

May 10, 2010

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charleston County School District was held on Monday, May 10, 2010 in the Board Room at 75 Calhoun Street with the following members of the Board present: Chair – Mrs. Ruth Jordan, Rev. Chris Collins, Mr. Chris Fraser, Mrs. Toya Hampton-Green, Mrs. Elizabeth Kandrak, Mr. Gregg Meyers, Mrs. Ann Oplinger, Mr. Arthur Ravenel and Dr. Nancy J. McGinley – Superintendent of Schools and Executive Secretary. **Vice Chair - Mr. Ray Toler was absent, however, he joined in telephonically during discussion and voting of Consent agenda items.** Staff members Mr. Michael Bobby, Dr. Doug Gepford, Mrs. Audrey Lane, Mr. Bill Lewis, Dr. Brenda Nelson, Mr. John Emerson, and Mr. Elliott Smalley were also in attendance.

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

Board Chair – Mrs. Ruth Jordan called the meeting to order at **4:00** p.m. Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mrs. Green to modify the consent agenda **adding 9.1: Motion to Rescind vote of May 4, 2010 as it relates to Seismic Issues.** All other consent agenda items were shifted down.

Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Fraser to convene into Executive Session to discuss agenda items listed below. The motion was unanimously approved.

Executive Session Agenda Items

1.1: Student Transfer Appeals

1.2: Student Expulsion Appeals

1.3: Solicitation for Real Estate Firm

1.4: Legal Briefing

1.5: District 9 Constituent Board Vacancies

1.6: Personnel Matters

1.7: Appointment – Principal – Burns Elementary

1.8 Appointment – Associate Superintendent – Innovation Zone Learning Community

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

The Board reconvened in Open Session at **5:15** p.m. Chairperson – Mrs. Jordan called the meeting to order. Mr. Collins led the group in prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. SPECIAL RECOGNITION

3.1: Regional Spelling Bee Winners, State Superintendent's Writing Award Winners and Distinguished Reading Teachers

The Board recognized the following:

Regional Spell Bound Spelling Bee Winners

Margaret Wiwuga -- Burke MS
Seth Barry-Hinton -- Ft. Johnson MS
Angel Ayers -- James Island MS
James Gethers -- Charleston Progressive Academy
Samuel Austin -- Stiles Point ES
Caitlin Facello -- Drayton Hall ES
Aaron Campbell -- Midland Park ES
Andrea Poteat -- Haut Gap MS

Devin Smalls -- Zucker MS
Christina Knight -- St. Andrews MS
Noah Coffee -- Cario MS
Amy Lewis -- Sanders-Clyde
Isabella Minson -- Sullivan's Island ES
Kalyn Lewis -- Sanders-Clyde
Eric Hall -- Military Magnet Academy
Tanner Crunelle -- School of the Arts
Rika Win -- Laing MS

State Superintendent's Writing Award Program Participants

Tarayuez Raphael -- Hursey ES
 Ashley Rea -- Ashley River ES
 Octavia Williams -- Stono Park ES
 Allison Wendy -- Buist Academy
 Nathan Bradley -- Buist Academy
 Johnathon Fuerte -- Pepperhill ES
 Ivan Campbell -- Lincoln HS
 Kaleigh Harrison -- West Ashley MS
 Touvaris Champaigne -- Frierson ES
 Myles Jackson -- Hunley Park ES
 Arianna Villarreal -- Ft. Johnson MS
 Drew Costa -- James Island MS
 Alston Singletary -- Morningside MS

Salnobian Hawes -- Corcoran ES
 Alexcia Johnson -- Charleston Progressive Academy
 Jamichael Blair -- Chicora ES
 Nicholas Lingford -- Lambs ES
 Anne Adragna -- Mt. Pleasant Academy
 Sarah Hunter -- St. Andrews ES
 Trequan Mitchell -- Minnie Hughes ES
 Jasmine Baker -- Cario MS
 Arghya Samantaray -- C. E. Williams MS (8th Grade winner)
 Claire Nelson -- Belle Hall ES (5th grade winner)

Distinguished Teacher of Reading Nominees:

Teacher	Campus	Principal
Andrew Simpson	James B. Edwards Elementary	Francine Mitchell
Jessica Wilson	James Simmons Elementary	Lynn Owings
Wendy McIlwain	Hursey Elementary	LaDene Conroy
Arlene Green	Mitchell Elementary	Dirk Bedford
Natalie Klutz**	West Ashley High School	Mary Runyon
Jennifer Nimphie	Dunston Primary School	Janice Malone
Heather Burke	Stono Park Elementary	Ruth Taylor
Amy Ryan	Pinckney Elementary	Leanne Sheppard
Lisa McLeod	Pepperhill Elementary	Tanya Underwood
Kortney Sherbine	St. Andrew's School of Math & Science	Mark Shea
Jeannine Labon**	Ashley River Creative Arts Elementary	Martha Ellicott
Bethany Reilly	Oakland Elementary	Jennifer Swearingen

Clean Cities Sweep School Winners

Charleston

Charleston Charter School for Math & Science
 Stiles Point Elementary
 Charleston Progressive Academy

North Charleston

Hunley Park Elementary
 Jerry Zucker Middle School of Science
 North Charleston Elementary

No Books Left Unread State Winners

Mrs. Donna Whitlock, Ms. Emilie Woody, and Ms. Laura Judson of Wando High were recognized for receiving the State Award for No Books Left Unread.

Behind the Scenes Hero Award

Principal Cindy Smalls, from Mary Ford Elementary, presented the Behind the Scenes Hero award to Jennifer Singleton.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

4.1: Superintendent's Report

Dr. McGinley shared the following:

- The Palmetto Priority Schools list has been updated. Burke High School is now off the list. However, St. John's High School has not made progress and is now on the Palmetto Priority Schools list.
- A student tragedy occurred today at St. Andrews Middle. Dr. McGinley said it is with deep regret and sadness that she reports that an 8th grade student at St. Andrews Middle was found unconscious in the lavatory. EMS transported the student to St. Francis Hospital where they were unable to revive him.
- Last week was "Teacher Appreciation Week". Dr. McGinley thanked CCSD teachers for their hard work and commitment to students and families and asked teachers in the audience were asked to stand to be recognized.
- The "Superintendent's Cup Tournament" was held last Saturday. The event opened with a performance by Ashley River Creative Arts students and remarks from Mayor Riley. Over 300 players participated in the tournament and 290 teachers and other staff participated in a "Fun Walk". Tracey Amick from Channel 5 played with the Superintendent in the Celebrity Tennis Match. Jennie Moore Elementary won the match. The Superintendent thanked all teachers who participated, Kathy Lewis, Coach Spurlock and partners from the Charleston Tennis Association. In addition, she said community leaders and business owners provided over 300 prizes for teachers and students. She thanked them for their generosity and support.
- The District continues to focus its efforts on ensuring student and faculty safety at five schools with documented seismic life safety issues. More details will be discussed later during the meeting. She continued by sharing the following:
 - On February 25th, following a fall 2009 Board request, seismic engineers presented their findings to the Board, surfacing life safety issues at the four studied schools. Sullivan's Island Elementary had been previously analyzed.
 - From March 9-18, engineers briefed parents on their findings, and parents were surveyed on relocation factors most important to them at parent meetings.
 - At the March 22nd County Board meeting, the Board heard the District's recommendation to relocate, with full explanation of anticipated cost, timeline, options, and rationale.
 - From March 23rd to mid-April, principals, SIC chairs, and others visited proposed "swing space" option sites.
 - On April 21st and May 2nd, principals led parent meetings on proposed options and explained their site visit findings.
 - At the April 26th meeting, the Board voted to secure the necessary funding for the rebuilding or renovation of the five schools with identified life safety issues.
 - Also, at the April 26th Board meeting, the Superintendent made a recommendation to move:
 - Buist to Wando South;
 - Charleston Progressive to the Berry Campus;
 - James Simons and Memminger to Brentwood; and
 - Sullivan's Island to Whitesides.
 - The Board did not support this recommendation. The vote failed 6-3.

- Parent and community feedback during and following the April 26th Board meeting overwhelmingly stressed the importance of keeping the downtown neighborhood schools on the peninsula.
- Staff was asked to explore any and all possible downtown options, including mobile campuses at Mitchell and Marlow (Hester) parks.
- On May 4th at a Special Called Board meeting prior to Board Workshop, the following actions were taken by the Board:
 - Move James Simons and Memminger to mobile campuses at Mitchell and Hester parks;
 - Give Buist the option of relocating to Brentwood or Wando South;
 - Move Sullivan's Island to Whitesides; and
 - Move Charleston Progressive to the Berry campus.
 - Further, the Board directed staff to explore the feasibility of demolishing the Archer and Fraser campuses to use those sites for mobile campuses for two downtown schools.
- Staff heard extensive community opposition to mobile campuses since last Tuesday.
- The cost and timeline for Archer and Fraser campus options are shown below.

○ Scenario 2	
○ Memminger to Fraser Campus (in Mobiles)	○ \$2.6M
○ James Simons to Archer Campus (in Mobiles)	○ \$2.2M
○ TOTAL	○ \$4.8M*
○ *Assumes CPA and Buist go to swing sites.	

At this time, Mrs. Jordan asked everyone to join her in a Moment of Silence for the loss of the St. Andrews Middle student.

V. VISITORS, PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

5.1: Visitors, Public Communications

1. Councilman James Lewis, Sr. urged the Board to involve neighborhood organizations in its decision-making process when relocating schools.
2. Ms. Sis Marshall said Marlow Park or Hester Park (official name), has limited parking. She requested input from Waggoner Terrace Park Association for decisions made regarding the park since the park is used as a playground for kids.
3. Mr. Hal Marshall urged the Board not to use Hester Park as a mobile campus and reminded the Board that this could not be done without zone changes.
4. Mr. Arthur Lawrence, President of Westside Neighborhood Association, said no impact/traffic study was done. He suggested the Board consider a mobile campus on Harmon Field and consider putting some students at Burke Middle School and not on Mitchell or Corrine Jones Park.
5. Mr. Hugh Price said everyone living in Charleston is at risk with earthquakes and chance of students being in school during an earthquake is one of four. He mentioned earlier earthquakes in Haiti and Chile and said earthquakes are unpredictable.

6. Mr. Bo Manuel said the Board made a bad decision on Tuesday, May 4, 2010 in addressing the seismic issue. He said there was no transparency or involvement from parents and expressed concerns about the elimination of green space.
7. Ms. Amelia LittleBear urged the Board not to utilize a green space for a mobile park.
8. Mr. Wilmot A. Fraser addressed concerns about demolition of Fraser Elementary. He said an OCR complaint was made earlier after the school was closed for performance purposes. He said closure and possible demolition would be improper, pre-mature, and possibly illegal. He urged the Board not to do anything before the February 2009 OCR complaint is settled.
9. Ms. Laura Moore a Fishburne Street homeowner said relocating Memminger to the mobile campus identified would add to traffic issues and interrupt use of the park's green space.
10. Mr. Fraser Reid and Mr. Brittain Phillips addressed the Board in opposition of the mobile park proposal.
11. Mr. John Campbell urged the Board to consider other open spaces rather than Hester Park.
12. Mr. Hamlin O'Kelley urged the Board to support the Superintendent's original recommendation for school relocation. He also stated that the Neighborhood Association had concerns about how the project was handled.
13. Mr. Kevin Conlon said he was shocked that input from the Neighborhood Association was not considered. He also said they have worked with the City to find funds to fix the park.
14. Mrs. Foster urged the Board not to take Corrine Jones Park. She said she agreed with Mr. Ravenel that it would be a disaster.
15. Mr. John Schwartz urged the Board to reconsider mobile campuses on parks and the traffic problems it would generate.
16. Mr. Ryan Gushkoff, President of the Cannonborough Elliotborough Neighborhood Association, shared relocation concerns for Memminger students if they are relocated to the Mitchell site. After mentioning the dangerous cross-town, loss of green space, impact on Mitchell Montessori, Mr. Gushkoff urged the Board not to support the relocation of Memminger students to the Mitchell mobile park. Mr. Gushkoff also said he was happy with the Mitchell principal – Mr. Dirk Bedford.
17. Mr. David Pastre said he supports the use of space at Burke and other under-populated areas which would be less expensive.
18. Mr. Travis Blair urged the Board not to set up a mobile campus at the Hester Park site.
19. Ms. Sandra Helmwood applauded the Board's attempt to resolve the seismic issue. However, she does not support the use of green space and requested time for community input.
20. Ms. Anna McAllester said she opposed moving Memminger to Hester Park.
21. Ms. Julie Montgomery urged the Board not to allow the relocation of schools to Hester/Marlowe Parks to happen.
22. Ms. Elena Tuerk said she opposed mobile campuses. However, she said if it is done, the following should be considered: extending the time of crossing guard, litter impact, and crime. She urged the Board to consider another plan.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the Open and Executive Session minutes of **April 26, 2010**. The motion was approved 7-1 (Kandrac). *Mrs. Kandrac requested the following corrections be made: Page 2 of 4 – Charleston Charter for Math & Science students increased to 400, not 600 students and on Page 4 of 12 – Mrs. Kandrac said she voted on all student appeals. She also requested the 6.1 Approval of Open and Executive Session Minutes be changed to Open Session Minutes and Actions of Executive Session.*

