

July 21, 2008

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charleston County School District was held at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, July 21, 2008 with the following members of the Board present: Chairperson – Mr. Hillery Douglas, Vice Chair - Ms. Nancy Cook, Mr. David Engelman, Mrs. Toya Hampton-Green, Mrs. Ruth Jordan, Mr. Gregg Meyers, Mr. Arthur Ravenel, Mr. Ray Toler and Dr. Nancy J. McGinley – Superintendent of Schools and Executive Secretary. Mr. Brian Moody was absent. Staff members Mr. Michael Bobby, Dr. Doug Gepford, 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. Mrs. Green motioned, seconded by Mr. Toler 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 July 21, 2008

There were no Special Recognition agenda items.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

4.1: Superintendent's Report

Dr. McGinley shared the following:

- Congratulations to the 2007-2008 seniors who won \$42,257,783 in scholarships. This amount represents an increase of nearly \$million over last year and the highest amount that graduates in Charleston County School District have obtained.
- Great progress was also made in the area of teacher vacancies. Currently, there are only 44 classroom openings. Principals and the Human Resource Recruitment team were thanked for their efforts.
- In partnership with the City of Charleston, the District is preparing for First Day Festival. Parent Link calls are being made to parents weekly with back-to-school themes, beginning in August
- The District is also partnering with local mayors and police officials to ensure that children are in school and ready to learn on August 19th.
- Chief Zumalt along with faith-based leaders across the city will hold a press conference in front of City Hall, a door-to-door grassroots campaign targeting last-year's truants, and extensive radio and television coverage to motivate families to get their children in school, ready to learn, on August 9th.
- The Victory in the classroom and this mantra was reinforced over and over while leadership team members participated in the Public Education Leadership Project training two weeks ago at Harvard.
- A New Broad Intern will soon join team to plan for a new Restoration High School. The salary for this person is entirely funded by the Broad Foundation
- Mr. Ray Simon, the United States Deputy of Education will visit Charleston late August to tour some of our schools and spend time with the Leadership Team.
- School opens August 19th.

V. VISITORS, PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

5.1: Visitors, Public Communications

1. *Ms. Andrea Murray, District 9 Constituent Chair and Pastor Mary Stoney, Sea Island Alliance of Ministry President and Ms. Harriet Repensky, a District 9 Focus Group member and Mr. Charles Smith addressed the Board in support of the administrator at Frierson Elementary.*
2. *Mr. David Engelman, Charleston County School Board Member, suggested the district consider using an online check register which would allow the public to view District finance transactions online.*
3. *Rev. Michael Mack, Ms. Pheleshia Washington, Ms. Jennifer Boston and Ms. Nolaska Gillard expressed concerns about the administrator at Frierson Elementary.*
4. *Mr. Franklin Cleveland, Executive Director of Gregg Mathis Charter, asked the Board to approve the school's charter application.*
5. *Mr. Larry Kobrovsky expressed concerns about discipline in Charleston County schools. He urged board to consider a policy to address racially hostile issues in schools.*

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/EXECUTIVE SESSION AGENDA ITEMS

6.1: Open and Executive Session Minutes of June 23, 2008

Ms. Cook motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the Open and Executive Session minutes of June 23, 2008. The motion was approved 8-0.

6.2: Motions of Executive Session of July 21, 2008

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

1.1: Student Transfer Appeals

- A - Approved 7-1 (Douglas opposed)
- B – Upheld Denial – approved 8-0
- C – Approved Release – Approved 7-1 (Douglas opposed)
- D – Upheld Denial – Approved 8-0
- E – Approve Transfer – Approved 7-1 (Douglas opposed)
- F - Upheld Denial – Approved 8-0
- G – Approved Transfer – Approved 7-1 (Douglas opposed)
- H – Upheld Denial – Approved 8- 0

1.2: Legal Matters

- A. Approved the decision rendered by the Procurement Review Panel that HG Reynold was the lowest bidder on the construction bid for Orange Grove Elementary School. The motion was approved 8-0.
- B. Approved the renewal of the James Island Charter High School Charter application for 10 years. The motion was approved 8-0.

1.3: Personnel Matters – The Board discussed personnel matters in Executive Session. No action was taken.

1.4: Property Matter – The Board received a status report from staff regarding the effort and cost to remove and replace the unsuitable soil at the new Jerry Zucker Middle School of Science site and approved a motion to allocate additional funds to purchase soil. The total cost to replace unsuitable soil is \$326,320. The funding source is Capital funds. The motion was approved 8-0.

1.5: Greg Mathis Charter School Renewal - The Board approved a motion to renew the Greg Mathis Charter School as follows. The charter school will have to submit a revised charter application reflecting current structure of the school within sixty days and that during the first sixty days of school, District staff will visit the school to determine if it is addressing the material violations identified, as well as complying with its other duties and obligations under its charter application. The funding for charter schools is calculated using a state driven formula and varies from year to year. The projected GOF cost for 2008-2009 is \$607,401.20. The motion was approved 8-0.

1.6: Appointment – Principal – Fraser Elementary - The Board approved the appointment of Perren Petersen – Principal at Fraser Elementary. The motion was approved 8-0.

1.7: Student Expulsion Appeals – The Board discussed two student expulsion appeals. No action was taken.

6.3: Financial Minutes of June 23, 2008

Ms. Cook motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers to approve the Financial Minutes of June 23, 2008. The motion was approved 8-0.

