

A regular meeting of the Charleston County School District Board of Trustees was held on Monday, April 25, 2016, in the board room at 75 Calhoun Street.

The following CCSD board members were present: Mrs. Cindy Bohn Coats – Chair, Mr. Chris Staubes – Vice Chair, Rev. Chris Collins, Mrs. Kate Darby, Mr. Tom Ducker, Mr. Todd Garrett, Rev. Eric Mack, Mr. Michael Miller, Mr. Emerson Tripp Wiles, and Dr. Gerrita Postlewait, Superintendent of Schools and Executive Secretary.

The following staff members were present: Mr. Jeff Borowy, Mr. Bill Briggman, Mr. John Cobb, Mr. John Emerson, Dr. Valerie Harrison, Mr. Ron Kramps, Mrs. Terri Nichols, Mr. Paul Padron, Mrs. Mary Runyon, Mr. Glenn Stiegman, Mrs. Erica Taylor, Mrs. Ruth Taylor and Mrs. Michele English-Watson.

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

Mrs. Coats called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Rev. Collins moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to go into Executive Session to discuss the following agenda items. The motion was approved by consensus.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

4:00 p.m.

- I.
- 1.1: Legal Update – Mr. John Emerson
  - 1.2: Consider Action on Charter Schools- Mr. John Emerson
  - 1.3: Personnel Contractual Matters

### OPEN SESSION

5:15 p.m.

#### II. Call to Order, INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE, & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Coats called the April 25, 2016 Open Session meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Then she called for a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Note: Rev. Mack left the room at 5:15 p. m. and returned at 5:22 p.m. during Special Recognitions. He did not vote on the on the following agenda items:

- Adoption of the Agenda
- Approval of the Board Minutes – Agenda items 4.1A – 4.1D

#### III. Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Staubes, to adopt the April 25, 2016 agenda, moving Executive Session items after Public Comments and approving the Potential Consent Agenda items. The vote was 8-0. Rev. Mack did not vote on this item since he was out of the room.

#### IV. Approval of Minutes

##### 4.1: A. Open Session Minutes of March 21, 2016

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Staubes, to approve the March 21, 2016 minutes. The vote was 8-0. Rev. Mack did not vote on this item since he was out of the room.

**B. Open Session Minutes of March 24, 2016**

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Staubes, to approve the March 24, 2016 minutes. The vote was 8-0. Rev. Mack did not vote on this item since he was out of the room.

**C. Special-called Meeting, April 11, 2016**

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Staubes, to approve the April 11, 2016 minutes. The vote was 8-0. Rev. Mack did not vote on this item since he was out of the room.

**D. AIM Charter Public Hearing Minutes, April 11, 2016**

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Staubes, to approve the AIM Charter Public Hearing - April 11, 2016 minutes. The vote was 8-0. Rev. Mack did not vote on this item since he was out of the room.

**4.2 Approval of Executive Session Items**

**1.1: Legal Update – Mr. John Emerson**

General Counsel briefed the Board on legal matters. No action was taken.

**1.2: Consider Action on Charter Schools- Mr. John Emerson**

The board considered the following recommendations regarding charter schools.

1. Mrs. Darby moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to accept "Charter School A" letter stating its decision to close as a CCSD charter school at the end of the 2015-2016 academic school year and work with the district on how to move forward. The vote was 9-0.
2. Mrs. Darby moved to authorize staff to issue to "Charter School B" a notice of intent to revoke its charter. Since no one seconded the motion, the motion failed.
3. Rev. Collins moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to not send "Charter School B" a revocation letter. However, Mr. Wiles questioned why it was necessary to send a letter since the previous motion failed. Rev. Collins withdrew the motion.
4. Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Rev. Collins, to deny "Charter School C" application based on the fact that the charter committee failed to satisfy the conditions on which approval was tentatively given. Rev. Collins offered a friendly amendment to encourage "Charter School C" to reapply for the 2017-18 school year. Mr. Garrett accepted the amendment. The vote was 9-0.