6.2: Motions of Executive Session of May 10, 2010

The Board approved the following motions that were made in Executive Session:

1.1: Student Transfer Appeals – The Board approved student transfer H; student transfer appeals A, B, C, D, E, F and G were denied. The vote was 8-0.

1.2: Student Expulsion Appeals – The Board identified a date to hear student expulsion appeals and acted on seven appeals heard earlier by a Board committee as indicated below:

Student Expulsion appeals heard Monday, May 3, 2010

1. The Board approved a motion overturning District 2 Constituent Board's expulsion decision and allowing the student to apply to the Wando APEX Program or a Virtual Program for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year. The student is prohibited from entering any CCSD school or school property for the remainder of the 2009-10 school year, with exception to scheduled appointments and may return to Wando during the 2010-2011 school year, on strict Board probation.
2. The Board approved a motion overturning District 2 Constituent Board's expulsion decision and allowing the student to apply to the Wando APEX Program for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year. The student is prohibited from entering any CCSD school or school property for the remainder of the 2009-10 school year and may return to Wando during the 2010-2011 school year, on strict Board probation.

The Board approved the committee's recommendation on the two student expulsion appeals shown above. The motion was approved 8-0.

The Board also agreed to hear student expulsion appeals on Monday, May 17, 2010 starting at 3:00 p.m.

1.3: Solicitation for Real Estate Firm

The Board approved CCSD's solicitation of a Licensed Commercial Real Estate firm to aid the District in the disposition and leasing of approved real property. The motion was approved 7-1 (Kandrac opposed).

1.4: Legal Briefing

General Counsel provided a legal briefing for the Board in Executive Session. No action was taken.

1.5: District 9 Constituent Board Vacancies

The Board approved the District 9 Constituent Board's recommendation appointing two candidates to fill seats of deceased Board members. The motion was approved 8-0.

- Pastor Mary L. Stoney to the seat of Rev. Calvin Morris (deceased member)
- Ms. Pamela Koffa to the seat of Mrs. Ruth Evans (deceased member)

1.6: Personnel Matters

The Board discussed personnel matters in Executive Session. No action was taken.

1.7: Appointment – Principal – Burns Elementary

The Board approved a motion appointing Ms. Deborah Smith to the position of principal at Burns Elementary. The motion was approved 7-1 (Kandrac opposed).

1.8: Appointment – Associate Superintendent – Innovation Zone Learning Community

The Board approved a motion appointing Mr. James Winbush to the position of Associate Superintendent of the Innovation Zone Learning Community. The motion was approved 7-1 (Kandrac opposed).

6.3: Financial Minutes of May 10, 2010

Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Fraser approval of the financial minutes of May 10, 2010, 2010. The motion was approved 8-0.

VII: MANAGEMENT REPORT

The Board did not receive a Management Report at this meeting.

VIII: CHARLESTON ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE UPDATE

8.1: Haut Gap Middle Advanced Studies Magnet

Mr. Paul Padron presented information to the Board on Haut Gap Middle Advanced Studies Magnet Program.

IX. POTENTIAL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Note: Mr. Toler joined the Board at this time via telephone.

9.1: Motion to Rescind Vote of May 4th as it relates to Seismic Issues – Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Collins to rescind the vote of May 4, 2010 as it relates to seismic issues. The motion was approved 9-0.

9.2: Update on Issues Related to Downtown Schools – Mr. Lewis responded to the Board's request of May 4, 2010 to pursue other options for relocating down town schools. He cautioned that all staff had time to do is run the numbers. The two scenarios are shown below. Mr. Lewis also mentioned that he believes there are enough mobiles for two schools, not four and the commercial market inventory is depleted. He commended Mrs. Ballard for doing a great job in identifying what Buist would need for a mobile campus.

