

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charleston County School District was held at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, June 9, 2008 with the following members of the Board present: Chairperson – Mr. Hillery Douglas, Vice Chair - Ms. Nancy Cook, Mr. David Engelman, Mrs. Ruth Jordan, Mr. Gregg Meyers, Mr. Brian Moody, Mr. Ray Toler and Dr. Nancy J. McGinley – Superintendent of Schools and Executive Secretary. Mr. Arthur Ravenel participated by phone. Mrs. Toya Hampton-Green was absent. Staff members Mr. Michael Bobby, Mr. Randolph Bynum, Mr. Bill Lewis, Dr. Brenda Nelson, Mr. John Emerson and Mr. Elliott Smalley were in attendance.

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

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairperson Douglas called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jordan to convene into Executive Session. The motion was unanimously approved.

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

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 5:15 p.m. Chairperson Douglas called the meeting to order and led the group in a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. SPECIAL RECOGNITION

3.1: Special Recognition for May 27, 2008

1. The Board recognized the students and staff of the Surf 'N Turf Club at C.E. Williams Middle School for their participation in numerous activities this school year, including climbing Mount Mitchell.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

4.1: Superintendent's Report

Dr. McGinley congratulated everyone on having a successful 2007-2008 school year and reiterated the importance of keeping the focus of all efforts on the students. She also spoke about positive steps taken this school year to include the reduction in teacher vacancies at the beginning of the school year, new innovative community engagement strategies, increased parental communication, a reduced number of offenses in high schools and discipline referrals, and more seniors taking and scoring higher on the SAT. She spoke about the importance of honesty, respect, and integrity— values that she heard emphasized clearly tonight during the public comments. Dr. McGinley congratulated all of the 2008 CCSD graduates mentioning each of the ceremonies. She said she was proud of their accomplishments, and discussed the diverse opportunities and experiences they have pursued which will help prepare them for the 21st Century world.

V. VISITORS, PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

5.1: Visitors, Public Communications

1. Mrs. Beverly Birch- Ministerial Alliance, Rev. Alonza Washington, Rev. Nelson Rivers - NAACP, Mr. David Mack, Jr., Ms. Gwendolyn Bobo, Dr. Luther Seabrook, Ms. Dot Scott – NAACP, Rev. Robert Leeper, Ms. Ethel Greene, Ms. Fouche Sheppard, Rev. John Paul Brown, Mr. Mohammed Idris, and Mr. Paul Hines expressed with accountability and conduct related to the behavior of Board members.
2. Mr. Howie Comen, a local businessman, expressed concerns about the disrespectful behaviors of board members and inequities.
3. Mr. Jon Butzon expressed concerns about the amount of time allocated for visitors to address their concerns to the Board.
4. Mr. Peter Kent, Mr. Richard Davis, Mr. Lee Jamison, Ms. Pamela Bell, Mr. Anthony Jamison, Mr. Murray Eicher, Ms. Rebecca Smith, Ms. Robyn Bradley, Mr. Stanley Hoffman, Ms. Susan Leland, Mr. Pal Aborrow, Mr. Bryan Blalock, Mr. David Gross expressed concerns about the

- proposal to relocate Academic Magnet School to a consolidated campus shared by School of the Arts.
5. Ms. Terry Murphy addressed the Board in support of the Transition Team's recommendation for Academic Magnet and School of the Arts.
 6. Ms. Jayne Farrell addressed the Board in support of the charter renewal for Charleston Development Academy Charter School.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/EXECUTIVE SESSION AGENDA ITEMS

6.1: Open and Executive Session Minutes of May 27, 2008

Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jordan approval of minutes of May 27, 2008. The motion was approved 7-1 (Toler opposed).

6.2: Motions of Executive Session of May 27, 2008

The Board acted on the following Executive Session Agenda items as follows.

