

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

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charleston County School District was held on Monday, January 23, 2012 at James Island Charter High School, with the following members of the Board present: Mr. Chris Fraser– Chair, Mrs. Cindy Bohn Coats - Vice Chair, Mr. Craig Ascue, Rev. Chris Collins, Mrs. Toya Hampton-Green, Mrs. Elizabeth Kandrac, Mrs. Ann Oplinger, and Dr. Nancy J. McGinley, Superintendent and Executive Secretary. Mrs. Elizabeth Moffly was absent. Staff members Mr. Michael Bobby, Mrs. Audrey Lane, Mr. Bill Lewis, Dr. Brenda Nelson, Mr. John Emerson, and Mr. Elliot Smalley were also in attendance.

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

Chairman Fraser called the Open Session meeting of January 23, 2011 to order at 4:30 p.m. Rev. Collins moved, seconded by Mrs. Oplinger to go into Executive Session to discuss agenda items listed below. The motion was approved unanimously.

- 1.1: *Teacher Appeal*
- 1.2: *Student Appeals*

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

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 5:00 p.m. in the auditorium at James Island Charter High School. Chairman Fraser called the meeting to order. Then he led the group in a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Mrs. Coats moved, seconded by Mr. Ascue, in interest of allowing board members (Coats and Ascue) to travel to St. Johns High School and Baptist Hill High to participate in Vision 2016 Public Engagement sessions at 6pm, to move all agenda items up after the Adoption of the Agenda. The motion was approved 7-0.

Mrs. Kandrac moved, seconded by Rev. Collins to table agenda item 10.1C until next meeting to allow Mrs. Moffly, who is absent, to provide input on this item. The motion failed 5-2 (Collins and Kandrac opposed).

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mrs. Coats to adopt the amended motion The motion was approved 6-1 (Kandrac opposed).

**IV. SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS – *Deferred due to 12/12/11 Board Action***

Special Recognitions were deferred due to action taken by the board on 12/12/11.

**V. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

**Dr. McGinley reported on the following:**

- Visited Charleston Progressive and North Charleston Creative Arts Elementary last week.
- Played basketball against the Harlem Wizards at Academic Magnet High.
- Attended a celebration honoring Anita Zucker whose contributions to public education and the community are appreciated. All proceeds of the event were directed to the Center for Women.
- Attended the annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. breakfast on Thursday where Charleston Progressive students were featured. They provided entertainment for the celebration.
- A day long principals’ retreat focusing on closing the achievement gap was also held.
- Earlier today, met with the Studer Group to discuss survey results and next steps. She looks forward to reviewing survey results at the board workshop scheduled for Tuesday, January 24, 2012.

Chairman Fraser thanked Mr. Ascue and Mrs. Kandrac for participating in the lottery immediately after Mrs. Kandrac mentioned that Charleston Charter School for Math and Science

had a lottery drawing on Saturday

**VI. VISITORS, PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS - See item XIII (12/12/11 Board Action)**

**VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/EXECUTIVE SESSION AGENDA ITEMS**

**7.1: Open Session Minutes of January 9 2012**

Mrs. Kandrac moved, seconded by Rev. Collins, approval of the Open Session Minutes of January 9, 2012 with necessary corrections. The motion was approved 5-0.

Note: Mr. Ascue and Mrs. Coats left the meeting to travel to St. Johns and Baptist Hill High before this vote took place.

**7.2: Motions of Executive Session of January 23, 2012**

Chairman Fraser announced that no actions were taken and agenda item 1.1: Teacher Appeal was pulled. A Special Called meeting will be held on 1/24/12 immediately after the Board workshop.

Also, the Board identified a date to hear the two latter appeals.

**7.3: Financial Minutes of January 9, 2012**

Mrs. Kandrac moved, seconded by Rev. Collins to approve the Financial Minutes of January 9, 2012. The motion was approved 5-0.

Note: Mr. Ascue and Mrs. Coats left the meeting to travel to St. Johns and Baptist Hill High before this vote took place.

**VIII. CAE UPDATE -Deferred due to 12/12/11 Board Action**

**IX. MANAGEMENT REPORT(S) -Deferred due to 12/12/11 Board Action**

**X. COMMITTEE REPORT(S)**

**10.1: Audit & Finance Committee**

**A. 2012 Proposed Audit Plan**

The Board received the 2012 Proposed Audit Plan as information. No action was taken.

**B. Request to Utilize FY 2012 FCO**

On behalf of the Audit and Finance Committee, Mrs. Coats moved approval of the recommendation to use FY2012 FCO Facility Maintenance Funds (contingency and other project savings) to cover restrooms renovations for James B. Edwards after project is bid and contractor award is approved by the Board. The motion was approved 6-1 (Kandrac opposed). Note: Mr. Ascue and Mrs. Coats voted on this item before leaving the meeting.

Mrs. Kandrac asked Mr. Bobby about the revision stating that details were missing. Mr. Bobby referred the question to Mr. Troy Williams to elaborate on the scope of the project. Mr. Williams said today's discussion is about the restrooms at JB Edwards. Mrs. Kandrac asked about the principal who was hired to oversee J.B. Edwards in 2009. Mr. Williams said Principal Francine Mitchell, requested ceramic tiles. Mrs. Kandrac asked if the new principal knew anything about surplus funds. Mr. Williams said she didn't. However, he searched and found funds left over from other projects after receiving the request. Mrs. Kandrac said \$275,000 was too much money for restrooms. Then she asked the number of restrooms. Mr. Williams said the actual cost was \$100,000 for restrooms. The rest is for other renovations at James B. Edwards—painting and cabinetry. Mrs. Kandrac asked about CCSD staff members listed on the documentation provided. She said the request reminded her of the surplus funds that was used to renovate the Office of Human Resource. The recommendation which was initially denied was later approved by some board members.

Rev. Collins asked if all the restrooms in school were being replaced. Mr. Williams said all student restrooms were being replaced. Rev. Collins asked about the architectural work. Mr. Williams said the architect work had already been done.

Mrs. Coats said Mr. Eric Cook presented information at the Audit and Finance Committee meeting that Mrs. Kandrak attended. She asked about FCO funds allocated to Head Start and why those funds weren't going back to those school projects. Mr. Williams said funds were allocated to other projects on the approved FCO list. Mr. Bobby said QSAB funds would be used for larger projects. FCO funds will cover smaller projects.

Rev. Collins asked if it was normal for new principals to make changes to existing projects. Mr. Bobby said principal input is solicited. However, the district has standards in place. The principal asked staff to expand the work to cover replacement of floors. Staff is trying to provide equity and address needs at schools at the end of the line rather than making them wait.

Mr. Ascue said presentation at the recent Audit and Finance Committee meeting mentioned the cost of the restroom work - \$100,000. Dr. McGinley said because the school is approximately 40 years old and the restrooms need to be renovated. It has nothing to do with cosmetics.

Mrs. Kandrak responded to Mrs. Coats' earlier comment stating she was not at the Audit and Finance meeting. Therefore, she did not meet Mr. Cook. Then she said it was disturbing that the summer of 2010 the principal at Mt. Pleasant Academy chose tile colors for school and later requested the work be redone within weeks. She said the cost was close to \$10,000 was just to move furniture during Christmas holidays to redo flooring. She said the mistake was not made by the principal or Armstrong (tile provider), but other administrators. She suggested that something similar could happen at J.B. Edwards. Mr. Bobby said the tile selection was not being made by the principal at J. B. Edwards ES and are based on the district's construction standards. About the Mt. Pleasant flooring, Mr. Bobby said one would have to go back to the stakeholder to determine and after a while it was obvious that the floor was not working so a decision was made to correct it. Mrs. Kandrak said the principal chose the color but someone else chose the material.

### **C. Adoption of Revised Methods for Handling Surplus, Grounds and Facilities**

On behalf of the Audit and Finance Committee, Mrs. Coats moved approval of the recommendation to adopt the revised practices and procedures for the District's handling of surplus inventory of grounds and/or buildings. The motion was approved 6-1 (Kandrak opposed).

Mrs. Coats said the recommendation updates an existing policy. Mrs. Kandrak asked why this document did not go to the Policy Committee. Mr. Fraser replied that it is a policy for the Policy Committee. Mr. Bobby added, on 10/26/2009 the board adopted it. However, it was not a policy. He said what the version the board adopted then was more restrictive than state statutes. The recommendation simply says there are two pathways--private sale or public sale. All would have to come to the board for approval. He said this is a better process that what CCSD had before. Mrs. Kandrak questioned why another attorney was hired to do this work. Mr. Bobby said he knew that the individual, Attorney Crooks, hired has done a lot of the district's work in this area and worked for the City of Charleston. Then he referred the question to Mr. John Emerson. Mrs. Kandrak asked about surplus properties and the possibility of staff needing surplus property for future needs. Mr. Bobby said the revision provides assurance because it would have to come before the board for approval. She said she and Rev. Collins asked about being present for bid openings and they asked staff to notify accordingly.

Mr. Emerson said hiring outside attorneys is a standard process for organizations the size of CCSD and one lawyer could not do all the work alone. He prefers using lawyers with expertise in that area. Mrs. Kandrak asked how the district funded outside attorneys. Mr. Emerson said

the funds the attorney hire for this project came from his budget. Mrs. Kandrak requested information on expenditure of funds paid to this attorney and other outside attorneys hired to assist Mr. Emerson. Mr. Emerson said he would provide his budget information. Mrs. Kandrak also requested information on how much attorneys were paid in the past for these type services.

Rev. Collins asked about the benefits of a private sale of surplus properties. Mr. Bobby said it allows the district to negotiate with private entities. Then staff would bring a recommendation to the board for approval. He added that a couple of properties could lend itself to this type sale. All negotiations are discussed with the board in Executive Session. The board dictates the range of sale, appraisal and other things. He shared information on the process for private sale. He said the board would dictate the range of the sale and require staff to bring information back to the board such as appraisal. Staff further establishes the variables and sale, seek board approval before acting on anything. Rev. Collins asked how one would know about a private sale. Mr. Bobby shared the difference between public and private sale sharing Laing as an example of a public sale that was placed on the market. He said it was advertised and staff received sealed bids. Since the offer was not at level staff expected, a decision was made not to sell property. The district still has the property. In this case, the board would establish what the sale range would be to sell and staff would negotiate directly with the entity the sale of the property within the range identified by the board. In this case it would not be advertised because staff would already have an idea that someone is interested and could bring a significant return to the district. Rev. Collins asked if approved tonight, could this item be re-visited by the board. Mr. Fraser said while he understood Rev. Collins wanted more information on the topic, he wanted the board to vote on the item at this meeting. He also called for the vote since there was a motion to approve the recommendation.

Mr. Ascue and Mrs. Coats were excused.

Mr. Brian Thomas, the individual recommended by Legislative to fill the vacant seat left by Mrs. Mary Ann Taylor, was recognized. Mr. Thomas is awaiting approval from Governor Haley.

Since there wasn't any other business to come before the board, Open Session adjourned at 5:48pm.

## **10.2: Policy Committee**

### **XI. POTENTIAL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

### **XII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **XIII. Public Comments – Vision 2016 Public Engagement**

Mr. Bohnstengel welcomed everyone to James Island Charter High School. He invited everyone to review the school's website. He said James Island Charter High (JICHS) rent its facility from the Charleston County School. The cafeteria, where the Vision 2016 Public Engagement meeting was being held, was built in 1970. He asked the current and future school boards to review the needs of the James Island community and provide JICHS a new school based on those needs. After stating that JICHS has maintained a good report card rating and has a graduation rate of 88%, Mr. Bohnstengel spoke about staff members, teachers, parents, and students.

After the 2016 Vision video was shared, the group received input from the community.

Mr. Fraser suggested more opportunities for public engagement. The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.