

A regular meeting of the Charleston County School District Board of Trustees was held on Monday, August 11, 2014, in the Board Room at 75 Calhoun Street. The following members of the Board were present: Mrs. Cindy Bohn Coats - Chair, Mr. Tom Ducker – Vice Chair, Rev. Chris Collins, Mr. Chris Fraser, Mr. Todd Garrett, and Dr. Nancy J. McGinley, Superintendent and Executive Secretary. Mr. Craig Ascue, Mr. Michael Miller, Mrs. Elizabeth Moffly, and Mr. Tripp Wiles were absent.

Staff members Mr. Michael Bobby, Mr. Bill Briggman, Dr. Charles D'Alfonso, Mr. John Emerson, Mrs. Michele English-Watson, Dr. Lisa Herring, Mr. Ron Kramps, Mrs. Audrey Lane, Mr. Louis Martin, Mr. John McCarron, Dr. Brenda Nelson, Mrs. Terri Nichols, Mrs. Erica Taylor, Mrs. Anita Huggins, and Dr. James Winbush were also in attendance.

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

**I. EXECUTIVE SESSION
4:30 p.m.**

Rev. Collins moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, to go into Executive Session at 5:15 p.m. to discuss the agenda items listed below. The motion was approved unanimously.

- 1.1: Student Transfer Appeals
- 1.2: East Cooper Montessori Charter School Charter Amendment
- 1.3: Worker's Compensation Settlement Claim
- 1.4: Legal Update – General Counsel

**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 August 11, 2014 to order at 5:23 p.m. Then she called for a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Ducker moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, to adopt the August 11, 2014 agenda with the following changes. The motion was approved 5-0.

- Mr. Garrett requested agenda item 10.1H be moved up on the agenda immediately after Public Comments. Mr. Fraser also suggested this agenda item be changed from Action to Information.
- Mr. Ducker requested agenda item # 10.2D - the first reading of Policy BD be pulled.

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

Dr. McGinley recognized Burke High School alumna and track and field athlete Raven Saunders for her dedication to academics and athletics, and presented her with a plaque as a token of appreciation from CCSD. Ms. Saunders recently received a Silver Medal in shot put in the Track and Field Junior World Championships. She will be attending Southern Illinois University in the fall.

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

Dr. McGinley reported

- Superintendent McGinley updated the Board on many of the District's professional development and training events including the Countywide Administrators' Meeting, the Great Teachers Great Leaders two-day induction event, the Charleston Promise Neighborhood Summer Learning Institute, and the Innovation Zone Learning Community Back-to-School Rally. Dr. McGinley publicly thanked Hootie and the Blowfish for their longstanding efforts to support public education, and specifically CCSD, through their Homegrown Concert Series and Hootie's Homegrown Roundup. She extended an invitation to the Board and everyone in the community to visit the First Day Festival on Sunday, August 17th. She concluded her report by announcing that the CCSD Back-to-School Hotline will be active from August 13-20 on weekdays, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

VI. VISITORS, PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

1. Ms. Tami Enright, the managing Director of the Bee Cause Project, addressed the Board in support of keeping the existing observation bee hives sponsored by Bee Cause Project in CCSD schools. Ms.

- Enright shared information about allergic reactions.
2. Little Miss Tara Beth Mixon represented Girl Scout Troop #314 in support of the Bee Cause Project.
 3. Mr. Ted Denard, owner of the Savannah Bee Company, addressed the Board in support of the Bee Cause Project. He shared the history of the project that originated here in Charleston.
 4. Ms. Beth McCarty, a science teacher at Ashley Hall, addressed the Board in support of the Bee Cause Project. She pointed out that the success outweighs the risk.
 5. Mr. Hacker Burr, a Charleston Collegiate School representative, addressed the Board in support of the Bee Cause Project. He shared details on how it is used for hands on learning. He urged the Board to support the program.
 6. Mr. Lindsay Nevin, a small business owner in Charleston, addressed the Board in support of the Charleston Bee Cause project. He encouraged the Board to see the value of the project.
 7. Mr. Patrick Roddy, a representative of the Bee Keeper Organization, shared details about the Bee Keeper Task Force that was established by the Federal Government.
 8. Mr. Jim Stroham, President of the Charleston Bee Gardeners, addressed the Board in support of the Bee Cause Project.
 9. Mr. Henry Lowremore addressed the Board in support of the Bee Cause Project.
 10. Adrienne Baserman, a representative of Windwood Farms, addressed the Board in support of the Bee Cause Project and how it is used to teach At Risk students.
 11. Ms. Karen Latsbaugh, a East Cooper Montessori Charter School representative, addressed the Board in support of the Bee Cause Project.
 12. Ms. Claire Johnson addressed the Board in support of the Bee Cause Project. She encouraged the Board to not deprive students the opportunity to learn about bees.
 13. Ms. Suzan Whalen, a representative of the Urban Farm at MUSC, read a letter from Dr. Susan Johnson about a recent bee sting incident that occurred at MUSC when the hives were relocated to another area. She said the Bee Cause Project was not responsible for the incident.
 14. Ms. Janie Withrow, a Charleston County School of Math and Science Charter School employee, addressed the Board about the Bee Cause Project. She urged the Board to reconsider the recommendation.
 15. Ms. Natalie Davidson, a student at Academic Magnet High School, said she learned about the Bee Cause project when she was a student at Charleston Charter School for Math and Science. After researching the project, she came to the conclusion that there are more benefits than risks.
 16. Megan Swanson, who works with the Bee Cause Project, urged the Board to reconsider the risks and look at the rewards of this project.
 17. Ms. Tiffany Boyd, an Orange Grove Charter School parent, addressed the Board about the benefits of the Bee Cause project.
 18. Mr. Nikki Jeebea, a Low Country First teacher of Future Farmers, addressed the Board in support of the Bee Cause project.
 19. Ms. Michelle Schanon, a transition specialist at Wando HS, addressed the Board in support of the Bee Cause project.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/EXECUTIVE SESSION AGENDA ITEMS

