

**I. EXECUTIVE SESSION
4:00 p.m.**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charleston County School District was held on Monday, November 25, 2013, in the Board Room at 75 Calhoun Street with the following members of the Board present: Mrs. Cindy Bohn Coats – Chair, Mr. Tom Ducker - Vice Chair, Mr. Craig Ascue, Rev. Chris Collins, Mr. Chris Fraser, Mr. Todd Garrett, Mr. Michael Miller, and Dr. Nancy J. McGinley, Superintendent and Executive Secretary. Mrs. Moffly was absent. Note: Mr. John Barter resigned from the Board on November 17, 2013.

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

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

Mrs. Cindy Coats called the meeting to order.

Mr. Todd Garrett moved, seconded by Mrs. Coats, to move all action items before the Charleston Achieving Excellence (CAE) Update.

Mr. Ducker moved, seconded by Mr. Ascue, to suspend policy BEDA since agenda item 1.11 was sent late. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to go into Executive session at 4:13 pm to discuss the items listed below.

- 1.1: Student Transfer Appeals
- 1.2: Out of County Student Transfer Request
- 1.3: Student Transfer Appeal – Request from a CCSD Employee
- 1.4: District 3 Constituent Board Vacancy
- 1.5: District 4 Constituent Board Vacancy
- 1.6: Legal Updates (Standing Item per JE as of 11/5/13)
- 1.7: Personnel Matter
- 1.8: Student Expulsion Appeal Decision
- 1.9: Superintendent's Evaluation
- 1.10: Home School Application
- 1.11: Charleston Charter School of Math and Science Facilities Use Agreement

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

At 5:31 p.m. 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. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, to adopt the November 25, 2013 board agenda with the following amendments. The motion was approved 7-0.

- Move 11.1A & B before the CAE Update.
- 11.1C was pulled because it was discussed in executive session.

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

3.1: Golf Check Presentation

Mr. Ron Kramps, Executive Director of Facilities Maintenance and Asset Management, recognized our major sponsors and the CCSD committee that helped with the 12th Annual Mark Cobb Memorial/Ron McWhirt Scholarship Golf Tournament. Mr. Kramps presented a check to the Board in the amount of \$12,916. These funds are used to support student scholarships.

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

Dr. McGinley shared the following:

1. The BRIDGE Teacher Incentive Fund work – In the last six weeks more teachers and principals have

volunteered for the work groups and four new members were added to the steering committee. Now the steering committee represents teachers, principals, parents, community members and central office. Also, the meeting time for work groups changed to better accommodate the busy schedules of educators and principals were asked to be more accommodating and flexible with teacher participants. The BRIDGE website is updated frequently and a newsletter was created to serve as a communication tool. And, information about BRIDGE is included in almost every all-staff email sent this year.

2. Mr. John Barter, who stepped down from the CCSD Board to pursue an opportunity at Alabama's Spring Hill College, was commended for his service to the district. His knowledge of business, finance and his Board experience will be missed.
3. The first quarterly Partnership Luncheon was held last week for some of the district's most valued community partners. Principals that nominated individuals for this new recognition opportunity were thanked. Each school is eligible to nominate one partner per school year. Claire Wilson was commended for making it a special occasion.
4. Last week the district held its quarterly Charleston Achieving Excellence: Vision 2016 Community Advisory group meeting. The full update on the district's BRIDGE framework was shared at the meeting. The CAE Advisory members were thanked for their commitment to the district.

Mr. Ducker thanked CCSD staff members that the worked on the BRIDGE.

VI. VISITORS, PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

1. Rev. Danny Reed minister of the Unitarian Church spoke on behalf of the Charleston Justice Ministry group. He thanked the Board for recommendation to expand the CD4 classes, specifically in Title I schools. He questioned why the recommendation did not target Title I schools. He urged the board to inquire further about the recommendation and requested the District consider adhering to the original plan if the intent is to close the achievement gap.
2. Mr. Mohammed Idris expressed concerns regarding building a museum on Concord Street. He said funds would be put to better use if used to build an African American Museum. Also, he suggested an educational center be built on property of the former Wilmot Fraser ES.
3. Ms. Debra Grant said an additional meeting was requested at the last District 9 Task Force meeting to review the Superintendent's recommendation before a recommendation was made to the County Board. She mentioned a petition signed by 100+ individuals that support a technology-based school at E. L. Frierson ES. Also, she said it was discussed at the Frierson SIC meeting and shared with the principal.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/EXECUTIVE SESSION AGENDA ITEMS

7.1: Open Session Minutes of November 11, 2013

Mr. Ascue moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to approve the open session minutes of November 11, 2013. The vote was 7-0.

7.2: Executive Session Action Items of November 25, 2013

The Board will vote on executive session action items of November 25, 2013.

1.1: Student Transfer Appeals

-Student Transfer Appeals received 11/12/13 – 11/18/13

-Student Transfer Appeal Follow Up

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to approve 1.1 A and 1.1 B.

The vote was 7-0.

1.2: Out of County Student Transfer Request

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to approve an out of county student transfer request.

The vote was 7-0.

1.3: Student Transfer Appeal – Request from a CCSD Employee – Mr. John Emerson, General Counsel

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to approve a student transfer appeal from a CCSD employee. The vote was 7-0.

1.4: A. District 3 Constituent Board Vacancy

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to approve the appointment of Susan McManus to the vacant seat on the District 3 Constituent Board. The vote was 7-0.

1.5: District 4 Constituent Board Vacancy

Mr. Ducker moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to approve the appointment of Ms. Janna D. Wilson to the vacant seat on the District 4 Constituent Board. The vote was 7-0.

1.6: Legal Updates (Standing Item per JE as of 11/5/13)

The Board received legal updates from General Counsel.

1.7: Personnel Matter

The Board discussed a Personnel Matter in Executive Session.

1.8: Student Expulsion Appeal Decision

Mr. Ducker moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to expel the student for the remainder of the semester. The student has to re-appear before the CCSD County Board of Trustees in January 2014 to petition the Board for re-entry. The student is required to provide proof of progress to the County Board. If none, the County Board retains the right to extend the expulsion for the remainder of the 2013-14 school year or place the student back in school. The vote was 7-0.

1.9: Superintendent's Evaluation

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Ascue, to accept the evaluation as completed. The vote was 5-2 (Collins and Miller opposed).

1.10: Home School Application

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to approve a Home School Application. The vote was 7-0.

1.11: Charleston Charter School of Math and Science Facilities Use Agreement

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to accept with lease with modification to paragraph 6 regarding capital facilities and amendment to pay utilities to date. The vote was 6-1 (Collins opposed).

7.3: A. Financial Minutes of October 14, 2013

The Board received the updated financial minutes of October 14, 2013 as information.

B. Financial Minutes of November 11, 2013

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the financial minutes of November 11, 2013. The vote was 7-0.

Note: Rev. Collins and Mr. Garrett left the meeting at 6:27 pm.

VIII. CAE UPDATE

8.1: A. Accelerating Learning – Dr. Nancy McGinley, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Nancy McGinley said the presentation was in response to Mr. John Barter's question about what could be done to close the achievement gap.

Dr. McGinley unpacked data to illustrate the progress made from 2009- 2013. She also pointed out that the achievement gap still exists between African Americans and Caucasians.

- Progress for African Americans eligible for F.A.R.M.
 - Graduation Rate of African American Students – 63.8% to 74.1%
 - Graduation Rate of Caucasian Students - 81.5% to 85.5%
 - Graduation Rate of Students Eligible for F.A.R.M 60.9%to 69.3%
 - HSAP Pass Rate for African American Students - 61.4% to 71.5%
 - HSAP First Attempt for F.A.R.M Students - 60.8% to 72.1
 - End of Course Pass Rate for African American Student - 44.0% to 61.1%

Dr. McGinley shared the following strategic improvement elements that revealed significant results.

- Improved Leadership by Principals
- School Climate Conducive to Learning
- Higher Quality Teaching
- Literacy Supports
- Double Dosing (ELA and Algebra)
- Extra-Help Supports
- Cognitive Engagement of Students

Advanced Placement Pass Rate

- Participation in and availability of AP courses is severely limited at many of the schools which serve predominantly African American students.
- Principals now must prioritize what courses they can offer.

Future Directions

1. To develop and incorporate relevant course offerings for minority students that are meaningful and of interest to them.
2. To provide intensive research-based interventions for students in elementary schools so they

- are able to meet the rigors of high school courses.
3. To increase AP course offerings at all high schools, especially schools in rural areas and with smaller populations.
 4. Based upon AP course pass rates, teacher training in effective delivery of AP instructional methods is necessary.
 5. To provide students with opportunities to participate in SAT prep programs and incorporate SAT prep activities into classroom lessons and teacher-designated tests.

What we can do?

- Continue to support and expand school based health clinics
- Continue partnership and grant programs:
 - Fresh Fruit Friday; School Gardens, etc.
 - Continue vision and hearing screenings

She highlighted the article “How Poverty Impact Classroom Engagement” that was distributed to Board members and said additional information will be provided to the Board at a later time.

B. Project Breakthrough

Ms. Sarah Hall, Ms. Cameron Beaty, Ms. Susan Clinkscales, and Dr. Andrew Lewis presented information on Project Breakthrough. Dr. Julie Swanson was absent.

Ms. Cameron Beaty shared information shared a recent Senior Leadership meeting. Ms. Beaty covered the impact Project Breakthrough has had on teachers.

- Effective Research Based Curricula
- Positive Teacher Dispositions

Other presenters provided information on the following:

- Impact Project Breakthrough has had on students
- What is in it for CCSD?
- Support of Vision 2016

Dr. Andrew Lewis, who stood in for Dr. Julie Swanson said it's a “win-win” for everyone. The program is sponsored by the College of Charleston. Teachers pay 50% of the cost; CCSD pays 25%; and the College of Charleston discounts 25% of the cost. Dr. Lewis urged the Board to approve the recommendation to allow a second cohort to begin. Graduation will occur in December with a 100% completion of 17 students.

Questions and Comments from the Board:

Mr. Ducker commended the group on the presentation. Then he asked them where they want to go from here. Dr. Lewis said the College of Charleston has made a commitment to the program and they would like for the CCSD board to approve a second cohort at CCSD's cost of 25%. This project has also been done with other school districts. The second cohort could go to a maximum of 25 teacher participants.

Dr. Herring recognized CCSD's Curriculum Specialist Denise Zacheryl who also works with Project Breakthrough.

Mr. Fraser congratulated Dr. McGinley on the progress made over the past five years, particularly in the District's minority communities in terms of graduation rate.

Dr. McGinley said Mrs. Betsy Reidenbach is prepared to come back before the Board to present more details that weren't clear during her last presentation. The senior leadership has identified twelve items which were prioritized. At the December 9th meeting staff will bring a recommendation to the board with cost on root causes as it relates to accelerating achievement.

Mr. Ascue said the partnership is a “win-win” for everyone and a great way to put good teachers in classrooms. He thanked Dr. McGinley for the good report and said he was happy to see that graduation rates for African American students are going up. Mr. Ascue said he heard the challenges with AP courses and that the challenges are being met with solutions. After mentioning the great literacy teachers in the district, Mr. Ascue asked how the District's intended to address numeracy.

Dr. McGinley thanked Dr. Herring for taking the leadership with Project Breakthrough. Then she said

a similar team should be developed to address numeracy issues. Staff will then bring a recommendation to the Board.

Mr. Fraser asked about the cost per teacher. Dr. Herring said she didn't have the information with her. However, she would bring it to a future meeting. Also, she said the cost to the teacher is prorated and approximately \$50 is taken out of each of their paychecks. Mr. Fraser said the district should consider paying the amount to use as an incentive. However, Dr. McGinley said it's always good to have individuals pay a little amount.

Mr. Miller said Project Breakthrough could help move the district. Dr. Herring said the application process was rigorous and it was a district wide effort. Mr. Miller said investing in teachers, as mentioned by Mr. Fraser earlier, would reveal a huge return. He suggested focus be on the low performing students.

Mr. Miller applauded the district's accomplishments and said there was a lot more work to be done. He looks forward to seeing great things happen to move the district forward.

Mr. Ducker spoke about the district's accomplishments. Then he said the project breakthrough teachers would probably be good candidates for incentives.

Mr. Ascue said he is excited that they are trying to find the talent in grades 4-8.

IX. MANAGEMENT REPORT(S)

There were no management reports.

X. COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

10.1: Audit & Finance Committee

There were no Audit and Finance Committee reports.

10.2: Policy Committee – Mr. Chris Fraser

There were no Policy Committee reports.

10.3: Strategic Education Committee – Mr. Michael Miller

A. Adult Education Presentation – Mrs. Susan Friedrich, Director of Adult Education

Staff presented information on Adult Education as requested by the Strategic Education Committee.

Ms. Susan Friedrich shared the following information:

- District Goals
 - Elevate Achievement Overall
 - Close the Achievement Gap Between Groups
 - Increase High School Graduation Rates
- CAE: Strategic Priorities
 - Effective Teaching and Leadership
 - **Literacy Improvement**
 - World- class Schools and Systems
 - **Strategic Partnerships**
- Program Services
 - High School Diploma / Exit Exam Remediation
 - GED Preparation
 - Adult Basic Education
 - Community Collaborative Initiatives
 - Work Keys Career Readiness Program
 - English Literacy
- State Department of Education GED Testing Sites
- 2012-2013 Adult Education Performance
 - CCSD Adult Education continues to beat and exceed all Adult Education Programs in the state.
- 2012-2013 Adult Education Credential Summary
 - CCSD's Adult Education Program continues to:
 - Meet and exceed state and federal performance measures
 - Reduce CCSD's potential dropout numbers
 - Generate significant numbers of high school diploma graduates and GED recipients

- Provide quality training and educational programs to businesses, industry, and community-based organizations

Mr. Ducker thanked Ms. Susan Friedrich for her work in the community.

B. Innovation Zone Learning Community Update – Dr. James Winbush, Associate Superintendent

Staff presented the Innovation Zone Learning Community Update that was requested by the Strategic Education Committee.

Dr. James Winbush gave an overview of the Innovation Zone Learning Community.

- In 2009 Dr. McGinley moved fourteen schools into that zone because she felt the IZLC could turn those schools around. Now there are 21 schools in that zone.
- Fourteen of the IZLC schools are in the Teacher Incentive Fund Grant
- Overview of School Ratings
- School Report Card for 2010 – 2013 was displayed with the ESEA scores.
- In 2009 there were 5 schools at risk; now there are only 2 schools that are at risk (Burns and North Charleston High School).
 - Burns was at risk since 1999. Then he spoke about strategies to bring Burns out of the At-Risk category mentioning that the school has a lot of social and emotional needs and that some teachers are “burnt out”.
 - North Charleston HS has made progress but something must change if they are to make Vision 2016.
- Focus and Strategy for the Learning Community
 - There must be a shift in focus to address the whole student.
 - ESEA rating is the best thing to do for students
 - Extended Learning –summer school in the IZLC, Spelling Bee, Facebook page efforts.
 - Instructional Coaches
- Strategic Partners – College of Charleston, The Citadel, Charleston Southern University

Questions and Comments from the Board:

Mrs. Coats requested a copy of the presentation.

Mr. Ducker asked if year-round school was considered. Dr. Winbush said it was considered but not approved by a previous board. Dr. McGinley said she would bring it back with the cost. Mr. Ducker requested the pros and cons.

Mr. Ascue said when year round school was considered he received an email from a teacher expressing concerns about it. He asked about over-age students and graduation rates. Dr. Winbush said it wouldn't count if they were enrolled in GED programs. Also, he said the GED program offered them an opportunity to learn a trade that prepares them for work. Mr. Ascue asked about schools and the need to have hands-on programs in schools like automotive repair and other hands-on careers.

Mr. Fraser said the work key exam score was a great tool for those seeking a job.

Mr. Miller thanked Dr. Winbush for making a presentation to Strategic Education Committee and now to the Board. He agreed it was necessary to look at the issues students face and find aggressive, creative ways to help them. Mr. Miller said not every child is college-bound. Therefore it is necessary to help harness skills kids need to becoming employed.

Dr. McGinley commended Dr. Winbush and said his first effort was to change the culture in the IZLC.

10.4: Ad Hoc Committee

There were no Ad Hoc Committee reports.

XI. POTENTIAL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

11.1: A. CD4 Expansion – Mr. Michael Bobby – Chief Financial & Operations Officer

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, to approve the recommendation to award a contract not to exceed \$600,000 to Heery International and approve expenditure of \$50,000 by CCSD Maintenance to execute the expansion of the CD4 program to eight new locations. The total amount

is \$650,000. The funding source is Fixed Cost of Ownership funds. The vote was 7-0.

Rev. Collins said North Charleston is the largest area. Then he asked about the expansion of the north area and if two mobiles would be moved to NCCAES. Mr. Bobby confirmed. Rev. Collins asked if North Charleston ES, Dunston, Hursey were considered. Mr. Bobby said the locations were based on where there was space and a waiting list. Rev. Collins said there are two units at North Charleston Creative Art ES and there are needs at Burns and other schools in that region. Mr. Bobby said they didn't look at what they already had. Dr. Kim Foxworth the Early Childhood Director said in August there were classes in Ellington, Burns, Lambs, Pepperhill, and Chicora. Rev. Collins said he didn't realize staff was considering the waiting list. Mr. Bobby said because they are spending a large amount of money, they had to be sure they had kids that would be served immediately. Rev. Collins asked about requirements at Hursey or NCES. Dr. Herring said if there were 209 families, they contacted 206. Of that number 106 said yes. Some couldn't be reached. The waiting list was critical in making decisions. Rev. Collins asked how information was published. Dr. Herring said for classes that aren't filled, they will advertise the space utilizing the Chronicle, Low County Parent, the Hispanic paper and billboards in the community. Dr. Herring said the campaigning would begin once the item is approved.

Mr. Miller asked about providing transportation to CD4 students. Dr. Herring said the district will not provide transportation. Carta has not been considered given the size and age of students.

Mr. Ascue asked about openings at Title I schools. Dr. Herring said they will consider openings and include it in the campaign. Mr. Ascue asked about funding for work done by CCSD employees. Mr. Krump said they have Nov. 16 – Jan 6th to get work done.

Rev. Collins mentioned the 160 seats. Then he asked the original amount of seats proposed and if some programs are half days. Dr. Herring said 200 and Stiles Point would transition from half day to a full day program. Rev. Collins asked what would be done to expand Title I schools. Dr. Herring said the effort was to address needs in Title I classes first. There is a three year plan that outlines needs and support to include teacher development and getting universal services. She said it's challenging so they would like to broaden the scope with the three-year program.

Dr. McGinley said non Title I schools with high populations of Free And Reduced Meal (F.A.R.M) students had a larger need than most individuals were aware of. One school identified was Whitesides ES with a 40% F.A.R.M population.

Mrs. Coats asked why the district wasn't opening ten CD4 classes. Dr. Herring said they had to find a school that had enough space for the classroom.

Mr. Ducker invited Dr. Herring to share her three-year plan with the Strategic Education Committee.

Rev. Collins said while he supported the vote, he wanted to see more expansion in North Charleston.

B. Project Lift-Off-Authorization to Proceed with Partnership between CCSD and Meeting St. Academy – Mr. Michael Bobby - Chief Financial & Operations Officer

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to approve a recommendation to approve a resolution authorizing staff to proceed to develop a Memorandum of Understanding and an operating pro forma that would define the partnership between CCSD and Meeting Street Academy, with a projected opening date as early as the fall of 2014 (the 2014-2015 school year). The vote was 6-1 (Collins opposed).

Mr. Ducker asked for more information on how it would be done because the schools were changed

since it was last discussed. —Mr. Bobby said they are now looking at a different location. Neighborhood schools would be served by Meeting Street Academy. Mr. Ducker asked if Hursey was targeted. Mr. Bobby said it wasn't. Mr. Miller said Hursey was mentioned when Mr. Navarro addressed the Strategic Education Committee. Mr. Ducker said he didn't remember Goodwin being on the list. The he said if approved, he wants to be certain it targets the lowest performing students. Dr. McGinley said staff will bring details back to a future meeting. This is a neighborhood attendance zone. The District 4 Constituent Board was asked to identify the neighborhood zone. The school would absorb needs in nearby schools. Mrs. Coats said they won't have the authority to pick the students. Mr. Fraser said the agreement doesn't give them that authority.

Rev. Collins asked which schools. Mrs. Coats said it's the responsibility of the District 4 Board to draw the boundary. Rev. Collins said Burns was closed to save money years ago and the school was at risk. He asked about the academic goal to be reached in this partnership. He said not enough research and study had been done. He didn't know the purpose of the school. Mr. Ascue said it was an agreement that would allow the district to discuss it. Then the details would follow. Mr. Ascue said the school would receive private funds. Mr. Ducker asked Rev. Collins to allow the staff to share the information presented earlier to the Strategic Education Committee. Rev. Collins said while he was not present during the presentation he wanted low performing students educated and he didn't want them pulled out. Dr. McGinley said she could arrange a private showing of Meeting Street Academy for Rev. Collins.

Mr. Miller said based on the current structure, if the item is approved, would the recommendation be vetted with the Strategic Education Committee (SEC). Mrs. Coats said Policy Committee, SEC, and Audit and Finance. Mr. Miller stated for the record that if approved tonight, it only allows the district to draw up a Memorandum of Understanding. The final approval would have to come from the board. Rev. Collins said the document says it's approved to open fall 2014. Mrs. Coats said it also mentions a Performa.

C. Charleston Charter School of Math & Science Facilities Use Agreement

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

XII. OLD BUSINESS

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

At 7:39 p.m., Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to adjourn the meeting since there was no further business to come before the board. The motion was approved unanimously.