

## **OPEN SESSION**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charleston County School District was held on Monday, January 24, 2011 with the following members of the Board present: Mr. Chris Fraser –Chair, Mrs. Ann Oplinger - Vice Chair, Mr. Craig Ascue, Mrs. Cindy Bohn Coats, Rev. Chris Collins, Mrs. Toya Hampton-Green Mrs. Elizabeth Kandrac, Mrs. Elizabeth Moffly, Mrs. Mary Ann Taylor, and Dr. Nancy J. McGinley, Superintendent and Executive Secretary. Staff members Mr. Michael Bobby, Mr. John Emerson, Dr. Brenda Nelson, Mrs. Audrey Lane, and Mr. Bill Lewis were also in attendance.

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

Chairman Fraser called the meeting of January 24, 2011 to Order at 4:45 p.m. Mrs. Green moved, seconded by Mr. Ascue, approval of a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the following agenda items. The motion was approved unanimously.

1.1: Charleston Math and Science Charter School Amendment

1.2: A-E Selection Strategy for Montessori-Springfield

#### **OPEN SESSION RECONVENED**

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

Chairman Fraser called the meeting of January 10, 2011 to Order at 5:00 p.m. Then he led the group in a Moment of Silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chairman Fraser noted for the record that agenda item 11.7B was pulled. Then Mrs. Bohn Coats moved, seconded by Mrs. Moffly, that all votes are taken by roll call. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Moffly moved to delete agenda item #11.5 – Request for Reallocation of Funds to Complete Renovations at 75 Calhoun Street from the agenda because this item failed during an earlier Board vote. Chairman Fraser explained that agenda item #11.5 is different from the original request since this item separates the three projects, thereby, requiring a separate vote for three different projects.

Mrs. Green moved, seconded by Mr. Ascue, adoption of the agenda. The motion was approved 7-2 (Mrs. Kandrac and Mrs. Moffly opposed).

## IV. SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS (20 minutes)

## 4.1: 2010 BiLo Charity Recipient - James Island Elementary

The Board recognized Principal Deborah Fickling and Mrs. Patterson, the James Island Elementary Campus Improvement Council Chair, for receiving the BiLo Charity Grant which was used to beautify the school's campus.

#### V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Nancy McGinley shared the following:

- Last Friday held a very productive Board Workshop. The challenge now is how to absorb a \$28 million budget shortfall and fortify classrooms and accelerate students. Like other districts across the country, the district is dealing with state budget cuts and the loss of federal stimulus money.
- Last week a video was sent to employees to alert everyone about the difficult budget season. The district developed a new budget web page with presentations and handouts from the budget workshop. An email address was established for solicitation of budget cut suggestions from staff and others.
- Dr. McGinley said the District would have to do things differently and think about how to invest scarce

resources directly to district strategies. Part of the new five-year vision is to set bold, clear goals for student achievement and zero in on core strategies like teacher effectiveness. The plan is to only invest in what works.

- One first step is to look at non-classroom positions. At the Board's request, Dr. McGinley will bring specifics to the February 10<sup>th</sup> Board Workshop. Beforehand, she will ask her staff "if we did not have position x, y, or z, could the schools operate effectively.
- Dr. McGinley spoke of two Strategic Partnership events--last Saturday, the 2011 River Race Festival and the Boyz to Gentlemen Summit. Over 500 individuals participated in summit on how to get students motivated and on track for success in school and in life. Dr, McGinley publicly thanked the agencies and leaders who participated.