**1.3: Personnel Contractual Matters**

The board considered the following personnel contractual matters.

**1. Principal Appointment - Murray LaSaine**

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to appoint Ms. Meredith Wallace as principal at Murray LaSaine-Elementary School. The vote was 9-0.

**2. Principal Appointment**

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to appoint Ms. Ivy Freeman as principal at a CCSD school. The vote was 9-0.

**3. Principal Appointment**

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to appoint Ms. Judy Beard as principal at Sanders Clyde Elementary Principal. The vote was 9-0.

**V. SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS**

The board did not recognize three of the eight individuals/groups listed (D-F) since they were participating in national competitions.

**5.1: A. Spellbound Spelling Bee State Winner**

**B. Computer Science Award**

**C. Charleston Air Force Association Chapter and State Teacher of the Year**

**D. Behind the Scenes Hero**

**E. We the People Award**

**F. Excellence in Economics Award**

**G. PTA Lifetime Membership Award**

**H. Apple Distinguished Schools**

**VI. VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Staubes read the following information from Board Policy BEDH- Public Participation at Board Meetings - Individuals desiring to appear before the board shall sign in prior to the meeting and shall be allowed a maximum of two minutes to address the board. Individuals who sign in may not yield their time to another speaker. The chairman reserves the right to limit discussion of the same topic in an effort to provide individuals the opportunity to be heard on a variety of topics. If time is a factor, preference shall be given to those individuals speaking on agenda items. An individual or group may appear before the board only once on the same item within a six-month period unless special permission is granted by the board.

1. Ms. Linda Santiago asked the board to reconsider revoking Greg Mathis charter because of the opportunities the school provides for at-risk students.
2. Dr. Earnestine Barnes-Small expressed concerns related to the recommendation to revoke the charter for Greg Mathis.
3. Mr. Mel Coleman, a teacher at Greg Mathis Charter, expressed concerns related to the recommendation to revoke the school's charter.
4. Mr. Patrick Hayes expressed concerns about the district's partnership with Meeting Street Schools and spoke about the accusations he wrote about in a recent newsletter. He also mentioned customer service complaints made against Meeting Street Academy.
5. Mrs. Eleanor Hardy, the Chief Executive Officer at Greg Mathis Charter School, said Greg Mathis doesn't owe CCSD any money and has been fair. She also expressed her concern that most CCSD board haven't taken time to sit down with Greg Mathis staff.
6. Mr. Kevin Dium, the Career and Technology Education teacher at Greg Mathis Charter, expressed concerns about the district's intent to revoke the school's charter.
7. Ms. Bernise Benjamin spoke in support of Meeting Street Academy at Brentwood and how it has turned her son around.
8. Ms. Nicole Hill spoke in support of Meeting Street Academy at Brentwood and how it has turned her son around. She commended the school's innovative learning model.
9. Ms. Andrea Hart, a Meeting Street Schools teacher and a parent of a student attending the school, spoke in support of the school.
10. Ms. Thurmantha Davis, a teacher at Meeting Street Schools, spoke in support of the school.
11. Mr. Kent Riddle, a teacher with the Meeting Street School and former president of the CCSD Teacher Alliance, spoke in support of the school and how the program has encouraged his own personal growth as a teacher.
12. Ms. Amy Mims, the Executive Director of Meeting St. Schools, spoke in support of the school and the work she is doing at the school. Ms. Mims also read a memo from the founder, Mr. Ben Navarro.
13. Ms. Jody Stallings expressed concerns about staffing decisions related to the 2017 budget.
14. Mr. Jon Hale expressed concerns about Meeting Street at Brentwood related to concerns identified by Mr. Patrick Hayes. He questioned the partnership and the inclusion students instead of a selected group of students.
15. Mr. Kendall Deas spoke about the district's ability to achieve same goals under a public model versus a private model. He suggested staff take the agreement back to the Strategic Education Committee to consider allegations made by Mr. Patrick Hayes before voting in support of the partnership.
16. Mr. Otis Mt. Horr, a Greg Mathis staff member, addressed the board in support of the school. He asked the board to not revoke the charter.
17. Ms. Natrice Henriques, the former Greg Mathis principal, urged the board to consider an alternate plan rather than closing the charter school.
18. Ms. Michelle Melton, the Vice Chair of the Greg Mathis Board, expressed concerns related to the revocation recommendation. She urged the board to reconsider.
19. Mr. Gerald Katz, a consultant, spoke about the budget deficit and stated that Dr. Postlewait didn't create the deficit. He asked that the community be informed about goals and efforts to close the gap.