VII: MANAGEMENT REPORT

7.1: CEEFC Update

Mr. Bobby presented an update on Charleston Educational Excellence Financing Corporation (CEEFC). The Corporation supports agenda item 9.7 which addresses additional funding needed for under-bided projects.

Also during this discussion, Mr. Bobby provided an update on the Tax Anticipation Note. Staff received good results from Moody's Rating which indicated that the District would be able to maintain its rating. In addition, Mr. Bobby said the district was given the best rating it could ever receive. Moodys accepted the districts plan for use of fund balance and plan to replenish and said the plan was sound. They also recognized that the district is looking at future needs. They only requested the plan be executed.

VIII: CHARLESTON ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE UPDATE

8.1: School Choice – St. Andrews Middle School and West Ashley Middle School

Mr. Benjamin Bragg and Ms. Jennifer Coker presented an update on school choice plans for their schools. To date, they received the following choice school requests: 1) SAMS 40 choice requests and 2) WAMS 31 choice requests. After the presentation, Ms. Coker and Mr. Bragg responded to questions from the Board. Mr. Meyers requested results for low income students.

IX. POTENTIAL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

9.1: First Reading – Revised Board Policies

A recommendation to approve the policies listed below:

- A.** BBAAAA– Constituent Board Powers and Duties -The Board approved this request. The vote was 6-2 (Engelman and Toler opposed).
- B.** BCA – Board Member Code of Ethics – The motion to approve this item failed. The vote was 4-4 (Cook, Engelman, Ravenel and Toler opposed).
- C.** BDA – Duties of the Chairman - The Board approved this request with a 6-2 vote (Engelman and Toler opposed).
- D.** BDAA – Duties of the Vice Chairman (former policy 9220) - The Board approved this request. The vote was 6-2 (Engelman and Toler opposed).
- E.** BDAAA – Duties of the Secretary (former policy 9230) - The Board approved this request. The vote was 7-1 (Douglas opposed).
- F.** BDDA – Auditor (former policy 9260) - The Board approved this request. The vote was 8-0.
- G.** BDDB – Agenda - The Board approved this request. The vote was 6-2 (Engelman and Toler opposed).
- H.** BDDC – Order of Business (former policy 9368.1) - The Board approved this request. The vote was 6-2 (Engelman and Toler opposed).
- I.** BDDD – Public Input to the Board – The Board approved this request. The vote was 6-2 (Engelman and Toler opposed).
- J.** BID – Board Member Compensation and Expenses (includes 9250) - The Board approved this request. The vote was 8-0.
- K.** GBXXX – Family and Medical Leave Act - The Board approved this request. The vote was 8-0.
- L.** JFAAA – Assessing Legal Residence and Domicile - The Board approved this request. The vote was 8-0.

9.2: Recommendation to Revise the 2008-2009 Academic Calendar – Dr. Gepford

A recommendation to approve the revised academic calendar for the 2008-2009 school year.

Ms. Cook motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation to approve the revised calendar for the 2008-2009 school year. The motion was approved 8-0.

9.3: Academic Magnet HS Interim Progress Report – Mr. Lewis
The Board will receive information on Academic Magnet HS Progress Report.

The Board received information on Academic Magnet Progress Report. No action was taken.

9.4: APEX Learning – Dr. Gepford
A recommendation to approve the purchase of the software Apex Online.

Ms. Cook motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation to purchase the software Apex Online. The amount of this purchase is \$355,295.60. The funding source is Special Revenue Funds. The motion was approved 8-0.

9.5: Brentwood Middle School Retention Pond Memorandum of Understanding – Mr. Lewis
A recommendation to authorize staff to finalize the negotiations of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding and authorize the Superintendent to approve the final Memorandum of Understanding.

Ms. Cook motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation to authorize staff to finalize the negotiation of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding and grant the Superintendent the authority to approve the finalized MOU. The motion was approved 8-0.

9.6: Ashley River Creative Arts Elementary School – Mr. Lewis
A recommendation to award the construction contract for the new Ashley River Creative Arts Elementary School.

Ms. Cook motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation to award a contract to Martin Engineering, Inc. for Ashley River Creative Arts Elementary School in the amount of \$14,144,429.00. The funding amount is Capital Improvement Funds which is within the Board approved budget.

9.7: Recommendation to approve an allocation of interest-earned contingency funds from the 2005 and 2006 alternative financing building programs
A recommendation to approve an allocation of interest-earned contingency funds from the 2005 and 2006 alternative financing building programs.

The recommendation to approve the allocation of interest-earned contingency funds from the 2005 and 2006 alternative financing building programs failed 4-4 (Cook, Engelman, Ravenel and Toler opposed).

9.8: Recommendation for approval of Award for Resilient Tile Flooring Material for Charleston County School District and the District's Capital Building Program. Bid #B8023.
A recommendation to approve the bid award for resilient tile flooring material.

Ms. Cook motioned, seconded Mr. Meyers by approval of the recommendation to approve the solicitation as bid and award the contract to Bonitz Flooring. The FY09 amount is \$50,000 with a future impact of \$1,100,000.00. The funding source is General Operating and Capital Funds. The motion was approved 8-0.

9.9: Recommendation for naming the Stall High football stadium
A recommendation to name the Stall High School football stadium.

Ms. Cook motioned, Mr. Meyers seconded by approval of the recommendation to name the Stall High School football stadium for Dr. Lynda Davis. The motion was approved 8-0.

9.10: CCSD Procurement Code

A recommendation to adopt the revised model procurement code.

Ms. Cook motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation to adopt the revised model of Procurement Code for the district. The motion was approved 8-0.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 7:08 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