- 1.1: Student Transfer Appeals – the Board approved a motion to uphold the constituent board's decision on six student transfer appeals; approved two transfer appeals and approved 4 other transfer appeals, subject to availability of space. The motion was approved 7 - 1 (Douglas opposed).
- 1.2: The Board approved the following motion:
 1. The committee's recommendation for a Garrett Academy student follows.
 - o Overturn the District 4 Constituent Board's decision to return to St. Johns High School this school year. Although student will be permitted to complete his school work, student will not be permitted to return to Garrett Academy. However, he may return to his home school, St. Johns High for the 2008-2009 school year.

The motion was approved 8-0.

- 1.3: Appointment - Principal - McClellanville Middle. This item was pulled from the agenda. No action was taken.

NOTE: Mrs. Jordan left the room at 7:28 p.m., therefore, she did not vote on agenda items 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, and 1.7A

- 1.4: Appointment – Principal – Murray Hill Academy – The Board approved a recommendation to appoint Ms. Myrna Caldwell to the position of principal at Murray Hill Academy. The motion was approved 5-2 (Douglas and Jordan opposed).
- 1.5: Appointment – Principal – CE Williams Middle – The Board approved a recommendation to appoint Mr. Robert Grimm to the position of principal at CE Williams Middle. The motion was approved 7-0.
- 1.6: Appointment – Principal – North Charleston High – The Board approved a recommendation to appoint Dr. Fred Moore to the position of principal at North Charleston High. The motion was approved 7-0.
- 1.7: Contractual Matters
 - 1.7A: The Board approved a motion to renew charter applications for Charleston Development Academy and East Cooper Montessori charters for five years. The motion was approved 7-0. The five year charter renewal for James Island Charter School was pulled from the agenda and will be revisited at the next meeting.

Also note, the funding source is 2008-2009 General Operating Funds. The cost for each charter is listed below:

- Charleston Development Academy - \$815,352.04
- East Cooper Montessori Charter - \$889,837.89
- James Island Charter High - \$12,982,995.51

1.7B: The Board approved a change order to renovate the current cafeteria into the Band, Art, and Chorus facility for Military Magnet Academy. The motion was approved 8-0.

1.8: The Board approved a motion to uphold the Associate Superintendent's recommendation for non-renewal of a contract for a teacher for the 2008-2009 school year.

1.9: The Board approved the following motions.

1.9A: The board approved a motion to overturn the District 2 Constituent Board's decision with the following conditions:

- student would not be permitted to return to class at Wando High School this school year;
- must complete a drug program; and
- must complete three (3) hours per week community service during the 10th grade.

The motion was approved 5-2-1 (Douglas and Jordan opposed; Engelman abstained).

1.9B: The committee's recommendation for a Wando student as follows.

- Overturn the expulsion.
- Allow the student to finish final exams without returning to Wando High School.

The motion was approved 8-0.

6.3: Financial Minutes of May 12, 2008

Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jordan to approve the Financial Minutes of May 27, 2008. The motion was approved 8-0.

VII: MANAGEMENT REPORT

There were no Management Reports to come before the Board at this meeting.

VIII: CHARLESTON ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE

8.1: School Choice Plans for St. Andrews Middle and West Ashley Middle

The Board received the report as information. Board comments regarding the district's initiative to improve schools west of the Ashley were positive.

IX. POTENTIAL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

9.1: First Reading of the FY2009 Budget

A recommendation to approve the first reading of the budget for the 2008-2009 school year.

Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Douglas approval of the first reading of the budget for the 2008-2009 school year. The motion failed 3-4 (Cook, Engelman, Ravenel and Toler opposed).

Note: Mr. Moody was out of the room during the time the Board voted on this item.

9.2: Lawrence G. Derthick Memorial Trust Fund Grant Award Recommendations

A recommendation to approve the Lawrence G. Derthick Trust Fund grant awards. The funding source is the Lawrence Derthick Memorial Fund. The amount allocated follows:

APPLICANT	AMOUNT ALLOCATED
Outreach for Kids	1,500.00
Carolina Youth Development Center	1,500.00
Beyond Our Walls, Inc.	1,500.00
Willtown Improvement Organization	1,500.00
Teacher's Supply Closet	1,500.00
Pattison's Academy	1,500.00
Amount Requested /Allocated	<u>\$9,000.00</u>

Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Douglas approval of the Lawrence G. Derthick Grant awards. The motion was approved 7-1 (Engelman opposed).