20. Mr. L. Rae Pringle, a Greg Mathis board member, addressed the board in support of keeping the school open. He asked that they be included in the process on how to make the school and community better.
21. Ms. Luanne Rosenberg, a Charleston Justice Ministry representative, addressed the board in support of the Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) and Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) plan from Ms. Jennifer Coker. She urged the board to vote in support of the plan.
22. Mr. Jack Richardson, a former Greg Mathis board chair, addressed the board in support of keeping the charter school open. He commended Rev. Collins for attending all of the graduation ceremonies at Greg Mathis Charter.

## VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Dr. Gerrita Postlewait – Superintendent of Schools

### 7.1: Financial Report – Mr. Glenn Stiegman

*The board received the Financial Report as information.*

- *An additional \$5 million was collected since the last meeting.*
- *A new system is in place to encumber salaries; it's done monthly to track salary expenses.*
- *Mr. Garrett asked if a balance budget would be presented for 2016-17. Stiegman confirmed and said it would be presented next year.*

**NOTE:** *Rev. Mack left the meeting at 6:00 p.m.*

### 7.2: End-of-Year School Performance Report – Dr. Gerrita Postlewait

#### Meeting St. School Memorandum of Understanding

Dr. Gerrita Postlewait presented information on the Meeting Street School Memorandum of Understanding.

- A partnership agreement with Meeting St. School has been in place since 2014.
- The partnership agreement is being extended to include Brentwood.
- State Department waivers required to extend the school year, hire staff, and make other preparations.
- Staff is looking at the partnership and using it as a model for school reform with literacy and numeracy outcomes.
- The private partnership efforts would also place an apprenticeship principal at the school to groom for replicating of the program in CCSD schools.
- The terms of the district's agreement with the Meeting Street Group and the program located downtown were outlined.
- Meeting Street School accepted all the students that were attending Brentwood Middle.
- Meeting Street Schools has an operating plan that was developed jointly with CCSD. That plan could be amended, replaced, or updated at any time.
- CCSD's only investment is the resources invested at the student level. The school provides additional wrap around services at no cost to the district.
- The student suspension policy was explained. The school has advisory board members and governing board. CCSD has the ability to reject anything CCSD doesn't support.
- Student achievement data was shared and compared to CCSD's achievement rate.
- The partnership is benefitting CCSD students.
- The school has not dismissed any teachers, to date.
- The Burns Memorandum of Understanding was approved earlier by the CCSD board.

**Land Purchase in McClellanville** - if the agenda item is approved, staff will talk to members of the Lincoln High School community tomorrow night about opportunities for Lincoln High School students for next year.

**End of the Year Report** – Dr. Postlewait shared a schedule of meetings with principals to discuss the End of the Year data that supports how well students are doing. The information that will be shared and the format that will be used were also explained.

A staff member will contact board members about their attendance at the upcoming meetings.

### 7.3: North Charleston High School Progress Report – Mr. Robert Grimm

Mr. Grimm thanked the board for the best five years of his life. Then he shared a brief progress report highlighting the following:

- Education Oversight Committee (EOC) Passage Rate
- Graduation Rate

## VIII. COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

### Operations Committee

#### 8.1: A. Bus Lot Construction Hold – Mr. Jeff Borowy

Mrs. Coats moved, seconded by Rev. Collins, to approve a recommendation coming from the Operations Committee to place a hold on the construction of the District 4 bus lots, thereby freezing up \$7 million of Phase III (2011-2016) Capital Program. The vote was 5-3 (Coats, Miller and Staubes opposed).

