49% statewide. Also in the report, CCSD graduation rates held pretty firm at 71.7%, which was within the margin of error compared to last year's rate.

She believed this report reflects real improvement in schools, and that teachers and students should be applauded for their hard work. At the same time, she recognized that there is much more work to be done because the graduation rate is not where she would like it to be, and persistent achievement gaps remain between groups of students. Literacy improvement is a strategic priority that will help the district with these goals. This is why she was pleased that the Board is made its final reading of the "Accelerated Literacy Pathways" plan Monday night. This approach will allow the district to do "more with less" over the long haul by focusing on proven teaching and early prevention instead of traditional interventions.

She mentioned the competitive \$2.5 million dollar Early Head Start expansion grant the district recently received and described how the money will be used to improve support for families with zero-to-three-aged children. In this same connection but on the Career Academy side, the Boeing Corporation recently gave the district \$50,000 to create an Aeronautics Academy that will be based at the new Stall High School. The district looks forward to working with Boeing to design "real world" programs that will boost the achievement and marketability of students.

She then commended the following high schools for their excellence in either maintaining or improving their students' ACT and SAT scores: James Island Charter, Academic Magnet, School of the Arts, and Wando.

She concluded with the future plans to roll out a district wide campaign to raise funds in support of relief efforts in Haiti. This campaign will recognize all of the campaigns that individual schools have already started, and also provide an opportunity for others to contribute if they wish.

Visitors addressed:

No visitors addressed the board.

Approval of Minutes:

The Board approved the open session and executive session minutes of the January 11, 2010 meeting.

The Board approved motions of executive session from their meeting on January 25, 2010 as outlined below.

Motions for Executive Session, January 11, 2009:

- 1.1 The Board discussed contractual issues.
- 1.2 The Board received information on legal matters presented by general counsel.
- 1.3 The Board upheld denial of student transfer appeal.
- 1.4 The Board received information on Personnel Matters.
- 1.5 The Board approved a recommendation on Pattison's Academy for Comprehensive Education Charter Amendment.

The Board approved the financial minutes for January 11, 2010.

Management Reports:

Michael Bobby, Chief Financial Operations Officer, presented information concerning the Capital Project Report - November 2009.

Charleston Achieving Excellence Update:

Mrs. Mary Runyon and Natalie Kluttz presented Language! Model.

Potential Consent Agenda Items:

The Board:

- 9.1
 - a. Approved the 2nd reading of the Board Policy BBA – School Board Power and Duties with the removal of the word “promptly”.
 - b. Approved the 2nd reading of the Literacy Requirements and Intervention Policy.
- 9.2 Approved a Facility Use Request for Burke High School Gymnasium as required by Board Policy KF – Community Use of School Facilities.
- 9.3 Approved a recommendation to name the school of the Arts Theater to "Rose Maree Myers Theater for the Performing Arts."
- 9.4 Approved the recommendation to transfer EIA Categorical Funds.
- 9.5 Approved a resolution to meet E-Rate Applications Requirement for Funding.

- 9.6 Approved a e funding invitation for Bid #B1017 for Cisco Smartnet Services recommendation.
- 9.7 Approved a Home Instruction Application.
- 9.8 Approved applications for continuation of pilot programs at Garrett Academy.
- 9.9 Approved applications for new pilot program at Wando High.

The next regular meeting of the Charleston County School District Board of Trustees will be held at 5:15 p.m. on Monday, February 8, 2010, in the Boardroom at 75 Calhoun Street in downtown Charleston. All are welcome.