Also during discussion of the Lawrence G. Derthick Memorial Trust Fund Grant Award Recommendations, Mr. Meyers requested staff bring back to the board criteria for the Lawrence G. Derthick Trust Memorial Grant. He further questioned using a portion versus using the entire amount to allow the interest to increase.

9.3: Recommendation for Approval of Award for Renovation of West Ashley High School Track Bid #B8021

A recommendation to approve the bid award for renovation of West Ashley High School track. The funding source is FY08 General Operating Fund. The projected amount is \$136,840.00.

Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Douglas approval of the bid award for renovation of West Ashley High School track. The motion was approved 8-0.

9.4: Bid Award Special Inspections and Construction Materials Testing for Moultrie, Mt. Pleasant Academy and Orange Grove Charter Elementary

A recommendation to approve the bid award for code required special conditions and construction materials testing. The total cost for this project is \$278,911.00. No additional funds are required Project is within previously Board approved budget for all projects included in the bid package. Individual school amounts are shown below:

- *Moultrie Middle School - \$108,735.00*
- *Mt. Pleasant Academy - \$79,115.00*
- *Orange Grove Charter Elementary School \$91,060.00*

Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Douglas approval of the bid award for code required conditions and construction materials testing for Moultrie, Mt. Pleasant Academy and Orange Grove Charter Elementary. The motion was approved 8-0.

9.5: Center of Arts and Academics

School of the Arts Project #5343/Academic Magnet High School Project #5779 – Approval of Quality Assurance Testing and Chapter 17 Special Inspections Agency

Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Moody approval of recommendation to issue a contract to WPC, Inc. for the Center of Arts and Academics project Chapter 17 inspection for \$312,000.00. The funding source is 2005-2009 Capital Improvement School of the Arts Project and 2006-2009 Capital Improvement Academic Magnet High School Project. The motion was approved 8-0.

9.6: School of the Arts/Academic Magnet High School Transition Team Recommendation
Recommendations from the Transition Team for School of the Arts/Academic Magnet High School.

Mr. Moody questioned why this item was brought to the Board since the Board addressed this item earlier. It was the consensus of the Board that since this matter was addressed earlier, no further action was required.

9.7: Academic Magnet High School Update

The Board received the Academic Magnet Update as information. No action was taken.

Mr. Bill Lewis presented information on the project indicating that while there are many concerns, there is absolutely no time for buyers' remorse. He went on to share the history on the identification of a new home for Academic Magnet dating all the way back to 2002. He then identified problems with the current location to include 1) cost issued to elevate the current facility, 2) environmental issue, and 3) Redevelopment Commission unwilling to give the district more land. He also said the continuous delay for Academic Magnet has cost the district \$7 million. To address mis-information being shared, Mr. Lewis showed a side-by-side comparison of the facility which will also be posted on the district's website. Staff was directed to work with parents to carry out the plans for Academic Magnet and School of the Arts.

9.8: St. Andrews School of Math and Science Mobile Classroom

The Board received information to support placing a single mobile classroom within the current mobile units so that it is not visible from the neighborhood. No action was taken.

Also during the meeting Mr. Engelman motioned, seconded by Mr. Ravenel to approve the **5-year renewal of the charter application for James Island Charter High School**. Chairman Douglas over-ruled the motion citing that this matter was discussed in Executive Session and questions relative to the matter could not be answered in Open Session. Mr. Meyers stated the renewal of the charter was pulled since the school did not meet AYP two years in a row and he wanted to make sure all schools performed, including the charter which cost \$1 million more.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 8:50 p.m., it was motioned by Mr. Meyers seconded by Mrs. Jordan to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by consensus.

Approved:

Nancy J. McGinley, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools