

A regular meeting of the Charleston County School District Board of Trustees was held on Monday, May 12, 2014, in the Board Room at 75 Calhoun Street. The following members of the Board were present: Mrs. Cindy Bohn Coats,- Chair, Mr. Tom Ducker – Vice Chair, Mr. Craig Ascue, Rev. Chris Collins, Mr. Chris Fraser, Mr. Michael Miller, Mr. Emerson Tripp Wiles, and Dr. Nancy J. McGinley, Superintendent and Executive Secretary. Mrs. Elizabeth Moffly was absent. Mr. Todd Garrett arrived at 5:25pm.

Staff members Mr. Michael Bobby, Mr. Bill Briggman, Dr. Charles D'Alfonso, Mr. John Emerson, Mrs. Michele English-Watson, Dr. Lisa Herring, Mrs. Audrey Lane, Mr. Louis Martin, Mr. John McCarron, Dr. Brenda Nelson, Mrs. Terri Nichols, Mr. Paul Padron, Mrs. Erica Taylor, Mrs. Latisha Vaughan-Brandon, and Dr. James Winbush were also in attendance.

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

**I. EXECUTIVE SESSION
4:30 p.m.**

Mr. Ducker moved, seconded by Mr. Wiles, to go into Executive Session at 4:30 p.m. to discuss the Executive Session items listed below. The motion was approved unanimously.

1.1: Legal Matters – Mr. John Emerson, General Counsel

1.2: Personnel Matter – Dr. Nancy McGinley, Superintendent

1.3: Appointment – Executive Director of Leadership Effectiveness, Achievement & Accountability- Dr. Nancy McGinley, Superintendent

1.4: Appointment – Deputy – Capital Programs

1.5: Proposal to Determine Reasons for Choice of Schools

1.6: Provide Step Increases to Staff

**OPEN SESSION
5:15 p.m.**

II. CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE, & PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Coats called the meeting to order. Then she called for a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Rev. Collins, to adopt the May 12, 2014 agenda with one revision. Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Ascue, to move agenda item 11:2 - District 20 Task Force Recommendation immediately after Public Comments. The motion was approved 8-0.

IV. SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS (15 minutes) – Mrs. Erica Taylor, Executive Director of Strategy & Communications

A. Teacher of the Year Recognition

Ms. Melissa Parrish, Team Associate with the Office of Teacher Effectiveness, recognized all five Teacher of the Year finalists. She recognized Emma Armstrong (St. James-Santee), Charles Atkins (Sanders-Clyde), Kimberly Brown (Lincoln), Misty LeClerc (Wando) and this year's CCSD Teacher of the Year, Jaime Cunningham from Liberty Hill Academy.

A representative from Heritage Trust representative presented a gift card to each teacher. Then Mr. Mike Carroll with Jostens and Carrol & Associates presented a ring to the Teacher of the Year.

Then the newly appointed Teacher of the Year, Ms. Jaime Cunningham, addressed the audience.

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Dr. Nancy J. McGinley, Superintendent of Schools

- Dr. McGinley recognized the Ms. Jaime Cunningham and the other Teacher of the Year honorees that were recognized earlier by the Board, and the business partners that donated gifts to honorees. She also recognized Mr. Wilbert Williams, a teacher assistant at Belle Hall who was recognized earlier as the Classified Professional of the Year.

- On Saturday, May 10th, the 6th Annual Superintendent's Cup Tennis Tournament was held. She congratulated the team from Orange Grove Charter for winning this year's tournament.
- Last week Dr. McGinley, Mrs. Coats, Mr. Bobby, traveled to New York with bond attorney for the district to meet with Moody's Investor Services bond rating companies to make a proposal on behalf of the district. A decision regarding our district's credit rating is forthcoming.
- Finally, Dr. McGinley announced the make-up days for the inclement weather experienced earlier in the school year. June 4 will be a normal school day (full day), June 5 will be a half day for students, full day for staff and June 6 will be a half day for students, full day for staff. Additional information regarding these days and how staff will have options to make up the inclement weather days, will be released shortly via an Administrative Bulletin.

