

A regular meeting of the Charleston County School District Board of Trustees was held on Monday June 8, 2015, in the Board Room at 75 Calhoun Street. The following members of the Board 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 and Mr. Michael Bobby, Acting Superintendent of Schools and Executive Secretary. Mr. Emerson Tripp Wiles participated by phone during Executive Session.

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

Mrs. Coats called the meeting to order at 3:30p.m. Mr. Ducker motioned, seconded by Mrs. Darby, to convene into Executive Session. The motion was unanimously approved.

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION
3:30 p.m.

Staff members Mr. Jeff Borowy, Mr. Bill Briggman, Mr. John Emerson, Mr. Ron Kramps, Mr. Lou Martin, Mr. John McCarron, Dr. Brenda Nelson, Mrs. Terri Nichols, Mrs. Ruth Taylor, and Mrs. Latisha Vaughn-Brandon were also in attendance.

1.1: Legal Updates – Mr. John Emerson

1.2: Voluntary Transfer Appeals

1.3: Personnel Matters

A. Principal Specialist

B. Principal Contracts

C. Staff Reduction/Reorganization

1.4: Employee Matters

OPEN SESSION
5:15 p.m.

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

Mrs. Coats called the Open Session meeting of May 26, 2015 to order at 5:32pm. Then she called for a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Mack moved, seconded by Mr. Staubes, to adopt the June 8, 2015 agenda with the following amendment. The vote was 8-0.

- Combine agenda items 8.1C, 8.1D, and 8.1E

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/EXECUTIVE SESSION AGENDA ITEMS

4.1: Open Session Minutes of May 26, 2015

Mrs. Darby moved, seconded by Rev. Collins, to approve the open session minutes of May 26, 2015. The vote was 8-0.

4.2: Executive Session Action Items of June 8, 2015

The Board approved the following executive session action items of June 8, 2015.

1.1: Legal Updates – Mr. John Emerson

-Pending Cases

The Board received legal updates. However, no action was taken.

1.2: Voluntary Transfer Appeals

The Board discussed Voluntary Transfer Appeals received May 15th-May 29th. However no action was taken.

1.3: Personnel Matters

A. Principal Specialist

Ms. Darby moved, seconded by Mr. Mack, to approve the appointment of Ms. Lucy Beckham as the District 2 Executive Principal in process, effective July 1, 2015; without the addition of an assistant principal. The vote was 6-2 (Ducker and Miller opposed).

B. Principal Contracts

Mrs. Darby moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to enter into an annual agreement with Robert Grimm

(NCHS) and Lynn Owings (Burns Elementary) that simply includes a \$25K annual supplement in addition to the annual salary for each principal. HR will utilize the standard CCSD Certified Administrative Contract, with no specific performance goals connected to compensation. All goals will be established in the CCSD annual evaluation instrument, the same evaluation instrument used for all CCSD principals. Maurice Cannon will not be offered additional compensation for the 2015-2016 school year. The vote was 5-3 (Collins, Ducker and Miller opposed).

C. Staff Reduction/Reorganization

The Board discussed staff reduction/reorganization. However, no action was taken.

1.4: Employee Matters

The Board discussed a potential staff reduction and re-organization.

4.3: Financial Minutes of the May 26, 2015

Mr. Ducker moved, seconded by Mr. Staubes, to approve a recommendation to approve the financial minutes May 26, 2015. The vote was 8-0.