## VI. VISITORS, PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS (Not to exceed 30 minutes)

- 1. Rev. Joe Darby President of the NAACP Commended new board members and encouraged them to approach job with all students in mind. He urged the Board to keep the promise of the previous Board to share Rivers campus between Low Country Tech and the Charleston Charter of Math and Science School.
- 2. Mr. Christopher Morgan addressed the Board regarding District 20 enrollment and changes for the Upper Peninsula schools. He suggested necessary changes be made to increase student enrollment in downtown schools.
- **3.** Mr. Jackie Simmons urged the Board to allow Charleston Charter Math and Science to move into the Rivers building and allow them to use the auditorium.
- **4.** Mr. Jeff Gleim represented downtown parents who support a Montessori at James Simons.
- 5. Mrs. Ruth Jordan addressed the Board regarding Low Country Tech. She said the County Board made a promise in 2010 to District 20 parents to build new schools for Buist, CPA, Memminger and J. Simons. Also, in 2009 funds were set aside to renovate Rivers for Low Country Tech. She urged the Board to keep the previous Board's commitment. She suggested Montessori and High Tech schools be considered for every school possible, regardless to their zone location.
- **6.** Ms. Ginny Provost addressed the Board regarding Charleston Math and Science Parent urging the Board to keep the previous board's commitment to renovate the Rivers building. She also said the auditorium to be preserved for use by whomever.
- 7. Mr. Frank Clasby, a Waggoner Terrace resident, addressed the Board in support a Montessori option at James Simons
- **8.** Ms. Michele Smyth read an excerpt from the study "Helping Johnny Walk to School" and she suggested the Board consider community centered schools.
- **9.** Mr. Kevin Eberly addressed the Board about the lack of quality of schools in the Upper Peninsula area. He urged the board to consider the Montessori option at James Simons Elementary.
- **10.** Ms. Shari Sebuck Thanked the Board and staff for listening and working with Jennie Moore parents to plan their new facility. She urged the Board to support the plans developed staff and parents.
- **11.** Ms. Abbi Beckford, a Charleston Math and Science Charter parent, requested the Board reconsider plans for the auditorium at Rivers.
- **12.** Ms. Ann Marie Crevar –urged the Board to consider a Montessori Program at James Simons ES.
- **13.** Mr. Calvin Whitfield asked the Board to encourage Construction Management firms to consider minority and/or small businesses for projects funded by the Sales Tax recently approved by taxpayers.
- **14.** Mr. Jon Butzon cautioned the Board about improper use of Executive Session.
- **15.** Ms. Dot Scott said she heard comments from both Low Country Tech and Charleston Charter for Math and Science. However, she recalls the agreement for the Rivers facility was a 60/40 split. She suggested the Board adhere to the original agreement and other options be sought to address auditorium needs of Charleston Math and Science Charter School.
- **16.** Rev. Alma Dungee urged Board to keep the auditorium at Rivers.
- 17. Ms. Valarie Perry urged the Board to consider a Montessori Program at J. Simons Elementary
- **18.** Mr. Eddie Bello urged the Board to consider a Montessori Program at J. Simons. He also expressed his support for the auditorium at Rivers.

**19.** Mr. Ian Thomlinson urged the Board to consider a Montessori Program at J. Simons because of limited school options for downtown students.

## VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/EXECUTIVE SESSION AGENDA ITEMS

## 7.1:Open Session Minutes of December 10, 2010

Mr. Ascue moved, seconded by Rev. Collins, approval of the Open Session minutes of December 10, 2010 as amended. The motion was approved 9-0.

Mrs. Kandrac – identified the following errors: Page 7.1-1 Metarazzo and Scott are erroneously listed as staff members. Also, she said pointed out a voting error for the agenda item about Renovations at 75 Calhoun Street.

## 7.2: Motions of Executive Session of December 13, 2010

The Board voted on the following Executive Session motions of December 13, 2010:

- **1.1: Charleston Math and Science Charter School Amendment** The Board approved a request from Charleston Math and Science Charter School to amend the number of sections in two grade levels. The vote was 9-0.
- **1.2: A-E Selection Strategy for Montessori-Springfield** The Board approved the recommendation allowing 2 previously prequalified firms, Glick Boehm and Associates and McMillan Pazdan Smith, to interview for the project to master plan the Montessori –School and Springfield Elementary School located on Springfield Elementary School's campus. The vote was 9-0.

#### 7.3: Financial Minutes of December 13, 2010

Mrs. Oplinger moved, seconded by Mrs. Bohn Coats, approval of the Financial Minutes of December 13, 2010. The minutes were approved with a 9-0 vote.

## VIII. COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

## 8.1: Finance & Audit Committee

Mrs. Bohn Coats, the Finance and Audit Committee Chair, reported that the Finance and Audit Committee met on January 19, 2011 to review and discuss the Capital Projects financial report. The committee also received information on the 2011 – 2016 Building Program Execution Plan. The Finance and Audit Committee will develop a 2011 meeting schedule at the next meeting.

## 8.2: Policy Committee

Mrs. Ann Oplinger, the Policy Committee Chair, reported that the Policy Committee met on January 13<sup>th</sup>. At that time the committee reviewed Board Policy BE which Mrs. Taylor is reworking the last paragraph. Also, Policy BID was reviewed and revised by Mr. Emerson. Field Trip Regulations were reviewed and on tonight's agenda for approval. The Health Advisory Committee discussed and an Ad Hoc Committee was proposed with Mrs. Moffly serving as the chair. After Mrs. Moffly accepted, Rev. Collins suggested Coach Spurlock also serve on the Ad Hoc Committee. Chairman Fraser also asked board members to give suggestions regarding the Health Advisory Committee to Mrs. Moffly. The next Policy Meeting will be held on February 2, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

## IX. MANAGEMENT REPORT(S)

#### 9.1: October 2010 Capital Projects Report

Mr. Michael Bobby, Chief Financial Officer, said the Capital Projects cash flow continues to decline because the current building program is coming to an end. However, he said the passing of the Penny Sales Tax means brings about the beginning of the new 2010-2016 building program.

## 9.2: Fiscal Year 2012 E-Rate Application

Mr. Michael Bobby, Chief Financial Officer, presented the Fiscal Year 2012 E-Rate Application is provided as information. Mr. Bobby also shared background information on E-Rate for new board members. Mr. Bobby said the E-Rate Resolution is on the agenda for Board Approval. Mr. Bobby said unlike previous years, this year \$750,000 E-Rate was used for operational costs.

#### X. CAE UPDATE

## 10.1: Career Academies Update

Mr. Louis Martin, Associate Superintendent with the High Schools Learning Community provided an update on Career Academy expansion and how it fits in with district initiatives, specifically focusing on the Central Zone (Burke High, West Ashley High and Low Country Tech). After sharing information on planned majors for Low Country Tech at Rivers, Mr. Martin shared plans for Burke and Rhett which includes plans to relocate the Culinary Arts program to the cafeteria in the Rhett building with a Bistro, similar to the one at Wando High. Dr. McGinley shared information on the Education Economic Development Act and plans for special courses at Low Country Tech that will serve both Downtown and West Ashley schools.

#### XI. POTENTIAL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

## 11.1: Home School Application

Mrs. Oplinger motioned, seconded by Mrs. Green, approval of a home school application. The motion was approved 9-0.

## 11.2: 2011-2016 Building Program Execution Plan

Mrs. Green moved, seconded by Mrs. Bohn Coats, approval of staff's recommended execution plan for the 2011-2016 Building Program. The motion was approved with a vote of 6-3 (Rev. Collins, Mrs. Kandrac and Mrs. Moffly opposed).

Mr. Lewis said the 2011-2016 projects listed brings schools on two times a year. Mr. Bobby also addressed questions about making changes to the plan. Mr. Bobby cautioned the Board that, as mentioned in the earlier Board workshop, nothing is locked in stone. However, there would be scheduling and financial implications if the plan is revised at some point. Mr. Lewis also responded to questions regarding smaller companies difficulty in getting contracts on large bond projects. Mr. Lewis explained the bonding requirements and how costly it is to become bonded. Further, Mr. Lewis spoke about how smaller and minority companies could collaborate with large Construction Management Companies to get contracts. Mr. Lewis said the purpose of tonight's vote is to get the plan which drives the financial plan approved so he could establish a schedule to get the work done.

Mr. Lewis said while the cost to borrow is cheap, changes would not be in the best interest of the district in this building plan because the interest level isn't where it was in the previous building program.

#### 11.3: Fiscal Year 2012 E-Rate Application

Mrs. Oplinger moved, seconded by Mrs. Green approval of staff's recommendation on the E-Rate Resolution to meet E-Rate application requirements for funding. The potential E-Rate Reimbursement amount is \$1,442,721 and the required FY2012 budget is \$2,049,614. The funding source is FY2012 General Operating Funds. The motion was approved 9-0.

## 11.4: Award of Baxter Patrick Abatement and Demolition (11-Heery-B-002)

Mrs. Green moved, seconded by Mrs. Oplinger, approval of staff's recommendation to award the contract for demolition of Baxter Patrick building to Hard Construction. The funding source is reallocation of Classroom Modernization capital funds into FY2011 Fixed Cost of Ownership. The funding amount is \$52,625.00 for complete demolition services. The motion was approved 9-0.

11.5: Request for Approval – Re-allocation of funds to complete renovations of the Academic and Instruction Offices located at 75 Calhoun St.

Chairman Fraser opened the floor for discussion of this agenda item which was questioned earlier by Mrs. Moffly. After discussion, Mr. Ascue moved, seconded by Mrs. Green, that agenda item 11.5: Request for Approval – Re-allocation of funds to complete renovations of the Academic and Instruction Offices located at 75 Calhoun Street remain on the Board's agenda for consideration. The motion was approved 6-3 (Mrs. Kandrac, Mrs. Moffly and Mrs. Taylor opposed).

Mr. Bobby provided information regarding the request stating that an earlier question whether all of the work needed to be done at once. He said the initial project in broken down into three parts—HR work, Carpet, and Storage Area to allow the Board to act on specific areas Board members inspected during a walk-thru earlier this month

Rev. Collins moved, seconded by Mrs. Green, approval of agenda items 11.5 A, B, and C. The motion failed 4-5 (Mrs. Coats, Mr. Fraser, Mrs. Kandrac, Mrs. Moffly, and Mrs. Taylor opposed).

Mrs. Bohn Coats moved, seconded by Mrs. Green, approval of 11.5A, completion of work begun in HR and B1 at a cost of \$76,000. The funding source is the 2010 Fiscal Year Contingency Funds - Fixed Cost of Ownership. The motion was approved 6-3 (Mrs. Kandrac, Mrs. Moffly and Mrs. Taylor opposed).

- A. HR Reception Area
- B. Carpeting
- C. Dungeon Area

# 11.6: Citizens Oversight Committee for Capital Program for 2010-2016

Mrs. Green moved, seconded by Mrs. Oplinger, approval of staff's recommendation for the selection process and responsibilities as delineated for the Citizens Oversight Committee. The motion was approved 7-2 (Mrs. Kandrac and Mrs. Moffly opposed).

# 11.7: Second Reading – Board PoliciesA. JFAA – Admission of Resident Students

Mrs. Green moved, seconded by Mrs. Oplinger, approval of the second reading of Board Policy JFAA – Admission of Resident Students. The motion was approved 9-0.

#### B. GDQD - Discipline, Suspension and Dismissal of Classified Staff

This item was pulled from the agenda. Therefore, no action was taken.

#### 11.8: IJOA-R – Field Trip Policy Regulation

The Board received the Regulation for Board Policy IJOA – Field Trips as information.

#### 11.9: Formation of Capital Committee

Rev. Collins addressed the Board suggesting the Committee role would be working work with Mr. Lewis as a sub-committee. Dr. McGinley said the Finance and Audit Committee and Citizens Oversight Committee were established to monitor the Capital Projects program. Also, she said there are project committees at each school that spends an enormous amount to time discussing capital plans. Mr. Bobby said design guidelines which are currently being revised, how to build a building going forward, and functions for facilities will be brought to the Board for review.

#### XII.NEW BUSINESS

During Discussion of New Business individual Board members suggested the following:

- 1. Rev. Collins suggested the continuation of the discussion on formation of a Capital Committee.
- 2. Mrs. Coats requested specific information for Rivers, Burke, and Charleston Charter School of Math and Science.
- 3. Mrs. Kandrac requested staff follow up and provide proof regarding the letter sent to a constituent from

the District.

4. Mrs. Moffly requested a copy of the Career Academy Powerpoint.

There being no more business to come before the Charleston County School District's Board of Trustees, at 8:30 p. m., Mrs. Oplinger moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Moffly. The motion was approved by consensus.