VI. VISITORS, PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

1. Dr. Barbara Holmes, a resident of the West Side Neighborhood Association and former educator, addressed the Board in support of the curriculum proposed by Dr. Lenhardt.
2. Ms. Ruby Randall, a resident of the West Side Neighborhood Association and former educator, addressed the Board in support of the curriculum proposed by Dr. Lenhardt.
3. Mr. Peter Lawrence addressed the Board to correct a misunderstanding related to the district. He urged the board to do the right thing for Burke.
4. Mr. Mohammed Idris, addressed the Board about miscellaneous matters. He requested Board identify a day to honor the Pope and President.
5. Mr. Patrick Hayes expressed concerns to the Board about the BRIDGE program. He said the Board should look at data prior to wrapping up BRIDGE incentives. He suggested that not enough information has been provided to justify bonuses of \$20 - \$20,000 of taxpayer dollars.
6. Mr. Edward Jones, Chair of the District 20 Constituent Board, urged the Board to support the District 20 Constituent Task Force recommendation with the exception of Sanders Clyde for the 2014-2015 school year. He said this plan is cost effective and the program is already in place.
7. Ms. Kristie Brian, a CCSD parent and diversity counselor, addressed the Board in support of a dual track at Murray LaSaine ES. She said anything otherwise would undermine what was offered earlier. She expressed concerns about the District catering to newcomers in the neighborhood. She urged the CCSD Diversity Council to address the issues related to having a dual track at Murray LaSaine ES.
8. Mr. LaTonya Gamble, a CCSD parent, addressed the Board in support of the District 20 Task Force recommendation. She said the program would allow students to earn high school credits.
9. Mr. Joshua Jaques, pastor of Friendship Missionary Church, addressed the Board about utilizing space at Wilmont Fraser for services on Sunday. They will maintain the property in exchange for the ability to park there.
10. Mr. Jason Slade expressed concern about Montessori at Murray LaSaine ES due to redevelopment in the area.
11. Mr. Anthony Blake expressed concerns about transparency in relation to Montessori programs. He urged the Board to promote transparency.
12. Various students addressed the Board about equal education for all at Murray LaSaine ES.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/EXECUTIVE SESSION AGENDA ITEMS

7.1: A. Open Session Minutes of April 28, 2014

Mr. Ascue moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to approve the open session minutes of April 28, 2014. The vote was 7-1-0 (Fraser abstained).

B. Open Session Minutes of the Special Called Meeting of May 6, 2014.

Mr. Wiles moved, seconded by Mr. Ascue, to approve the open session minutes of May 6, 2014. The vote was 6-2-0 (Fraser and Garrett abstained).

7.2: Executive Session Action Items of May 12, 2014

The Board voted on the following executive session action items of May 12, 2014.

Mr. Ducker said the Committee of the Whole afforded an opportunity for the Board to discuss the issue and served its purpose.

1.1: Legal Matters – Mr. John Emerson, General Counsel

The Board discussed legal matters. However, no actions were taken.

1.2: Personnel Matter – Dr. Nancy McGinley, Superintendent

Mr. Ducker moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, that agenda item 1.3 be forwarded to the Policy Committee for discussion. The vote was 8-0.

1.3: Appointment – Executive Director of Leadership Effectiveness, Achievement & Accountability- Dr. Nancy McGinley, Superintendent

This item was sent back to the Policy and Personnel Committee for further review. Therefore, no action was taken.

Mr. Fraser suggested that the policy be revised to reflect the current practice as it relates to hiring of senior level administrators.

Specifically, Mr. Fraser asked that the Policy Committee to review the policy regarding senior level hiring decisions being approved by the Board and modify the District's policy to reflect the District's current practice of first sending the recommendation to Policy and Personnel Committee.

1.4: Appointment – Deputy – Capital Programs

Mr. Ducker moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to pull the recommendation from the agenda and send it to the Policy and Personnel Committee. The motion failed 6-2 (only Ducker and Miller supported the motion).

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to approve the recommendation to appoint Mr. Jeffrey Browry to the position of Deputy for Capital Programs. The vote was 4-3 (Collins, Ducker, and Miller opposed).

Note, Mr. Garrett did not vote on this item since he was out of the room during the vote.

1.5: Proposal to Determine Reasons for Choice of Schools

Mr. Ascue moved, seconded by Mr. Wiles, to approve the recommendation to exempt the acquisition of a perception study from the procurement process. The funding source is General Operations Funds. The amount is \$18,500. The vote failed 3-3 (Ascue, Coats, and Wiles supported the motion; Collins, Ducker and Miller opposed; Fraser and Garrett recused themselves because of a business conflict). Recusal letters for both will be included in the May 12th Board meeting to confirm the same.

Rev. Collins asked if it was a one time amount. Mrs. Coats confirmed. Rev. Collins asked if the district staff could do the work. Mrs. Coats said an independent study would allow the company to get information from private and parochial schools. Rev. Collins asked the goal of the study. Mrs. Coats said to find out why students are transferring out of CCSD Schools so the district could address the issues.

Mrs. Coats said she thought about allowing Studer to do the work. But later decided it was necessary to have a company that doesn't already have a business relationship with CCSD.

Mr. Ascue said the survey information is needed. Re-capturing these students would bring money back to the district. Rawle Murdy would go out and talk to parents and get feedback online. Mr. Ascue suggested using focus groups to bring feedback to board.

1.6: Provide Step Increases to Staff

Rev. Collins moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, to approve the request to provide step increase to a targeted group of District administrators who have not received step increases over the past two years, while all others eligible for step increases have received the same. The funding source is General Operating Fund, unless a position is funded out of another funding source. The vote was 7-1 (Coats opposed).

7.3: Financial Minutes of April 28, 2014

Mr. Ducker moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the financial minutes of April 28, 2014. The vote was 8-0.

VIII. CAE UPDATE

There were no CAE Updates to come before the Board at this meeting.

IX. MANAGEMENT REPORT(S)

There were no Management Reports to come before the Board at this meeting.

X. COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

10.1: Audit & Finance Committee – Mr. Todd Garrett

A. Audit & Finance Committee Update

The Committee will provide information and receive input from Board members on the following:
-Items that are currently before the committee that have not been brought forward to the Board;
-Future topics the committee plans to bring forward; and
-What is needed to move the item forward?

Mr. Garrett announced that the next Audit and Finance meeting would be held on May 21st 10:30 – at 75 Calhoun St. The 1st reading of Budget will be discussed at this meeting.

B. Center for Advanced Studies at Wando – Covered Walkway Connector – Mr. Michael Bobby, Chief of Finance & Operations and Mr. Bill Lewis, Chief Operating Officer

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Ascue, to approve the recommendation to authorize staff to enter a Not to Exceed Change Order for the Center of Advanced Studies at Wando – Covered Walkway Connector. The amount is \$815,908. The funding source is the one cent sales tax revenues. The vote was 6-2 (Ducker and Miller opposed).

Mr. Lewis said a minority contractor was selected. Rev. Collins said Morningside needs something similar.

Mr. Ducker asked if there was an alternative plan that would cost less. Mr. Lewis said the covered walkway would prevent students from getting wet on rainy days. They were successful in getting the cost down through value engineering.

Rev. Collins asked cost to close the sides in. Mr. Lewis said it would cost \$3 million. This is minimal amount. If it is closed in, air would be needed. Also, egress would be needed ever so often.

Mr. Miller said it's a long walk from the Center of Advanced Study. He asked if this would address the issue. He doesn't want to spend money now and spend more money later on the same project. Mr. Lewis said the plan would address issues.

C. Renovations to West Ashley Middle School – Mr. Michael Bobby, Chief of Finance & Operations and Mr. Bill Lewis, Chief Operating Officer

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, to approve the recommendation to utilize a list of four General Contractors to obtain competitive construction proposals for Renovations to West Ashley Middle School and proceed with a construction contract based on receipt of bid results that are within the established bid control number (\$2,000,000.00). The funding source is Fixed Cost of Ownership funds for fiscal year 2015. The vote was 7-0. Rev. Collins did not vote since he was out of the room.

Also note that agenda item 10.1E –District 10 Task Force Recommendation was deleted after it was determined that it was meant to be support documents for this agenda item.

Mr. Garrett said he verified his voting rights with Ms. Cathy Hazelwood and the Ethics Commission beforehand about voting because his brother's company is named as a participant for the renovation work.

D. Head Start/Early Head Start Financial Report and In-Kind Budget Plan – Mr. Michael Bobby, Chief of Finance & Operations

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, to approve the recommendation to approve non-federal match of Head Start/Early Head Start facility occupancy. The vote was 8-0.

10.2: Policy & Personnel Committee – Mr. Tripp Wiles

A. Policy Committee Update

The Committee will provide information and receive input from Board members on the following:
-Items that are currently before the committee that have not been brought forward to the Board;
-Future topics the committee plans to bring forward; and
-What is needed to move the item forward?

Mr. Wiles said the next meeting Policy Committee meeting is at 9:30am Wednesday in the Edisto

Room at Calhoun St.

B. Policy GBAA – Sexual Harassment - Mr. John Emerson, General Counsel

Mr. Wiles moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the first reading of the revisions of policy GBAA. The vote was 8-0.

10.3: Strategic Education Committee – Mr. Michael Miller

A. Strategic Education Committee Update

The Committee will provide information and receive input from Board members on the following:
-Items that are currently before the committee that have not been brought forward to the Board;
-Future topics the committee plans to bring forward; and
-What is needed to move the item forward?

Mr. Miller announced that the next Strategic Education Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 14th at 11am at 75 Calhoun St.

XI. POTENTIAL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

11.1: Approval of Expenditures for Laura Brown Special Board Funds

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Ascue, to approve the recommendation to allocate the Laura Brown Special Board Funds for the 2013-14 school year. The total amount allocated is \$49,999.88. The vote was 8-0.

11.2: District 20 Task Force Recommendation

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Ascue, to approve the recommendation from the Committee of the Whole in regards to the District 20 Task Force Recommendation-- Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Ascue, to make a recommendation to the full Board to implement a stand-alone middle school that would open August 2015 at the Rhett facility. The middle school would start with 6th grade middle school students from Memminger and Mitchell. Parents at Sanders Clyde would be allowed to make a voluntary transfer decision if they chose to move a student to the stand alone middle school. Mr. Garrett accepted the amendment. The vote was 6-2 (Collins and Miller opposed).

- Apply for MS Beds Code
- Establish a Project Team to plan for a program that mirrors the one in the West Ashley area and bring a report back to the board five months later on marketing, etc.
- Establish a timeline for implementation.

Rev. Collins asked Mr. Jones for clarity on the recommendation opening date. Mr. Jones said August 2015.

Dr. Lenhardt responded to a question from Mrs. Coats in reference to having the curriculum the same at Memminger and other middle schools. Dr. Lenhardt said the curriculum discussed was only for the program at Rhett.

Rev. Collins questioned the recommendation to delay the program. Mr. Garrett said the idea is to have a new program. Mr. Ascue said the wait would allow work to be done in the community to ensure that the program would be done the way it should be done. Mr. Miller said he shared Rev. Collins' concern about having a stand-alone middle school. However, his concern is that District 20 has been eagerly working for options for at least three years. The plan proposed would be highly effective. However, he would like for the program to start immediately. Mrs. Coats said the District 20 recommendation is not to create a stand-alone middle school next year.

Mr. Fraser said the Committee of a Whole discussed the topic thoroughly. Then he called for the question.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Mrs. Coats shared a request from Mrs. Moffly calling for the Board to write the Legislation Delegation to request a change to the June 6th make up day decision. Mrs. Coats said she would draft a letter.
2. Mr. Miller announced his partnership efforts to showcase the artwork of local students from 9am-4 pm at 24 North Market Street.
3. Mr. Ascue asked the District to look at a better way to address issues related to marketing of Montessori schools.
4. Mr. Ducker asked staff review the data and revisit the Murray LaSaine Montessori decision.

5. Rev. Collins announced that the Transportation Ad Hoc Committee met May 7th. Then he asked the Board about voting rights for staff members on the committee. The consensus of the Board was that support staff should not have voting rights.

Since there was no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.