7.1: A. Open Session Minutes of July 28, 2014

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, to approve the Open Session minutes of July 28, 2014. The vote was 5-0.

7.2: Executive Session Action Items of August 11, 2014

The Board voted on the Executive Session action items of August 11, 2014 listed below.

1.1: Student Transfer Appeals

Mr. Ducker moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser,

- to approve the student transfer appeals 1B
- to uphold the Constituent Board's decisions for student transfer appeals 1-9 A; 2B

The vote was 5-0.

1.2: East Cooper Montessori Charter School Charter Amendment - PULLED

The Board did not discuss the charter amendment request for East Cooper Montessori Charter School since this item was pulled from the agenda.

1.3: Worker's Compensation Settlement Claim

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, to approve the worker's compensation settlement claim.

The vote was 5-0.

1.4: Legal Update – General Counsel

The Board did not receive a legal update from General Counsel.

7.3: A. Financial Minutes of July 28, 2014

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to approve the financial minutes of July 28, 2014. The vote was 5-0.

VIII. CAE UPDATE

IX. MANAGEMENT REPORT(S)

X. COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

10.1: Audit & Finance Committee – Mr. Todd Garrett

A. Audit & Finance Committee Update

The Committee will provide information and receive input from Board members on the following:
-Items that are currently before the committee that have not been brought forward to the Board;
-Future topics the committee plans to bring forward; and
-What is needed to move the item forward?

B. Head Start/Early Head Start Financials

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, to approve the Head Start/Early Head Start financial for the period ending, June 30, 2014. The vote was 5-0.

C. Request to Exempt School Choice Study from Competitive Bid

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to exempt the School Choice Study from the competitive bid process. The funding source is the Office of Strategy and Communications. The cost is \$18,500. The vote was 4-1 (Coats opposed).

Mr. Ducker offered an amendment to include the performance of transferred students and an evaluation of their performance should be included in the study. He said it would help determine if transfer should be expanded. However, Dr. McGinley said that could be done in house with Dr. D'Alfonso and staff. Mr. Fraser suggested the Strategic Education Committee arrange a meeting with Mr. D'Alfonso to track the performance of students that have transferred.

Rev. Collins asked if the District had a company in mind to do the school choice study work. Mr. Bobby said no. However, one company or more would be consulted. Mr. Ducker inquired about the proposed cost. Mr. Bobby said because voluntary transfers had been considered for some time and staff has had conversations with at least one company that could do the work.

Mrs. Coats suggested that staff reach out to more than one company for the Choice Study work.

D. 2014-2015 School Resource Officer Memorandums of Agreement

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, to approve the recommendation for the 2014 - 2015 School Resource Officer Memorandum of Agreements with the Charleston County Sheriff's Office, City of Charleston, City of North Charleston, and Town of Mt. Pleasant. The funding source is General Operating Funds. The amount is \$681,000. The vote was 5-0.

E. Shuttered Facility – Archer Campus

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, to approve the recommendation to place the Archer Campus in the shuttered building condition with no expectation that any consideration for sale would require Board approval and it is not anticipated any sooner than July 2016. The district will use Fixed Cost of Ownership funds to create the Request for Proposal as necessary and to advertise.

Mr. Garrett said several groups want to buy it. However, because of depreciation, it has been determined that it would be taken off the table and not be available for sale.

Rev. Collins offered an amendment, to change the language to say if a future sale is considered, it would have to come before the board for approval. Mr. Garrett accepted the amendment. The vote was 5-0.

Mr. Bobby supported the amendment.

F. Seek Approval to Initiate Sale of Property Contiguous to the Fraser Elementary Site

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, to not offer the 24 Amherst St. property for sale and

retain it as part of the Fraser Elementary campus. The vote was 5-0. The transactional cost will be paid for through the sale of the property at no additional cost to the district.

