

ST. JAMES-SANTEE CONSTITUENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
AND COMMUNITY FORUM**

**Lincoln Middle High School
McClellanville, SC 29458**

Tuesday, April 26, 2016 (6:30 p.m.)

Members Present:

Mr. Thomas Colleton, Chairperson
Mrs. Erma Harrell, Vice Chair
Ms. Diane Geathers
Mr. Joseph Bowers, III
Reverend Derrick Wilson
Ms. Shonna Weathers

Members Absent:

Ms. Anita Alston-Gore

Others Present:

Ms. Terri H. Nichols, Associate Superintendent
Ms. Trudie Cantrell, Administrative Assistant
Ms. Pamelas Jubar, Lincoln Middle-High School Interim Principal
Dr. Joe Sampson, St. James-Santee Elementary School Principal

Visitors:

Dr. Gerrita Postlewait, CCSD Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Michael Miller, Charleston County School Board Member
Mr. Jeff Borowy, Deputy, Capital Programs
Mr. Michael Reidenbach, Interim Risk and Safety Senior Officer
Mrs. Mary Runyan, Interim Executive Director, Secondary & Post Secondary Learning Community
Mrs. Erica Taylor, Executive Director, Office of Strategy and Communications
Mrs. Marty Belk, Constituent District Two Chair person

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1. **Meeting Called to Order:** Mr. Thomas L. Colleton, Chairperson, called the meeting to order, gave the invocation, and led the pledge of allegiance.
2. **Notice of Meeting:** In accordance with the S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(d), as amended, the Charleston County Public Relations Office was notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting, and the agenda was posted on the Charleston County School District web page, and Lincoln Middle High School front office.
3. **Adoption of Agenda:** Mr. Bowers made the motion to move item XIV after item VII. Mrs. Harrell moved and Ms. Geathers seconded the motion to approve the adoption of the agenda and also the minutes from the March 22, 2016 meeting. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).
4. **Public Presentations and Recognition:** None
5. **Public Comments:** Mr. Marvin Geathers questioned if this community forum is to close Lincoln, then why do we pay taxes. I don't see closing the school. Where will the children go. Lincoln survived Hugo in 1989 and we need to think wisely about that. Today we need to come together as one.

Mr. Samuel Campbell, President of Concerned Citizens shared that if the school district has a problem with money, the money should be put in our school.

6. **Approval of the Minutes:** Approved with Adoption of Agenda.
7. **Superintendent's Report:** Dr. Postlewait presented a powerpoint presentation and shared:
- A. Only 38% of CCSD students are reading on 3rd grade level
 - B. Readiness of Trident Tech College: 17% of CCSD high school graduates that started could take Trident Tech courses. 83% had to take remedial courses.
 - C. Suspension and Expulsion rate is too high. High poverty kids do better in non high poverty schools. Students need to take Trident Tech courses in high school. Goal is to have one year of college by the time students graduate from high school.
 - D. What Lincoln Middle High School students want:
 - Career pathways
 - Engineering
 - Health & Science
 - Cosmetology
 - Automotive
 - E. County Board voted last night to purchase property in Awendaw. Dr. Postlewait recommends for Lincoln Middle High School grades 9-12 to move to Wando High based on opportunity. If it does move forward, CCSD will find a way to get students what they deserve, not taking away from their community.
8. **Open Forum/Questions/Answers:** Mr. Colleton stated that Board Members have option to ask questions first:
- Q: Mr. Colleton mentioned the achievement gap students is diverse across the county.
 - A: Dr. Postlewait stated that poverty is the main factor that causes achievement and is not sure what all the factors are.
 - Q: Mr. Colleton asked if the Lincoln students go to Wando, will they be incorporated into Wando or housed separately?
 - A: Dr. Postlewait stated that will be a community decision, that all students will want the opportunity to take course work. Lincoln Middle High School students are asking for course work that CCSD cannot provide. There is a commitment to help students with support to succeed.
 - Q: Mrs. Harrell asked if the property on Doar Road will be build for Lincoln?
 - A: Dr. Postlewait is not sure when the new school will be built.
 - Q: Mr. Colleton asked what the plan would be for Lincoln students attending Wando?
 - A: Dr. Postlewait suggests that a Trident Tech pilot program with Wando would help to improve math and reading scores.
 - Q: Mr. Bowers asked if Lincoln will still have sports teams? Would Lincoln students be classified as Wando students?
 - A: Dr. Postlewait stated that it would be doubtful to have Lincoln sports. It's possible there could be a Wando/Lincoln diploma.

Questions/comments by the community:

1. What is the projected enrollment of new school on Doar Road?
Mr. Borowy stated 1200-1600 students.
2. Suggested a Transition team established for students to meet/tour Wando High School.
3. The problem with Lincoln started years ago by taking mechanics, carpentry, and cosmetology out of the school. It is CCSD's fault that Lincoln kids will have to be bused to Wando.
4. Where will teachers that signed contracts go? If a teacher received a contract they will have a teaching position within Charleston County School District.

5. This is a community that wants to keep Lincoln High within the community.
6. Work is being done at McClellanville Middle, what's the reason? Dr. Postlewait shared that Oceanside Collegiate Academy is looking to possibly rent the space.
7. Students will have to get up at 5:00 AM. There should be other alternatives: satellite classes.
8. Think about our children.

Mr. Michael Miller was introduced and he stated that he hears passion and frustration in this room. Dr. Postlewait is working with budget situations, County Board has made lots of decisions among angst, heartache, and guilt. CCSD is moving forward with eliminating jobs, protecting education of students and public dollars. He came to this meeting to hear community thoughts and would not ask community to do something that he wouldn't do. His vote is to represent everyone in the room while considering what's best for Lincoln students and the community. It is a long ride from Wando to Lincoln. Seems like an easy fix, but there's a lot to consider.

9. **Principal's Report:** Ms. Jubar shared :
 - A. Middle School PASS testing took place Monday, Tuesday and Thursday this week.
 - B. Steel Drum Competition in Columbia scored a 90.
 - C. Last Friday – Some Lincoln students traveled to Orangeburg to participate in Building Next Generation Symposium.
 - D. Constituent Board invited to Junior/Senior Prom at Wild Dunes Resort at 6:00 Saturday, April 30th.
 - E. Students and parents are reminded about after school tutorial programs – numbers are decreasing.
 - F. IGP – 12th graders are completed, still working on grades 8 – 11th.
 - G. Principals List – 2 students, 22 A/B Honor Roll
 - H. Graduation – 25 students graduating the first Friday in June.
10. **Public Communications:** None
11. **Chairman's Report:** Mr. Colleton shared that his nephew was inducted into the Claflin Honor Society and showed prospective students around the campus.
12. **Board Report:** None
13. **Old Business:** None
14. **New Business:** None
15. **Adjournment:** There being no further business, Ms. Harrell moved and Mr. Bowers seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes Approved

Thomas Colleton, Chairperson