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

VI VISITORS, PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

1. Rev. John Paul Brown expressed concerns about the process the Board used to vet superintendent candidates. He suggested that community outcries were being ignored and the rush to hire a superintendent will not result in hiring the best candidate. He requested an opportunity for the community to meet superintendent candidates. He also said the one minute limit was an insult to individuals addressing the board.
2. Ms. LaSheia Oubre presented 500 signatures from a grassroots organization to save Burke HS.
3. Mr. Chris Cason questioned the lack of transparency in the superintendent search.
4. Pastor Thomas Dixon spoke about censorship and free speech.
5. Ms. Barbara Campbell spoke about the history of Burke.
6. Rev. Brown asked board members if Dr. Postlewaite was interviewed before applications were solicited. Then he asked if Dr. Postlewaite was enrolled in recertification programs since she has been out of the education sector and not recently been a superintendent.
7. Rev. Charles Heyward expressed concerns about the Board's behavior suggesting they disrespected the community by holding private meetings with Dr. Postlewaite. He suggested the board restart the process since the process has been compromised.
8. Mr. Tony Lewis addressed the board about the superintendent search. He said the new superintendent should understand the meaning of race and racism. Also, he suggested the candidates be presented to community prior to being hired.
9. Rev. Nelson Rivers read chief justice declaration of separate but equal to illustrate the board's disrespect in limiting the time visitors address the board. Also, he expressed concerns about secret meetings held to interview a superintendent.
10. Ms. Cathie Middleton thanked the Board for supporting Ashley River Elementary. The school recently celebrated its 30th anniversary.
11. Ms. Shawn Anderson a Burke HS parent expressed concerns about the plans for Burke HS. She asked that the PTA and SIC be involved in making plans for the school.
12. Rev. Charles Glover expressed concerns about the delayed opening of CC Blaney Elementary. He urged the Board to reconsider adding the 5th and 6th grade to the middle school.
13. Ms. Charlisa Pugh expressed concerns about the one minute time limit, lack of transparency in the superintendent search, lack in bringing the community together, not addressing the Academic Magnet HS admissions, suspension of the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force, and not filling the Diversity and Inclusion position. She grew up in Tuskegee Alabama where her parents were involved in marches against racism. She suggested that racism exists in Charleston. She urged the Board to listen to the community and act in the best interest of all students.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Mr. Michael Bobby, Acting Superintendent of Schools

- Mr. Bobby spoke briefly about the end of another successful school year. He attended 7 graduations last week. Many positive things are happening across the district.
- State Superintendent Molly Spearman attended graduations at Ashley River ES and Sanders Clyde ES.
- A world class symposium will bring nationally recognized leaders to CCSD this week. Board members and others were invited to attend.
- Mr. Bobby introduced Ms. Emily Woody, the 2015 Teacher of the Year. Ms. Woody said her experience thus far has been magical. She looks forward to sharing information with others about what she does.

She also shared encouraging words to Mr. Bobby and board members. She concluded that board members are role models.

- Mr. Bobby said in response to the comments about Burke HS that everyone wants to continue the legacy at Burke. Wonderful things have been accomplished over the past year. He said everyone wants it to be a lighthouse with academic rigor that would make children proud to be there. The Board hasn't taken any action other than to work to create an outstanding high school on the peninsula. The stakeholder group will bring information to staff.
- District 3 and District 9 also have Task Forces working on recommendations.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

8.1: Audit & Finance Committee – Mr. Todd Garrett

A. Audit & Finance Committee Update

B. FY 2016 Budget Update – Mr. Michael Bobby

The Board received a budget update. Ms. Shannon said about enrollment projections, there were 1600 additional students last year and 2200 is expected the upcoming school year. Charter schools are being added. The growth cost in general funds would increase teaching positions. The cost is \$6 million. Middle Schools would grow, adding 13 teachers. The must do's and staff recommendation to extend contracts to reduce cost was presented. The charter school formula according to the state formula would cost in expenditures.

Mr. Ducker asked about Rural School funds. Ms. Terri Shannon said it was in the 2016 budget. The amount is at the 2015 level.

Mr. Bobby asked about the Greenville School District budget increase. Ms. Shannon said the increase was 7.9% and their growth rate was less than CCSD.

Mr. Staubes spoke about the Greenville model and replication mentioning their success.

Mr. Ducker said CCSD spends 35% more than Greenville. Mrs. Darby said that's because they don't have small schools. Their smallest school has 400 students.

Mr. Miller suggested that Greenville School District may not be a good comparison for CCSD.

C. Head Start/Early Head Start Financial Report – April 2015 – Mrs. Ruth Taylor

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to approve the Head Start/Early Head Start financial report for April 1 – April 30, 2015. The vote was 8-0.

D. Reallocation – Pepperhill Fire Alarm Replacement – Mr. Ron Kramps

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to approve a request from staff to add Pepperhill ES fire alarm replacement to the FCO project list and reallocate \$190,000 from the FY16 FCO Contingency A-D funds to the FY16 FCO FM&AM for this requirement. The vote was 8-0.

E. 24 Month Extension of Custodial Contract – Mr. Ron Kramps

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to approve the extension of P9002 custodial contract for a period of 24 months to end December 31, 2017. The vote was 7-1 (Collins opposed).

Mr. Miller said although the intent was to save money with three contractors, principals had concerns about the work being done. Mr. Kramps shared documents to show what could be added to get a higher level of cleaning services. Mr. Kramps said the report card shows a 93% rating of the vendors. Mr. Bobby spoke about the report cards scores for custodial services. He said for seven years the score has been 93%. The concern is more about having a greater level of services.

F. Cenergistic Inc. Proposal for Energy Savings Contract – Mr. Ron Kramps

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Rev. Collins, to approve a request to expend utility funding in an energy savings contract with Cenergistic, Inc. The vote was 7-2 (Mack and Miller opposed).

Mr. Kramps said software would track use and savings. There is a 50-50 savings. The proposed savings for CCSD is \$1 this sy. Mr. Ducker said the company info is impressive. It's a five year contract.

G. Laurel Hill Utility Easement – Mr. Sean Hughes

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to grant a utility easement as indicated on parcels 598-00-00-403 and 598-00-00-036 to Mount Pleasant Waterworks for an underground force main

installation on the Laurel Hill Primary site. The vote was 8-0.

H. Student Meal Charge Policy – Mr. Walter Campbell

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to return the CCSD Nutrition Services Student Charge Policy to the Audit & Finance Committee for further consideration. The Audit and Finance Committee will reintroduce the policy back to the Board. The vote was 8-0.

Rev. Mack expressed his opposition. He suggested a scope be done of children to see if there are some high poverty students that don't get meals at home. He urged the board to revisit the policy. He said if there are schools with high number of students not paying for their meal, that should be dealt with individually.

Mr. Walter Campbell said because the school moved a program that provides free food at 42 schools, no funds are raised at those schools. He asked the committee not to allow charges in high schools. The policies received from Council of Great City Schools did not allow students to charge meals in high schools. He said this would impact food service dollars.

I. Reallocation of Audit Hours – Ms. Cathy Milne - PULLED

The 2015 Annual Audit Plan was pulled from the agenda. Therefore, no action was taken.

J. District 4 Bus Lot – Mr. Jeff Borowy

Mr. Mack moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to approve staff negotiation and award of a contract for civil engineering services for a District 4 Bus Lot. The vote was 7-0-1 (Garrett recused himself).

Note: Mr. Garrett requested to recuse himself from voting on this item. Then he left room during the discussion and returned immediately after the vote.

K. Fraser Campus – Mr. Jeff Borowy

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to direct staff to complete research partnership options to fund construction of an Early Childhood Center of Excellence (ECCE) on the Fraser campus. The vote was 5-3 (Collins, Miller and Staubes opposed).

Ms. Coats said outcome of research should come before the board.

Rev. Collins said he asked two weeks ago the plans for demolishing the building; now there is discussion about construction.

Mr. Miller said it is confusing not knowing if there are conversations about Voyager Charter and others. He said while they are being told that nothing is happening, it is evident that there are plans for the facility. Mrs. Coats said the district asked to use the facility for early education for three years now. CCSD said the facility wasn't seismically sound. Mr. Miller asked if using the facility for dual purposes, would Carolina Voyager pay CCSD rent. Mr. Borowy said he is just asking permission to pursue looking to see if it is possible.

Rev. Collins said this recommendation reminded him of what happened to Rivers. He asked if the district could afford another charter school. Mr. Bobby said Carolina Voyager requested consideration for use of the campus. It is still a consideration and the same request was made by others. It's a very valuable property that the board would want to retain for long term purposes. No commitments are being made at this time. The only thing requested is to move forward with the study. Mr. Garrett said 25% of Voyager Charter students live downtown. However, no promise has been made to allow them to use the site.

L. Citizens Oversight Steering Committee for Phase IV 2016-2022 Capital Program – Mr. Michael Bobby

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to approve the following recommendations. The vote was 8-0.

- Approve the establishment of the Second Version of the Citizens Oversight Steering Committee to monitor and provide oversight with respect to projects in the 2016-2022 Building Program funded by the One Penny Sales Tax.
- Approve five representatives selected from nominations made by the Mayors and Chamber of Commerce, to represent specific projects, bringing building and construction expertise.
- The Board Chair's appointment of a chairperson to chair the committee and appoint a CCSD Board member to participate on the committee.

Mrs. Coats appointed Rev. Eric Mack to serve on the committee.

Citizens Oversight Steering Committee

(Chair to be determined)

*Keith Waring
Darbris Briggman
Bryan Gawych
Michael Halasz
Susannah Sheldon*

*City of Charleston
N. Charleston
Mt. Pleasant
Chamber
Chamber*

Mr. Bobby said these individuals were selected by mayors and the chamber.

M. Proposed Delayed Opening of CC Blaney Elementary – Mr. Michael Bobby - PULLED

Mr. Bobby requested two additional weeks for staff to look at options. This item was pulled from the agenda. Therefore, no action was taken.

NOTE: Mr. Garrett left the meeting at this time. However, he continued to participate in the meeting, by telephone.

8.2: Policy & Personnel Committee – Mr. Tripp Wiles

A. Policy Committee Update - Mr. Tripp Wiles

B. Policy GCQC Resignation of Teachers – 2nd Reading – Mr. John Emerson

Mrs. Darby moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the second reading of policy GCQC. Also staff was asked to provide a quarterly report of those who break their contract. The vote was 8-0.

C. Policy DFAC – Fund Balance – 2nd Reading – Mr. John Emerson

Mrs. Darby moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to approve the second reading of policy DFAC. The vote was 8-0.

D. Naming of District 20 Middle School – Mrs. Erica Taylor

Mrs. Darby moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to name the stand-alone middle school for District 20 the Charleston Middle School. The motion failed 1-7 (Garrett supported the motion).

Mrs. Darby moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to delay the naming of the stand-alone middle school for District 20 returning it to the naming committee. The vote was 8-0.

Mr. Martin said Burke MS must have a name soon because of funding requirements. It will remain as Burke MS at this time for funding purposes.

Ms. Darby said concerns were expressed and some would like the school name to remain Burke MS.

E. Social Media and Electronic Communications Policy and Regulation – 1st Reading – Mr. John McCarron

Ms. Darby moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the first reading of the Social Media and Electronic Communications Policy and Regulation. The vote was 8-0.

F. Policy GBEBD Acceptable Use of Technology – Mr. John McCarron

Mrs. Darby moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to approve the first reading of the Acceptable Use of Technology policy. The vote was 6-2 (Collins and Ducker opposed).

Mr. Ducker said the scope is for use of district devices. Mr. McCarron said the policy provides guidance with use of Facebook.

Rev. Collins said drawing the line between use of personal and district devices needs to be spelled out. He would be afraid to use devices if this policy is approved.

Mr. Staubes asked about discipline if policy is violated. Mr. McCarron said progressive discipline.

8.3: Strategic Education Committee – Rev. Chris Collins

A. Strategic Education Committee Update – Rev. Chris Collins

B. 2015-2018 Master Technology Plan – Mr. John McCarron

Rev. Collins moved, seconded by Mr. Staubes, to approve the 2015-2018 Master Technology Plan. The vote was 8-0.

Mrs. Darby said it's a master plan for the district. Mr. McCarron said it's a continuation of the previous three year plan.

C. Head Start Disability Waiver – Mrs. Ruth Taylor

Rev. Collins moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve a Head Start Disability Waiver. The vote was 8-0.

D. Pilot Course Applications – Mrs. Amy Neloms

Rev. Collins moved, seconded by Mr. Miller to approve four courses for the 2015-2016 school year. The vote was 8-0.

E. District 20 Constituent Board Resolution – Rev. Chris Collins and Mrs. Kate Darby

Mr. Collins moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to receive the resolution from the District 20 Constituent Board as information only. The vote was 7-1 (Garrett opposed).

Mr. Garrett said he supports a traditional program at Burke. However, he didn't want to take any of the options for Burke off the table at this time.

8.4: Other Committee Reports

- IX. AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS**
- X. POTENTIAL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**
- XI. CAE UPDATE**
- XII. WRAP UP COMMENTS**

The meeting adjourned at 7:51pm.