G. New North Charleston Creative Arts Elementary School – Building & Finishes

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, to approve the reallocation of project savings from Wave 1 and 2 projects and authorize staff to award a contract with M. B. Kahn Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$19,649,000.00 for the new North Charleston Creative Arts Elementary School – Building & Finishes (Solicitation No 14-CMG-B-003). The vote was 5-0. This project is funded by the one (1) cent sales tax.

H. Recommendation to Remove Honey Bee Observation Hives

Note: At the beginning of the meeting, this item was changed to an information item during the Adoption of the Agenda.

Rev. Collins thanked everyone that addressed the Board in support of the Bee Cause Project. Then he asked Ms. Dana Enck questions about the request that was presented to the district. Ms. Enck responded stating the importance of the Memorandum of Understanding that outlines the responsibility of everyone involved. Ms. Enck said the program should be evaluated by the District to confirm that the project is safe for all CCSD students. Rev. Collins inquired about incidents at schools where the project exists. Ms. Enck responded and said the Bee Cause project wasn't properly vetted earlier and no insurance was in place.

Mr. Garrett thanked Ms. Enck for her efforts to protect the District. Then he inquired about the liability to the District. Ms. Enck said the District's insurance carriers did not ensure her that the Bee project would be covered as a loss.

Mr. Fraser asked staff to consider the request now that information has been provided and bring a recommendation to the August 25, 2014 Board meeting.

Mr. Ducker asked about the process to submit an application to CCSD. Mr. Olson advised Ms. Enright to select the Community tab on the district's website. This link provides the form required for submission.

Ms. Tammie Enright, with the Bee Cause Project, said it was her understanding that the requested was presented earlier to the Leadership Staff by Ms. Dana Enck. However tonight is the first time after many requests that she was told that she could access the form from the District's website. Mr. Ducker advised Ms. Enright to contact Mr. Bob Olson or Ms. Dana Enck to work through the process.

Mrs. Coats inquired about fund raising efforts related to the Bee Cause Project. Ms. Enright said the projects are funded 100% by grants. However, schools are able to sell honey and re-invest funds.

Mr. Fraser said the issue is that the agreement should be with the District and not individual schools since the District is ultimately liable.

10.2: Policy & Personnel Committee – Mr. Tripp Wiles

A. Policy Committee Update

The Committee will provide information and receive input from Board members on the following:
-Items that are currently before the committee that have not been brought forward to the Board;
-Future topics the committee plans to bring forward; and
-What is needed to move the item forward?

B. First Reading - Policy BD - Organization of the School Board - Pulled

The first reading of Policy BD – Organization of the School Board was pulled since this policy applied to the Board and four members of the Board were absent.

10.3: Strategic Education Committee – Mr. Michael Miller

A. Strategic Education Committee Update

The Committee will provide information and receive input from Board members on the following:
-Items that are currently before the committee that have not been brought forward to the Board;
-Future topics the committee plans to bring forward; and
-What is needed to move the item forward?

XI. POTENTIAL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

11.1: Establishing the Core Projects and continuance of the Citizens Oversight Steering

Committee regarding the Phase IV 2017-2023 Building Program

A request was made to approve the attached list of projects for the 2017-2023 building program that are core/mission critical building projects to be included in the November 4th-Referendum, as well as the approval of the ongoing work of the Citizens Oversight 2017-2023 building program.

Mr. Ducker moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, to delay action on the building list and take action with the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) and fill vacancies on the CAC.

Mr. Bobby said it is necessary to get the list of projects to the election commission for the referendum. Mr. Fraser said the building list was approved earlier by the Board. However, the order/organization of the projects list is being delayed.

Mr. Ducker said the reference to core projects concerns him because there is an assumption that the list had already been prioritized. The Board needs to identify a date to prioritize the projects.

Mr. Garrett said the list provided was requested by the A&F Committee. Mr. Bobby said the only change was to purchase property in North Charleston to free up overcrowding in middle schools. Mrs. Coats said she didn't want to tie it to one particular seller.

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett to approve the ongoing work of the Citizens Oversight Committee for 2017-2023 building program and modify the building project list to read "purchase property for an elementary/middle school in North Charleston". The vote was 5-0.

Rev. Collins inquired about funds requested by the Friends of Frierson. Mr. Bobby said the needs could be satisfied under the Fixed Cost of Ownership or Capital Maintenance that are a part of the next program. Mr. Bobby said there are factors that may not allow a gymnasium at Frierson such as the school size.

11.2: 2013-2014 Board Expenditure Report

The Board received the annual Board Expenditure Report as information as required by Board Policy BID – Board Member Compensation and Expenses.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

Since there was no further business to come before the Board, at 7:30 p.m., Mrs. Coats moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by consensus.