Information on Use of Fraser and Archer Sites

Key Points:

- Demolition of Archer and Fraser buildings will take at least six months.
- Public engagement will need to be developed and executed.
- Additional mobiles will need to be purchased by the District if all four schools are to be located on temporary sites.

Scenario 1		Scenario 2	
Buist to Fraser	\$4.4M	Memminger to Fraser Campus (in Mobiles)	\$2.6M
Charleston Progressive to Archer	\$3.9M	James Simons to Archer Campus (in Mobiles)	\$2.2M
Memminger to Mitchell	\$1.5M		
James Simons to Hestor Park	\$2.2M		
		TOTAL	\$4.8M*
TOTAL	\$12.0 M	*Assumes CPA and Buist go to swing sites.	

Overall Timeline:

Allowing six months for demolition and three to six months to construct the campus it is estimated that these options could delay student moves from nine months to one year.

Rev. Collins asked how many mobiles were available for use. Mr. Lewis said he did not have that information with him. However, he could provide it the next day. He added that some needed maintenance and/or substantial upgrades. Mr. Lewis also responded to Rev. Collins question about adding trailers at Rivers site pointing out that there was not enough land.

Mrs. Jordan reviewed the staff's recommendation of April 26, 2010 (below) which has space options at an estimated cost of \$1.3 - \$1.5 million. Mr. Lewis said that option is still available.

Scenario 1
Buist to Wando South Campus
Charleston Progressive to Berry Campus
James Simons to Brentwood Campus
Memminger to Brentwood Campus
Sullivan's Island to Whitesides
TOTAL \$1.3M to \$1.5M*
Total reaches \$1.8M with contingency.

Mr. Meyers said an extra effort was required to assist parents and students to get to scheduled meetings. He suggested a comprehensive study be done of all CCSD facilities dealing first with the five schools then identify where there are other seismic needs. Rev. Collins requested time to receive input from neighborhood associations and citizens. After commenting on the overtime work

of staff looking at Harmon Field, Burke, and other possible sites, Mrs. Jordan suggested the Board revisit the swing space options presented by staff on April 26, 2010.

Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mrs. Oplinger to adopt Scenario 1 recommendation presented by staff on April 26, 2010 (shown above). Mr. Meyers requested the motion be amended to include provision of transportation for parents and students who are relocated allowing them to attend school meetings and a comprehensive evaluation of all CCSO facilities. Mr. Fraser and Mrs. Oplinger accepted the amendment. The amended motion was approved 8-1 (Collins opposed).

Mr. Meyers suggested staff pursue available shuttle service to address transportation concerns. Also in response to Dr. McGinley's question about open transfers, Mr. Meyers said that it was off the table and that transfers should go through the normal transfer process.

9.3: Approval – First Reading – Board Policies GCKAA – Voluntary Teacher Transfer, EBBA, Prevention of Disease/Infection Transmission – *A recommendation to approve the first reading of Board Policies GCKAA and EBBA.* Mrs. Oplinger motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers to approve the first reading of Board Policies GCKAA and EBBA. The motion was approved 9-0.

9.4: Home School Instruction – *A recommendation to approve a single Home School Instruction.* Mrs. Oplinger motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation to approve a Home School Instruction Application. The motion was approved 9-0.

9.5: Fixed Cost of Ownership Funding Reallocation for Video Distribution – *a recommendation to approve reallocation of fixed cost of ownership funding for printer replacement to be used for video distribution system hardware.* Mrs. Oplinger motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation for reallocation of fixed cost of ownership funding for printer replacement to be used for video distribution system hardware. The motion was approved 9-0.

9.6: Award of Contract – Qualified School Construction Bond Projects – *A recommendation to award a contract and the issuance of the notice to proceed with Qualified School Construction Bond projects prior to Board review. Funds are available from the Qualified Schools Construction Bond Program.* Mrs. Oplinger motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation to award a contract and the issuance of the notice to proceed for Qualified School Construction Bond projects prior to Board review. The motion was approved 9-0.

9.7: District-wide Emergency Communication System – *The Board received information on the District-wide Emergency Communication System. No action was taken.*

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jordan to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by consensus.

Approved:

Nancy J. McGinley, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools