

## I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

4:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charleston County School District was held on Monday, March 28, 2011, with the following members of the Board present: Mr. Chris Fraser – Chair, Mrs. Ann Oplinger - Vice Chair, Mr. Craig Ascue, Mrs. Cindy Bohn Coats, Rev. Chris Collins, Mrs. Toya Hampton-Green, Mrs. Elizabeth Kandrak, Mrs. Elizabeth Moffly, Mrs. Mary Ann Taylor, and Dr. Nancy J. McGinley, Superintendent and Executive Secretary. Staff members Mr. Michael Bobby, Mr. John Emerson, Dr. Doug Gepford, Mr. William Lewis, Dr. Brenda Nelson, Mrs. Audrey Lane, 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 meeting of March 28, 2011 to order at 4:00 p.m. Mrs. Green moved, seconded by Rev. Collins, approval of a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss agenda items listed below. The motion was approved unanimously.

*1.1: Student Transfer Appeals*

*1.2: Contractual Matter*

*1.3: A/E Selection for Montessori-Springfield QSCB Project #5969*

*1.4: Property Matter*

*1.5: Personnel Matters*

## OPEN SESSION

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

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 5:20 p.m. Chairman Fraser called the meeting to order and he led the group in a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

### III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mrs. Green moved, seconded by Mrs. Oplinger, to adopt an amended agenda which moves Executive Session agenda item #1.2 Contractual Matter to the top of the Open Session agenda. The motion was approved 9-0.

At this time, Mr. Fraser shared the motion from Executive Session regarding Orange Grove Charter School. The Board approved the Orange Grove Charter Renewal Agreement that increases the enrollment possibility from 825 to 960 students, but if additional seats are added and allowed by law, those seats would be allocated to neighborhood zoned students, prior to lottery. The motion was approved 9-0.

Mrs. Kandrak shared comments from the External Team regarding the charter—"Orange Grove Elementary principal is a visionary leader and Orange Grove is a first class charter school".

### IV. SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS (20 minutes)

#### 4.1: South Carolina Charter School Administrator of the Year & Teacher of the Year

The Board recognized Ms. Kathryn Pedings as the South Carolina Charter School Teacher of the Year. Ms. Jody Swanigan will be recognized as the South Carolina Charter School Administrator of the Year at a future board meeting.

#### 4.2 Burke Middle and High Recipe Challenge National Semifinalists

The Board recognized Burke High and Middle School students for their participation in the Recipe Challenge national semi-finalists competition.

#### 4.3: Proclamation – Child Abuse Prevention Month

Candy Bates-Quin read the Proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month (April) indicated below.

**“Child Abuse Prevention Month”  
April 1-30, 2011**

*Whereas, child abuse prevention is a community problem and finding solution depends on involvement among people throughout the community. In 2010 Charleston County Department of Social Services received nearly 1540 reports of child abuse or neglect;*

*Whereas, the effects of child abuse are felt by whole communities, and need to be addressed by the entire community; 1217 new cases were accepted as founded by Charleston County DSS in 2010, and Child Protective Services removed 235 children from homes and placed in DSS care in Charleston County;*

*Whereas, statistics of children who are abused and neglected escalate; each year over 30,000 children are reported to be abused or neglected in South Carolina which interferes with their learning;*

*Whereas, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among school counselors, staff, social service agencies, religious organizations, law enforcement, the business community; and CCSD has taken a pro-active approach to prevent as well as report abuse of any nature;*

*Whereas, youth-serving prevention programs offer positive alternatives for young people and encourage youth to develop strong ties to their community;*

*Whereas, all citizens should become more aware of child abuse and its prevention within the community, and become involved in supporting parents to raise their children in a safe, nurturing environment;*

*Therefore, the Charleston County School District does hereby proclaim April as “Child Abuse Prevention Month”.*

*The Charleston County School District calls upon its Board, faculty, staff, community agencies, religious organizations, medical facilities; and businesses to increase their participation in our efforts to prevent child abuse, thereby strengthening the communities in which we live.*

**4.4: Office of Teacher Quality Recognition**

The Board recognized Mrs. Audrey Lane with the Office of Teacher Quality and the Teacher Quality staff and other staff members who volunteered to help with the Evening with the Stars Gala event.

**V. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

**5.1: Superintendent’s Report**

The Superintendent reported the following:

- Congratulations to the Evening with the Stars Gala volunteers. The purpose of the gala was to raise money and \$33,000 was raised.
- Budget Meetings – The district continues to engage the public in discussions about budget challenges. Two meetings were held last Thursday at Baptist Hill High and St. Johns High. It’s clear that everyone is interested. There were a lot of questions about how one could get more involved. The goal of the district is to make sure everyone understands the budget and is able to give feedback. So far, six meetings were held with approximately 350 participants. Two more budget meetings are scheduled now that West Ashley was added as an extra location. Once the process is complete, staff will bring a complete summary of what was heard and learned at budget meetings. Also, feedback will be incorporated into the April 11<sup>th</sup> budget update. A video presentation will be posted on the website for those who could not make the meetings.
- Renaissance Project – A Task Force meeting will be held tomorrow night with a cross-section of approximately 25 school and community members. Recently there was a lot of public discussion about how to improve high school education—and education in general in North Charleston. Dr. McGinley shared her statement from last Thursday’s newspaper stating that she felt extensive engagement will generate the best possible plan for students in North Charleston.
- Community outreach is an absolute priority for budget, school choice, and key initiatives like the Renaissance Project. Every week, a district team is out during the day and late evening meeting with

different groups. While some claim staff just started engaging the community in North Charleston, a North Charleston Secondary Education Task Force was established in 2009. This Task Force met during the 2009-2010 school year. There were 29 participants to include principals, church leaders, elected officials, police leaders, parents and business and nonprofit leaders. More recently, in February after the concept of a merged high School was presented, a meeting was held with key community leaders in North Charleston, including members of the District 4 Board, local faith leaders, and the NAACP. And, three weeks ago, another meeting held with the Inter-Faith Community Roundtable to discuss the improvement of education in North Charleston. The district works hard to engage the community and will continue to reach out, listen and engage others.

- A productive meeting was held earlier today with Coastal Community Foundation discussing how to bring more money to the district and they are lending individuals to help district.

Mrs. Kandrac asked about video presentations posted online and if comments and questions were also posted online. Mr. Elliot Smalley said they would be posted after meetings are completed.

Mrs. Kandrac also asked about Task Force members and expressed concerns about renaming Northwoods Academy and Pinehurst ES. She requested information about the same.

## **VI. VISITORS, PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS (Not to exceed 30 minutes)**

1. Mr. Jeff Gleim addressed the Board regarding James Simons Elementary.
2. Mr. Edward Jones addressed concerns regarding principal changes at Jenkins Academy.
3. Ms. Fouche Sheppard addressed the Board opposing a Montessori program at James Simons Elementary.
4. Ms. Kyle Lahm, a North Charleston representative, addressed the Board in support of the North Charleston Arts Infused School in North Charleston.
5. Mr. Arthur Lawrence thanked Mr. Louis Martin, Constituent members, and staff members who attended the meeting to discuss Burke High School. He also expressed his support for a partial Montessori at James Simons Elementary and urged the superintendent and the Board to support the recommendation from stakeholders which will promote quality schools in District 20. Mr. Lawrence also commended Mr. Martin for doing a wonderful job.
6. Rev. Alma Dungee addressed the Board in support of the Montessori program at James Simons, provided attendance of neighborhood students. She also requested the trade school at Burke be restored and suggested the Math & Science Charter be given the auditorium at Rivers, if needed.
7. Mr. Anthony Bryant expressed concerns regarding a FCC complaint he filed.
8. Ms. Kristen LeVaur commended Orange Grove and Charleston Charter on their success. She suggested the Board consider making Stall High and North Charleston High charter schools.

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

### **7.1: Open Session Minutes of March 14, 2011**

Mrs. Coats moved, seconded by Mr. Ascue, approval of the Open Session Minutes of March 14, 2011. The vote was 9-0.

At this time, Dr. McGinley made a brief statement to clarify rumors made about the principal at Jenkins Academy. There has not been a change in principal at Jenkins Academy. However, another principal is sitting in for the principal who is out on sick leave.

### **7.2: Motions of Executive Session of March 28, 2011**

**1.1: Student Transfer Appeals** – The Board approved student transfers A, B, C, D, E, F, H, K; I & J were approved for Laing Middle, AA was approved for Harborview and BB was approved for Mt. Pleasant Academy; G, L, M, N, and O were denied for lack of space. The motion was approved 9-0.

**1.2: Contractual Matter** – The Board approved the Orange Grove Charter Renewal Agreement with stipulation that additional seats must be filled with neighborhood students, if the law allows. The motion was approved 9-0.

**1.3: A/E Selection for Montessori-Springfield QSCB Project #5969** – The Board approved the A/E Selection for Montessori-Springfield QSCB Project #5969. The motion was approved 9-0.

**1.4: Property Matter** - The Board approved the contract to purchase 4.63 acres, current site of the Montessori Community School of Charleston land at 2120 Wood Avenue, Charleston, South Carolina at a price not to exceed \$80,000. The motion was approved 9-0.

**1.5: Personnel Matters** – The Board received information in Executive Session. No action was taken.

### **7.3: Financial Minutes of February 28, 2011 and March 14, 2011**

Mrs. Coats moved, seconded by Mrs. Green, approval of the amended Financial Minutes of February 28, 2011 and March 14, 2011. The motion was approved 8-1 (Kandrac opposed).

After Mrs. Kandrac expressed concerns about amounts the district paid in the past to correct facility issues. Mr. Bobby responded to roofing issue Mrs. Kandrac mentioned, that it was not covered under warranty. The district only pays for projects not covered by a warranty. Also in response to her comment about funds spent in 2009 to replace the floor at Mt. Pleasant Academy, Mr. Bobby said the request to fund the project was approved by the board. In response to Mrs. Moffly's questions about West Ashley-- when it was built and the life of a school roof, Mr. Lewis said the school was built 11 years ago and the expected life of the roof is approximately 20 years. In response to Mrs. Moffly's question about why \$200,000 was being spent for a school only built 11 years ago. Mr. Bobby said staff did not have details to respond. However, staff could bring details to a future meeting. Also, Mr. Lewis said someone on staff monitors these type projects to see if they are covered by a warranty. Mrs. Moffly said she is concerned because past projects are failing and a new building project is beginning. She also asked about the purchase of an \$80,000 dump truck. Mr. Bobby said the district needs the vehicle and Capital funds will be used to purchase it. Also he said staff will address roofing issue in future and they are looking at guidelines for building systems and looking at the history of previous projects.

## **VIII. COMMITTEE REPORT(S)**

### **8.1: Finance & Audit Committee**

Mrs. Coats announced that the Finance and Audit Committee next meeting is April 14<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. Also, she said on the agenda is 11.5 - Tax Anticipation Note Arbitrage, which was discussed at the last Finance and Audit Committee meeting. She said unspent funds will be refunded to the Internal Revenue Service.

### **8.2: Policy Committee**

Mrs. Oplinger announced that the Policy Committee next meeting is April 14<sup>th</sup> at 10am in the Board Room.

## **IX. MANAGEMENT REPORT(S)**

### **9.1: Capital Projects January 2011**

The Board received the January 2011 Capital Projects Report as information.

### **9.2: Classroom Modernization Program-Classroom Technology Committee Report**

The Board received the Classroom Modernization Program Classroom Technology Report as information.

Mr. Bobby said it was mid third year of the five year plan. Mr. John McCarron, Ex. Director of Technology, Ms. Lannie Berry and Mr. Tim Tanner shared positive results of the Classroom Modernization Program.

Ms. Berry and Mr. Tanner briefed the board about a school improvement grant and the E2T2 Pilot Program. Mrs. Kandrac said they are doing great and she heard someone talking about it at the recent Two Days at the Capital in Columbia, SC. Staff will coordinate a visit to Drayton Hall for Board members to see students in classrooms piloting IPADs.

Mr. McCarron responded to Mrs. Kandrach regarding use of MOBI in classrooms in CCSD. Mr. Tanner responded that some schools use the Smart Slate which is a version of MOBI. He said the price is under \$300 and the district is providing training to schools that made recent purchases. Mr. John McCarron added that he met with MOBI team and has made purchases from them. Mrs. Coats said she supports the use of IPADs. She also asked if students who take them home are held liable if they are lost. Mrs. Berry said an agreement is signed and a tracking device is placed in each IPAD. Mrs. Coats said she just wanted assurance that this is not a costly venture. Ms. Berry said a lot of studying will be done and IPADs rarely go missing or break. She also spoke about cost savings with use of IPADs (copies, ink). Staff responded to Mrs. Coats question on when to expect benefit from savings and how the education process will improve. Also in response to a question from Mrs. Taylor asked about the cost of light bulbs for Smart Boards. Mr. McCarron said the \$500 price negotiated to \$299 and the life of each is 300 hours. Additionally, the bulb goes into sleep mode after 30 minutes of inactivity.

Dr. McGinley complimented staff for the professional development plan. She also said two high-level Apple executives are working with the West Ashley High staff members who use IPADs for teacher evaluation. Apple is interested in working with district. IPADs are also good for those with visual problems. Rev. Collins suggested IPADs for Board members.

## **X. CAE UPDATE**

### **10.1: Teacher Evaluation STEPS & Timeline**

Mrs. Audrey Lane and Dr. Gepford presented information to the Board on teacher effectiveness. Mrs. Lane suggested a full board workshop in the future on teacher effectiveness.

Mrs. Lane shared information on the following:

- The importance of having top quartile teachers.
- Setting performance objectives for teachers – innovative approach that will be used in recruitment efforts.
- Growing and Support Teachers – Piloting of the IPAD Program at West Ashley for Classroom walk throughs, giving teachers a higher level professional development support.
- Evaluating of Teachers using the Safe-T Project. A Safe-T Team was implemented this school year. Teacher notification letters were created with ADEPT Standards.
- Principals were tasked with identifying teachers who need additional support last fall. However, Mrs. Lane said no previous data is available for some teachers.
- CCSD requested to become state's pilot district and is waiting to hear back from state.
- Teacher Evaluation Design Team info was shared.
- The district has applied for a teacher evaluation grant.

Mrs. Oplinger asked about data on number of teachers that are successful and how successful the district is in moving teachers out of the red zone. Dr. Gepford responded that the district is tracking that info. However, the information is too preliminary to be shared at this time.

Mrs. Taylor said Safe-T evaluation is very taxing and some things should be weeded out to simplify the process because it's too cumbersome. She suggested the district should come up with a pilot program to utilize Safe-T in a different way. Mrs. Lane responded that the Safe-T evaluation is required by state law.

Mrs. Coats requested the presentation be brought back at a future meeting to allow additional discussion and she asked staff to identify the district's top 200 teachers. Dr. McGinley said the design process is to evaluate teachers since some don't have data. She also said the challenge now is to add student outcomes to Teacher Evaluation. The issue is the calibration of the teacher. Must identify the rubric with multiple measures.

Dr. Gepford said staff is working with principals to identify teachers who have issues in multiple areas. This is the first step. The second is to identify those with issues in one or two areas. That info is documented and support is provided.

Mrs. Coats said she would like to see what the top 200 good teachers look like. She went on to say the top 200 should be used to model performance. Dr. Gepford said it is done a different scale.

Mrs. Kandrac asked the definition for effective teacher from August 2010 and what would happen if the teacher shows student growth but has no classroom discipline. Then Mrs. Kandrac asked Mrs. Lane if she was an educator. Mrs. Lane responded to Mrs. Kandrac's question about the location of a recent staff retreat. Mrs. Lane said the retreat in August was held at North Charleston City Hall.

Mr. Bobby said the proposed pilot model would be brought back to the Board before it is expanded to other schools.

At this time, Mr. Fraser suggested further discussion of Teacher Evaluation be postponed.

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

### **11.1: Upgrade Digital Reading Program on "myOn Reader"**

Mrs. Green moved, seconded by Mrs. Coats, approval of the upgrade to Capstone digital reading program "myOn Reader" to improve literacy. The funding sources are FY10 Media Modernization - \$59,000 and K-5 Instructional Materials \$60,000. The motion was approved 9-0.

Mrs. Connie Dopierela and Dr. Gepford spoke of piloting a paperless system that would track student's reading through digital learning. Ms. Dopierela spoke of cost savings since audio books are cheaper and Capstone has a large number of books students could access. The company monitors the books students read and measures their lexile growth. Spanish and special education students will have access to the reading program and MP3 files will be provided for students who do not have computers at home.

Mrs. Oplinger asked if it went through Middle/High School. Mrs. Dopierela said she has funds left which could be used for Middle Schools. She added that Capstone Company provides a lot of high interest low level books.

Mrs. Dopierela responded to a question from Mrs. Taylor on what factors are built in for teachers-stating she was not sure there is anything at this time. However, modifications are ongoing.

Mrs. Dopierela responded to Mrs. Moffly's question about annual cost stating that the annual cost is recurring. However, staff is looking at a multi-year contract to eliminate annual costs. She also said the cost goes down in succeeding years and the district gets a good discount.

### **11.2: Ashley River Creative Arts ES Maintenance Agreement and Right of Way Easement (Water)**

Mrs. Kandrac moved, seconded by Mrs. Green, approval of the Ashley River Creative Arts Elementary School and Charleston Water Systems Maintenance Agreement and Right-of-Way Easement, at no cost to the district. The motion was approved 9-0.

In response to Mrs. Coats question about the district's responsibility. Mr. Lewis said this relieves CCSD of the responsibility.

### **11.3: Buist Academy and James Simons ES Hazardous Material Abatement**

Mrs. Oplinger moved, seconded by Mrs. Kandrac, approval of the recommendation to award a contract to Neo Corporation for Hazardous Material Abatement for Buist Academy in the amount of \$180,000.00 and award a contract to Neo Corporation for Hazardous Material Abatement for Moran Environmental for James Simons

Elementary in the amount of \$114,000.00. The motion was approved 9-0.

#### **11.4: Rivers Campus Update**

Mr. Lewis presented the following update on the Rivers Campus to the Board. No action was taken.

Mr. Lewis said phase I contract was signed and awarded to M.B. Kahn. Nine mobiles will be left to support the academic program for the charter school and the auditorium will be left in-tact. He is not sure what sound system will be required for the auditorium. That would have to come with design program. An additional \$6-7 million is not available to do additional work. He spoke of pros and cons of a one level building. To open in 2012 is improbable because three months is spent to do additional work. Working with charter school to determine what the up-fit would look like.

Mr. Fraser asked if funds were available to solve this issue earlier than later. Mr. Lewis said Construction Managers are projecting a savings on programs they are currently working on. However, there is a laundry list of other projects. The work is very challenging and staff should invest money to investigate the issue so they don't promise more than what could be delivered.

Rev. Collins asked if more classrooms would be added. Mr. Lewis said there is not enough space in the building to accommodate the entire charter school. To preserve the auditorium, nine mobiles must remain to accommodate the charter school. Rev. Collins said he wasn't sure why they want more than what was originally promised. Mr. Lewis said staff is not making a recommendation, just presenting facts to the board.

Mrs. Kandrac said 60/40 was estimated. She said Math and Science did their own educational specs and asked who did specs for Low County Tech. Mr. Lewis said it was done by in-house staff. Also, Mr. Lewis said CCSD internal staff helped the Charter School principal compile specs because the charter school did not have a technical person. CCSD staff member Mr. Bob Olson helped them.

Mr. Ascue asked about cost over-runs. Mr. Lewis said there are contingencies in place. However, a building that old requires substantial work. He cautioned the Board about entering a project like this one. The Gym and Cafeteria work has already been done. Rev. Collins asked why both schools won't use the same cafeteria. Dr. McGinley said Low County Tech is a program. Therefore, Low County Tech students will have lunch at their home schools.

Mr. Fraser said the design should be to accommodate the students. Rev. Collins said while he respects Mr. Fraser's opinion, it would be too costly to not commit upfront. Mr. Lewis said if the Board wishes to pursue a master plan, they would have to do it up front. He also shared details for option 2 moves stating that the total space would be increased. Rev. Collins urged the Board to be careful with spending for charter schools and ensure fairness for all charter schools.

Mrs. Moffly said she was not sure why both are being housed in one school. Burke facility is almost vacant. She mentioned that a large amount (\$19 million) was just sitting in a contingency account. Mr. Bobby said the \$19 million is for the Sullivan's Island project. Mrs. Moffly said it wasn't wise to split the building because the charter school is doing so well. Mr. Fraser said no decision will be made until there is money. He said with limited funds available, it shouldn't be spent now only to have to make changes later. Mrs. Moffly asked staff to bring back to board details of what will happen at Burke.

Mrs. Coats asked staff if the Board had the flexibility of revising the Rivers plan later. Mr. Fraser suggested the Board direct staff to continue the plan with designs. Rev. Collins suggested the charter school was being unfair by asking for the entire building when they initially asked for 60%.

Mrs. Kandrac asked about the history of Burke High being a technical school. She went on to say folks like the idea of having a vocational program at Burke.

Mrs. Taylor suggested staff bring a recommendation to expand proposal accommodate Math and Science at Rivers. The motion was approved

### **11.5: 2009 Tax Anticipation Note Arbitrage**

Mrs. Coats, moved on behalf of Finance and Audit Committee, approval of the payment of \$50,489.08 for the arbitrage rebate of July 2009 Tax Anticipation Note Arbitrage. The motion was approved 9-0.

### **11.6: North Charleston Creative Arts ES**

Mrs. Coats moved, seconded by Mrs. Oplinger, approval of recommendation to allocate funding from the 2011 Capital Budget, originally identified as funds to support a portion of the Classroom Modernization project, in the amount of \$1,700,000 to support the construction and completion of the North Charleston Creative Arts Elementary School Phase I Mobile Campus. The motion was approved 6-3 (Collins, Kandrac and Moffly opposed). Rev. Collins said he was voting against the program, he did not support the way is done. Mrs. Kandrac said she didn't support putting kids in trailers.

Mrs. Kandrac asked when the Board voted on this project. Mr. Bobby responded the board authorized project two years ago. However he was not sure if a vote but intent was to open in August of this year. Construction Bond money to renovate the Berry campus and at some point replace building. Staff responded to questions from Rev. Collins regarding the wave the building plan was in, the urgency to open the school and other related questions. Mr. Bobby said Wave 4 or 5 (2015). Rev. Collins asked about the urgency. Staff responded that the school is in demand and it provides an opportunity to create a feeder program. Dr. McGinley said it was approved with the Zone Concept approval. North Charleston is the only zone without an arts-infused school. More seats are needed in North Charleston because schools at capacity. Rev. Collins said he learned more in the newspaper about the school and the three Board members who represent North Charleston were not involved with school plans, yet applications are being taken. Also he said his wife is on school improvement council but didn't know anything about it. Dr. McGinley said the Zone Concept was approved 1.5 years ago. The Board approved Qualified School Construction Project. When the Berry campus was pulled out, the Board discussed it again. District four Constituent Board controls the enrollment zone and determined where the school would be. It would be phased in with kindergarten and first grade and increased as years go long.

### **11.7: Early Retirement Incentive**

Mrs. Oplinger moved, seconded by Mrs. Green, approval of the recommendation approving the proposal to offer an Early Retirement Incentive for District Staff (classified, certified, and administrators) prior to the start of the 2011-2012 School Year. The motion was approved 8-1 (Kandrac opposed).

Mrs. Kandrac asked who was eligible for Early Retirement Incentive and expressed concerns about cuts and new hires.

### **11.8: Montessori Program at James Simons Elementary**

As requested by four members of the Board (Collins, Kandrac, Moffly, and Taylor), the Board discussed the proposal for a Montessori Program at James Simons Elementary.

Mrs. Taylor shared concerns about original plan. She expressed the danger of it being a Zone school if it becomes a Montessori School. Also, she said there is the possibility of them losing their status with the Charleston Neighborhood Promise Schools.

Mrs. Ruth Taylor, Associate Superintendent, and Ms. Lynn Owings, James Simons Principal, shared historical information dated back to Nov. 2008 regarding how the Montessori proposal came about. Also they said, although transportation was offered and parent link calls were made, parental attendance at scheduled meetings was low. Mrs. LaDene Conroy presented Montessori info at one of nine parent meetings held at the Dart Library. Another meeting is scheduled to discuss James Simons on April 7<sup>th</sup> at Burke – 6:30pm. Dr. McGinley said a recommendation should come from the Neighborhood Planning Committee after this meeting. Rev. Collins said while he likes the Montessori program, he was uncertain if students currently enrolled would remain at that school. Dr. McGinley said they would be given preference.



## **XII. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Mrs. Kandrak reminded Mr. Fraser that his recusal letter should be included with the January 24<sup>th</sup> minutes.
2. Mrs. Moffly requested the Board continue the discussion of Montessori at James Simons at a future board meeting after next scheduled meeting to discuss James Simons.
3. Mrs. Taylor thanked Dr Brenda Nelson and James Simons Principal, Lynn Owings, for working with Neighborhood Association Presidents on the Montessori program at James Simons Elementary.
4. Mrs. Kandrak thanked Mrs. Lane for the financial information on the Gala. She also requested additional information.

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 8:51 p.m. Mrs. Coats moved, seconded by Mrs. Oplinger, adjournment. The motion was approved by consensus.