*Mr. Miller said he wanted to suspend the bus lot construction until September 2016.*

#### B. Transportation Master Staffing Plan – Mr. William “Jeff” Scott

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mrs. Darby, to approve a recommendation coming from the Operations Committee to approve implementation of the Master Staffing Plan as submitted. The committee requested specific job descriptions, which are provided in the board packet. The vote was 6-2 (Collins and Miller opposed).

Mr. Miller offered a second motion, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to only add one more position to the recommendation that was made earlier when he chaired the Transportation Committee. This would result in a total of four positions. However, the board did not vote on this motion since initial motion was approved.

### Strategic Education Committee

#### 8.2: A. Meeting Street Schools at Burns Elementary - Mr. John Emerson, Mr. Bob Olson

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Staubes, to approve a recommendation coming from the Strategic Education Committee to request to the State Board of Education to grant CCSD and Meeting Street Schools at Brentwood and Burns waivers from the following statutes and regulations. The vote was 6-1-1 (Miller opposed; Collins abstained).

1. The Teacher Employment and Dismissal Act. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-410 et seq.;
2. Appeal rights for Annual Contract teachers per S.C. Code Ann. § 59-26-40;
3. Staffing and certification requirements such that the exemptions would be similar to those identified in charter school law under S.C. Code Ann. § 59-40-50;
4. Authority to provide extended day and extended year instruction; and
5. Authority to provide additional days of professional development.

Rev. Collins spoke about concerns expressed by visitors opposing the Meeting Street Partnership and asked about governing board at Meeting Street and Burns. Dr. Postlewait said information was included in the contract with Meeting Street Board. Dr. Postlewait said she will bring additional information back to the board in the future. The Board of Directors at Burns and Brentwood would be similar.

Rev. Collins asked about discipline plans for students. Dr. Postlewait said the CCSD board has the final say since they follow the CCSD Code of Conduct. Rev. Collins asked that the Memorandum of Understanding be revised to allow more transparency as it relates to how student information is handled.

#### B. Department of Alternative Programs Updates – Mrs. Jennifer Coker

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Garret, to approve a recommendation coming from the Strategic Education Committee for the Alternative Program design and reorganization, the use of Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) and Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) as district-wide models, and the purchase and use of Review 360 software. The vote was 8-1 (Wiles opposed).

#### C. Hursey Elementary Attendance Zone Clarification – Rev. Chris Collins

Mr. Ducker moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve a recommendation coming from the Strategic Education Committee to send a letter to the District 4 Constituent Board to send a letter to parents of children who are zoned to attend Hursey Elementary, but opt out of the Montessori program in the

next two years, may be permitted to choose to attend one of the following North Charleston Schools on the list (Pepperhill, AC Corcoran, Goodwin, North Charleston or Chicora Elementary Schools). Children may also attend North Charleston Creative Arts Elementary by applying through the partial magnet application process for the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years. A copy of the letter is included in the board packet. The vote was 6-2 (Coats and Miller opposed).

Note: Rev. Mack left the meeting earlier.

### Policy & Personnel Committee

8.3: N/A

### Audit & Finance Committee

8.4: N/A

### New Business

8.5: **A. Nomination and Selection - South Carolina School Boards Association Board of Directors – Mr. Garrett, Mr. Staubes, Mr. Wiles, and Mrs. Coats**

Mr. Staubes moved, seconded by Rev. Collins, to approve a recommendation coming from four board members to select a member to serve on the SCSBA Board of Directors for the remainder of Mr. Garrett's term, through the December 2016 Delegate Assembly. The vote was 8-0.

**B. Delay of District Wide Athletic Improvements (Athletic Fields)- Mr. Miller, Rev. Collins, Mr. Ducker, and Rev. Mack –**

Rev. Collins moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker table the recommendation on District Wide Athletic Improvements and revisit it at the Special Called Meeting on May 2, 2016 meeting.

