

A regular meeting of the Charleston County School District Board of Trustees was held on Monday, March 21, 2016, in the board room at 75 Calhoun Street.

The following CCSD board members 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, Mr. Emerson Tripp Wiles, and Dr. Gerrita Postlewait, Superintendent of Schools and Executive Secretary.

The following staff members were present: Mr. Jeff Borowy, Mr. Bill Briggman, Mr. John Emerson, Dr. Valerie Harrison, Mr. Ron Kramps, Mrs. Terri Nichols, Mr. Paul Padron, Mrs. Mary Runyon, Mr. Glenn Stiegman, Mrs. Erica Taylor, Mrs. Ruth Taylor and Mrs. Michele English-Watson.

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

Mrs. Coats called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. Mr. Staubes moved, seconded by Mrs. Darby, to go into Executive Session to discuss the following agenda items. The motion was approved by consensus.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

3:15 p.m.

- I. 1.1: **Legal Update – Mr. John Emerson**
General Counsel will brief the Board on legal matters.
- 1.2: **Personnel Matters**
- 1.3: **Teacher Appeal – Mr. John Emerson**
- 1.4: **Contractual Matter – Charter Schools - PULLED**

OPEN SESSION

5:15 p.m.

- II. **Call to Order, INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE, & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
Mrs. Coats called the Open Session meeting to order at 5:24 p.m. Then she called for a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **Adoption of Agenda**
Mrs. Darby moved, seconded by Mr. Staubes, to approve, include and adopt all of the potential agenda items with the following changes. The vote was 9-0.
 - Agenda item #8.1 – Ashley River Creative Arts Elementary School Gym was excluded because that agenda item had already been voted on.
 - Add agenda item 8.5 – Stono Park – Hold because that was mentioned at the March 14th workshop.
 - Mrs. Coats also noted that agenda item #1.4 – Contractual Matters – Charter Schools was pulled, at the district's request.

Rev. Collins moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to pull agenda item #9.4B from the Potential Consent agenda. Mrs. Coats announced that it was placed on the Potential Consent agenda by the majority of the board. Therefore, a majority was required to remove the item from the Potential Consent agenda. The motion was 6-3 (Coats, Darby, and Wiles opposed).

- IV. **Approval of Minutes**

4.1: A. Open Session Minutes of February 22, 2016

Mr. Staubes moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the amended February 22, 2016 minutes. The vote was 9-0.

- Mr. Ducker requested the minutes be amended to move agenda item#9.3A and 9.4M to the appropriate committee agenda instead of the potential consent agenda. Mr. Staubes and Mr. Miller accepted the amendment.

Per Mr. Ducker's request, the amended minutes were approved. Agenda item 9.3A – Recommendations regarding Burns Elementary was moved to the Strategic Education Committee section of the agenda and agenda item 9.4M - Naming of Second High School in Mt. Pleasant was placed on the Policy and Personnel Committee section of the agenda.

B. Open Session Minutes of March 7, 2016 Special Called Meeting

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Rev. Mack to approve the March 7, 2016 minutes. The vote was 8-1-0 (Miller abstained).

C. Open Session Minutes of March 14, 2016 Special Called Meeting

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Rev. Mack, to approve the March 14, 2016 minutes. The vote was 9-0.

4.2 Approval of Executive Session Items

1.1: Legal Matter

The board discussed a legal matter. However, no action was taken.

1.2: Personnel Matter

The board discussed a personnel matter. However, no action was taken.

1.3: Teacher Appeal

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mrs. Darby, to uphold the district's decision. The vote was 6-3 (Collins, Ducker and Mack opposed).

Also, during this discussion, Rev. Collins moved to overturn the district's decision. However, no one seconded the motion. Therefore, no action was taken.

1.4: Contractual Matter

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

V. SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

5.1: A. South Carolina Youth Volunteer Award

The board recognized Jackson Silverman, a Haut Gap MS student, for being named SC Youth Volunteer of the Year.

B. South Carolina PTA Honorary Lifetime Membership Award

This item was pulled. Therefore, no action was taken.

Teacher Cadets from Baptist Hill High School, Burke High School, School of the Arts, West Ashley High School and Wando High School were also recognized.

VI. VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Mr. John Garrett expressed concerns about accountability and teacher positions to be eliminated due to the budget shortfall.
2. Ms. Jamilah Frazier thanked Mr. Miller for his support on the efforts to rebuild Stono Park Elementary.
3. Rev. Nelson Rivers expressed concerns about the district's management of its finances. He also urged the board to rethink the decision to rebuild Stono Park.
4. Ms. Frances White addressed the board in support of rebuilding Stono Park ES.
5. Mr. Gerry Katz addressed the board about the district's budget. He said the Forensic Audit is in the past. However, going forward, the school district should implement processes and procedures to avoid making the same mistake in the future.

6. Ms. Janet Beckett addressed the board in support of the district's Primary Grade Academy. She urged the board to not reduce the funding for the district's Literacy program citing that such a decision would be detrimental to the district.
7. Mr. Raymond Brown reintroduced a program called "Easy Math" that was introduced to the district earlier by previous administration--Dr. Marian Mentavlos and Ms. Tina Pataraki. He spoke of the program's success and shared a copy of his book with the superintendent of schools and board chair.
8. Mr. Joseph Bowers thanked the board for moving forward with the District One property agenda item.
9. Ms. Carmen Nash spoke about a news article highlighting the issues at Stono Park ES. She addressed the board in support of rebuilding of Stono Park Elementary. She thanked Mr. Miller for his support on the Stono Park project. Ms. Nash also said if there isn't enough money to rebuild Stono Park in September, she would personally call for a Forensic Audit of the district's Capital Program.
10. Mr. Thomas Ravenel asked about the board's plan for Garrett Academy. Mr. Ducker and Mr. Garrett responded stating that the plan was to move Garrett to the CTE program. Mr. Ravenel requested Garrett be rebuilt at the same location.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Dr. Gerrita Postlewait – Superintendent of Schools

- Dr. Postlewait reiterated that no money missing from the district. The budget shortfall was the result of funds overspent by staff. Then she shared efforts to correct current budget issues.
- Dr. Postlewait responded to the statement about firing Literacy Teachers stating that it is totally inaccurate. However, she stated that there are no "sacred cows". Therefore, everything will be discussed. While no board decisions have been made at this time, these matters will be discussed and a zero based budget will be built.
- Dr. Postlewait shared highlights from the "Results, Reality...Preparation of College-and Career-Ready Graduates" PowerPoint outlining the efforts to better prepare students for college and career ready graduates. This information was prepared with the help of three community members: Mr. Ted Legasey, Mr. John Butzon, and Mr. Gerry Katz.

7.2: Financial Report – Mr. Glenn Stiegman

The board received the Financial Report as information.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

Transportation/Operations Committee

8.1: Ashley River Creative Arts Elementary School Gym - Mr. Jeff Borowy (Coats, Ducker, Staubes, & Wiles) – Pulled

Note: This item was pulled during the adoption of the agenda because it was approved at an earlier board meeting.

Strategic Education Committee

8.2: N/A

Policy & Personnel Committee

8.3: A. Policy BEDB– Agendas – Mrs. Kate Darby

Mrs. Darby moved, seconded by Mr. Staubes, to approve the recommendation coming from the Policy & Personnel Committee to approve the first reading of policy BEDB. The vote was 9-0.

B. Policy BID – Board Member Travel Expenses; Policy DKE – Expense Authorization Reimbursement – Rev. Collins

Mrs. Darby moved, seconded by Mr. Staubes, to approve a recommendation coming from the Policy & Personnel Committee to approve the first reading of policies BID. The vote was 6-3 (Coats, Garrett and Wiles opposed).

Mrs. Coats asked to remove the travel from policy DKC. The board suggested it be brought forward at a later time.

C. Magnet/Choice Schools – Multiple Births – Mrs. Cindy Coats

Mr. Staubes moved, seconded by Mrs. Darby, to approve a recommendation coming from the Policy & Personnel Committee to clarify the board’s intent regarding children of multiple births on the 2015-16 waiting lists. The vote was 9-0.

Mr. Staubes said he was okay with a one-year request since it didn’t apply to Academic Magnet High School.

Mrs. Coats said the board already voted on a policy for 2016-17. However, since there was a mistake, she requested the correction for one year only.

D. Policy BDE – Board Committees (Committee of the Whole) – Mrs. Kate Darby - Moved to Policy Committee Section.

Note: During the approval of the agenda, the board moved to move this item from the Potential Consent Agenda section of the agenda.

Mrs. Darby moved, seconded by Mr. Wiles, to approve a recommendation coming from the Policy & Personnel Committee to approve the second reading of Policy BDE. The vote was 9-0.

Rev. Collins moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the second reading of Policy BDE after amending the number of supporters needed to place items on any committee agenda from 4 persons to 3 persons. Also Rev. Collins asked that “section C” be revised to elect a new liaison chair to serve every six months. The vote was 5-2-2 (Coats, Ducker, Darby Garrett, and Wiles opposed; Rev. Mack and Mr. Staubes abstained; only Collins and Miller supported the motion).

Audit & Finance Committee

8.4: N/A

Other

8.5: Stono Park Project – Hold – Mr. Jeff Borowy

Mrs. Coats moved, seconded by Mr. Staubes, to approve a recommendation to consider the March 14, 2016 Board Workshop discussion related to the Stono Park Project and place a hold on further work on the Stono Park and the reassessment of revenues related to this project until September 2016 and action on Stono Park. The vote was 9-0.

Mr. Miller asked the board to place a hold on the bus lot at Stono Park Elementary. However, Mrs. Coats said it should be voted on in April since it was not on the agenda.

POTENTIAL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The board approved the following Potential Consent Agenda Items during the Adoption of the March 21, 2016 board agenda.

IX. 9.1: A. Financial Minutes – February 22, 2016 – Mr. Glenn Stiegman

The board approved the amended February 22, 2016 Financial Minutes. The vote was 9-0.

B. Financial Minutes – March 7, 2016 – Mr. Glenn Stiegman

The board approved the March 7, 2016 Financial Minutes. The vote was 9-0.

C. Financial Minutes – March 14, 2016 – Mr. Glenn Stiegman

The board approved the March 14, 2016 Financial Minutes. The vote was 9-0.

Transportation Committee

9.2: A. Fixed Cost of Ownership (FCO) FY16 Reallocation – Mr. Jeff Borowy

The board approved a recommendation coming from the Transportation/Operations Committee to reallocate Fixed Cost of Ownership FY-16 – Project funds in the amount of \$798,814. The vote was 9-0.

Transportation Committee

B. Fixed Cost of Ownership (FCO) FY17 Project List – Mr. Jeff Borowy

The board approved a recommendation coming from the Transportation/Operations Committee to receive and approve the prioritized list of projects under the “Early Out” 2017-2022 Capital Program (Phase IV) FY17 Project List. The vote was 9-0.

Transportation
Committee

C. Early Out 2017-2022 Capital Program (Phase IV) FY17 Project List – Mr. Jeff Borowy

The board approved a recommendation coming from the Transportation/Operations Committee to receive and approve the prioritized list of projects under the Early Out 2017-2022 Capital Program (Phase IV) FY17 Project List submitted. The vote was 9-0.

Transportation
Committee

D. Early Out Capital Maintenance FY17 Project List – Mr. Ron Kramps

The board approved a recommendation coming from the Transportation/Operations Committee to receive and approve the prioritized list of projects under the Early Out Capital Maintenance FY17 Project List submitted. The vote was 9-0.

Transportation
Committee

E. Sinking Fund FY17 Project List – Mr. Ron Kramps

The board approved a recommendation coming from the Transportation/Operations Committee to approve the prioritized list of projects under the Sinking Fund FY17 Project List submitted. The vote was 9-0.

Transportation
Committee

F. District 1 Property Acquisition– Mr. Sean Hughes

The board approved a recommendation coming from the Transportation/Operations Committee to direct staff to review properties in Awendaw and provide an acquisition recommendation. The vote was 9-0.

Transportation
Committee

G. E-Rate Resolution – Mr. John Lowe

The board approved a recommendation coming from the Transportation/Operations Committee to adopt a resolution to facilitate applications for funding per governing regulations. The vote was 9-0.

Transportation
Committee

H. March 9, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes

The board approved a recommendation coming from the Transportation/Operations Committee to approve the amended minutes of March 9, 2015. The vote was 9-0.

Transportation
Committee

I. Transportation/Operations Committee Charter – Mr. Jeff Borowy & Mr. John Emerson

The board approved a recommendation coming from the Transportation/Operations Committee to also include all operational matters and rename the standing committee, the Operations Committee. The vote was 9-0.

Strategic
Education
Committee

9.3: A. Read to Succeed Plan – Dr. Valerie Harrison, Mrs. Sandy Brossard, Mrs. Betsy Reidenbach

The board approved a recommendation coming from the Strategic Education Committee to approve the Read to Succeed Plan for the 2016-2017 school year. The vote was 9-0.

Strategic
Education
Committee

B. District 23 Advanced Studies – Mrs. Terri Nichols

The board approved a recommendation coming from the Strategic Education Committee to add 4th grade to the Advanced Studies Program at Ellington Elementary. The vote was 9-0.

Strategic
Education
Committee

C. Buist Kindergarten Enrollment

The board approved a recommendation coming from the Strategic Education Committee to increase enrollment by one seat in each kindergarten class. The vote was 9-0.

Strategic
Education
Committee

D. North Charleston Promise Zone – Dr. Gerrita Postlewait

The board approved a recommendation coming from the Strategic Education Committee to approve the letter of support for the North Charleston Promise Zone. The vote was 9-0.

Strategic
Education
Committee

E. Textbook Adoption Recommendations – Dr. Valerie Harrison, Mrs. Sandy Brossard

The board approved a recommendation coming from the Strategic Education Committee to adopt recommendations from the Textbook Adoption Committee. The vote was 9-0.

Policy & Personnel Committee

9.4: A. District 10 Constituent Board Vacancy

The board approved a recommendation coming from the Policy & Personnel Committee to fill a District 10 Constituent Board vacancy. The vote was 9-0.

Policy & Personnel Committee

B. Policy BDE – Board Committees (Committee of the Whole) – Mrs. Kate Darby - Moved to Policy Committee Section.

Note: During the approval of the agenda, the board moved to move this item to the Policy & Personnel section of the agenda.

Policy & Personnel Committee

C. Policy XXX – Creation and Maintenance of the Capital Maintenance Plan – Mr. Tom Ducker

The board approved a recommendation coming through the Policy & Personnel Committee to approve the first reading of a policy regarding a five-year capital maintenance plan. The vote was 9-0.

Policy & Personnel Committee

D. Naming of Otranto Campus – Deer Park Middle School – Ms. Erica Taylor

The board approved a recommendation coming through the Policy & Personnel Committee to approve the naming of the Otranto Campus. The vote was 9-0.

Policy & Personnel Committee

E. Amend CCSD 2015-16 Academic Calendar – Mrs. Erica Taylor

The board approved a recommendation coming from the Policy & Personnel Committee to amend the 2015-2016 academic calendar to allow April 27, 2016 to become a full day for students instead of an early release/professional development day. The vote was 9-0.

Policy & Personnel Committee

F. Policy JFABD – Admission of Homeless Students

The board approved a recommendation to approve the second reading of policy JFABD. The vote was 9-0.

Policy & Personnel Committee

G. Policy KF – Community Use of School Facilities

The board approved a recommendation to approve the second reading of policy KF. The vote was 9-0.

Policy & Personnel Committee

H. Policy IHBH – Charter Schools

The board approved a recommendation to approve the second reading of policy IHBH. The vote was 9-0.

Policy & Personnel Committee

I. Policy IHBG – Home School

The board approved a recommendation to approve the second reading of policy IHBG. The vote was 9-0.

Audit & Finance Committee

9.5: A. Capital Projects Report – January 2016 – Ms. Joyce Costello

The board approved recommendation coming from the Audit & Finance Committee to receive the Capital Projects report of January 2016 as information. The vote was 9-0.

Audit & Finance Committee

B. Audit Report – Compensation and Classification Implementation

The board approved a recommendation coming from the Audit and Finance Committee to receive the Compensation and Classification Implementation Audit Report as information. The vote was 9-0.

XIV. Adjournment

Before adjourning at 7:30 p.m., Mr. Garrett spoke of his intent to ask legal counsel to look further into the issues related to the Forensic Audit. Mrs. Coats said she would support Mr. Garrett coming back to the board to ask them to consider the request.