### POTENTIAL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The board approved the following potential consent agenda items during the Adoption of the Agenda. The vote was 8-0. Rev. Mack did not vote since he was out of the room.

IX. 9.1: **A. Financial Minutes – March 21, 2016 – Mr. Glenn Stiegman**

The board approved the March 21, 2016 Financial Minutes. The vote was 8-0.

**B. Financial Minutes – March 24, 2016 – Mr. Glenn Stiegman**

The board approved the March 24, 2016 Financial Minutes. The vote was 8-0.

**C. Financial Minutes – April 11, 2016 Special Called Meeting – Mr. Glenn Stiegman**

The board approved the April 11, 2016 Special Called Meeting Financial Minutes. The vote was 8-0.

**D. Financial Minutes – April 11, 2016 AIM Charter Public Hearing**

The board approved the April 11, 2016 AIM Charter Public Hearing minutes. The vote was 8-0.

9.2 **A. FY17 Facility Use Rates - Mr. Sean Hughes**

Operations Committee

The board approved the revised rate schedule for facility use for FY2017 as submitted. The vote was 8-0.

Operations Committee

**B. Purchase of Property in Constituent District 1 - Mr. Sean Hughes**

The board directed staff to enter into negotiations and approve the recommendation to purchase property identified as TMS# 681-00-00-028, providing the cost falls within a reasonable range. The vote was 8-0.

Operations Committee

**C. Memorandum of Understanding @ North Charleston Creative Arts - Mr. Sean Hughes**

The board approved the revised Memorandum of Understanding with the City of North Charleston for North Charleston Creative Arts campus as submitted. The vote was 8-0.

Operations

**D. Baxter Patrick Property Library Agreement – Mr. Sean Hughes**

The board approved the agreement with the Charleston County Library for the Baxter Patrick property.

Committee

The vote was 8-0.

Operations  
Committee

**E. Adult Education Relocation – Mr. Sean Hughes**

The board approved staff leasing temporary space for one (1) year for Adult Education not to exceed \$140,000, if necessary. The vote was 8-0.

Strategic  
Education  
Committee

**9.3: Election of Committee of the Whole Chair**

The board approved the nomination of Mrs. Kate Darby as the Committee of the Whole chair. The vote was 8-0.

Policy &  
Personnel  
Committee

**9.4: A. Policy JICI: Weapons in Schools**

The board approved the first reading of the proposed revisions of Policy JICI. The vote was 8-0.  
The vote was 8-0.

Policy &  
Personnel  
Committee

**B. Policy JICH: Drugs and Alcohol Use by Students**

The board approved the first reading of the proposed revisions of Policy JICH. The vote was 8-0.

Policy &  
Personnel  
Committee

**C. Policy JICG: Tobacco Free Schools – Students**

The board approved the first reading of the proposed revisions of Policy JICG. The vote was 8-0.

Audit &  
Finance  
Committee

**9.5: A. Workers' Compensation Settlement**

The board will consider a recommendation coming from the Audit & Finance Committee to approve a workers' compensation settlement claim. The vote was 8-0.

Audit &  
Finance  
Committee

**B. 2010-2016 Capital Building Program (Phase III) Sales Tax Budget Reallocation**

The board approved the 2010-2016 Capital Building Program (Phase III) Sales Tax Reallocation. The vote was 8-0.

**X. Upcoming Meetings**

- **Monday, May 2, 2016 - 4:30 p.m.: Special-called Board Meeting** (Primarily for Budget issues)
- **Monday, May 9, 2016 - 9:30 a.m.: Optional work session requested by board members – Dr. Sheila Quinn, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation & Effectiveness**  
South Carolina Department of Education  
Teacher Evaluation requirements in South Carolina and EVAAS value-add system
- **Monday, May 9, 2016 – Committee of the Whole Meeting**
- **Monday, May 18, 2016 – 4:30 p.m.: Budget Meeting, if necessary**
- **Monday, May 23, 2016 – May Board Meeting**

**XI. Adjournment**

The April 25, 2014 board meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m. by consensus.