

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charleston County School District was held on Monday, June 22, 2009 with the following members of the Board present: Chair - Mrs. Toya Hampton-Green, Vice Chair - Mr. Gregg Meyers, Mr. Chris Collins, Mr. Chris Fraser, Mrs. Ruth Jordan, Mrs. Elizabeth Kandrac, Mrs. Ann Oplinger via telephone from Maryland, Mr. Arthur Ravenel, Mr. Ray Toler and Dr. Nancy J. McGinley – Superintendent of Schools and Executive Secretary. Staff members Mr. Michael Bobby, Dr. Doug Gepford, Mrs. Audrey Lane, Mr. Bill Lewis, Dr. Brenda Nelson, Mr. John Emerson, and Mr. Elliott Smalley were also in attendance.

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

Chairperson Green called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Toler to convene into Executive Session to discuss agenda items listed below. The motion was unanimously approved.

Executive Session Agenda Items

- 1.1: Student Transfer Appeals
- 1.2: Legal Briefing – *John Emerson*
- 1.3: Appointment – Principal – North Charleston High
- 1.4: Appointment – Principal – James Island Elementary
- 1.5: New District 4 Stall High School – Project #5642 Change Order #7 for Site Lighting
- 1.6: Center of Arts Project #5643 – Change Order #9 for Hearing Impaired Addition
- 1.7: Legal Matter
- 1.8: Teacher Appeal Ratification

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

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 5:25 p.m. Mrs. Green called the meeting to order and led the group in a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. SPECIAL RECOGNITION

1. The Board recognized students from St. Andrews Middle who participated in the Odyssey of the Mind and Oratorical Competition sponsored by the state.
2. The Board recognized Behind the Scenes Award Winner, Mr. Chuck Christian, for sponsoring the printing of the Constitution.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

4.1: Superintendent’s Report

Dr. McGinley covered three key topics—the budget, the reconstitution of North Charleston High School and the swimming initiative. First she spoke of last year the district’s budget which was characterized as “The Perfect Storm.” The budget was increased by less than one percent overall, while inflation rose over three percent. This year the picture worsened. The district absorbed \$16 million in mid year cuts, with seven day furloughs for twelve month staff and two day furloughs for teachers. At the Board’s direction last June, the district launched a massive School Redesign Plan, positioning the district to do “more with less” while protecting the work of the classroom. Despite economic hardships, public education is a great investment that benefits the entire community. The role of steward of taxpayer’s dollars is taken very seriously. Every key indicator is improving overall (graduation rates; elementary, middle and high school test scores; college entrance exams; and suspension rates). Dr. McGinley asked the Board to approve the proposed budget to help finalize resources for the 2010 school year and allow staff to focus on accelerating improvement in two key areas—literacy and the achievement gap. These are the highest priority areas. Literacy improvement is believed to be the number one “lever” for closing the achievement gap and preparing all students for 21st Century success. Student can’t learn anything else unless they can read and write proficiently, and the goal is to have a system where race and income can no longer predict these skills. In addition to strengthening the literacy programs, the district is implementing new approaches (interventions like 3rd grade academies, Quick-Start programs, Voyager, and 6th and 9th-grade academies) designed to greatly reduce the percentage of below grade level readers and writers.

Regarding North Charleston High School, Dr. McGinley said recently the U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan spoke about “complete turnarounds.” Last week he wrote “In the area of turning around troubled schools, we’re still lacking the policy and political will to do the job right. We know that at least 5 percent of our schools are seriously underperforming. Too often, school officials have been content with changes that produce nominal progress...they have taken the path of least resistance. They haven’t made dramatic changes, such as replacing the school leadership and staff or closing and re-opening under new governance...” He said, “In Chicago, the most successful interventions were complete turnarounds. We move the adults out of the building kept the children there and brought in new adults. It was the best and fastest way to create a new school culture, one in which student achievement was the primary goal. All of the school’s decisions—the length of school day and year, the choice of curriculum, the discipline code—revolved around that goal.” His main point is for far too long, districts have not taken bold steps necessary to turn schools around. It’s a national message and call to districts everywhere if we are to prepare every student for success in today’s competitive economy. We can’t afford the path of least resistance anymore. We must be courageous and bold in our reforms.

In closing, Dr. McGinley said today she met with local parks and recreation swimming partners to discuss ways to better teach kindergartners to swim. Too many students have tragically drowned over the years including an elementary student earlier this month. The district plays a role as lead partner in solving this problem. She looks forward to collaborating with them on this important initiative.

V. VISITORS, PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

5.1: Visitors, Public Communications

Mr. Meyers called the two visitors, whose topics were different from the other twenty one listed, first. Then he announced publicly that the Board discussed Pattison Academy in Executive Session and since there was no motion, that indicate that the board is content with allowing the decision of the state, in regards to the charter school, to stand. At that point, he called on the other twenty-one visitors listed. Some of them decided not to address the board again or simply stood up to thank the board.

1. Ms. Jonetta Gregory, President of the South Carolina Education Association, said she looks forward to a productive 2010 school year.
2. Mr. Ron Jones, member of the Charleston Metro Chamber Policy Committee, addressed the Board regarding the 2010 budget. Mr. Jones urged the Board to allow progress to continue. He spoke of the shift of sales tax (Act 388) and the burden it is for the business community and education. He urged the Board to support a millage increase.
3. Ms. Linda McRae, Ms. Sissi Langford, Mr. Steve Kiernan, Ms. Pam Sloat, Mr. Mark Sloat, Ms. Julia Schrecker, Mr. Colin Flynn DiResta, Ms. Irene Singleton, Dr. W. John Langley, Mr. Randy Dishroon, Ms. Kristi Young, Mr. Larry Schrecker, Ms. Loan Cooper, Ms. K. Gaillard, Ms. Beth Smoak, Ms. Kisha Harvey, Ms. Christina Stewart, Ms. Betsy Ellingson, Mr. Maurice Johnson, and Mr. William Stewart addressed the Board in support of the charter application for Pattison Academy.

XI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/EXECUTIVE SESSION AGENDA ITEM

6.1: Open and Executive Session Minutes of May 26, 2009

Mr. Toler motioned, seconded by Mr. Collins approval of the Open and Executive Session minutes of June 8, 2009. The vote was 9-0.

6.2: Motions of Executive Session of June 8, 2009

The Board approved the following motions that were made in Executive Session on June 8, 2009:

- 1.1: Student Transfer Appeals – The board approved three student transfer appeals. The motion was approved 9-0.
- 1.2: Legal Briefing – The Board received a legal briefing in Executive Session. No action was taken.
- 1.3: Appointment – Principal – North Charleston High – The Board approved a motion to appoint Mrs. Juanita Middleton to the position of principal at North Charleston High. The motion was approved with a 6-3 vote (Collins, Kandrac and Ravenel opposed).

- 1.4: Appointment – Principal – James Island Elementary – The Board approved a motion to appoint Mr. Arthur Holmes to the position of principal at James Island Elementary. The motion was approved 9-0.
- 1.5: New District 4 Stall High School – Project #5642 Change Order #7 for Site Lighting – The Board approved the recommendation for M.B. Kahn Construction Company for Change Order #7 the site lighting at the Center of Academics School of the Arts Project #5643. The funding source is Capital Funds in the amount of \$261,063. The motion was approved 9-0.
- 1.6: Center of Arts Project #5643 – Change Order #9 for Hearing Impaired Addition – The Board approved the recommendation for M.B. Kahn Construction Company for Change Order #9 for the hearing impaired addition. The funding source is Capital Funds in the amount of \$524,954.00. The motion was approved 9-0.
- 1.7: Legal Matter – The Board approved a motion authorizing General Counsel to resolve construction litigation. The motion was approved 9-0.
- 1.8: Teacher Appeal Ratification – This item was pulled from the agenda. No action was taken.

6.3: Financial Minutes of June 8, 2009

Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Toler approval of the financial minutes for June 8, 2009. The motion was approved 9-0.

VII: MANAGEMENT REPORT

7.1: Budget Update

Mr. Michael Bobby, Chief Financial Officer presented a budget update reiterating the FY2010 budget goals then highlighting the two General Operating Fund options.

Option One budget totals **\$318,322,883**. This amount includes a reduced amount of **(\$11,582,087)**.

Option I budget details are shown below:

**CHARLESTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
GENERAL OPERATING FUND PRELIMINARY BUDGET**

Balancing the budget

	FY2009 Budget	FY2010 Projected
1 TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES	\$323,469,577	\$318,322,883
2 TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES	\$323,469,577	\$329,904,970
3 Variance for Revenues & Expenditures	\$0	(\$11,582,087)

REDUCTIONS

Refined estimates and updated source data

4 Staff funding shifts/reductions	1,257,087
5 Converted charter school not opening	2,400,000
6 Fringe benefits	800,000
7 Property insurance adjustment	400,000
8 GOF & IDEA transfers	1,700,000

Contract days and furloughs

9 Furloughs - all staff (6 days 12-mo., 3 days all others)	3,000,000
10 Contract length reductions	1,250,000
11 Retirees salaries	500,000

New reductions

12 5% reduction to supply accounts	275,000
13 Additional furloughs - all staff (4 days 12-mo., 2 days all others)	0
14 Magnet transportation	0

TOTAL REDUCTIONS

\$11,582,087

FY2010 Projected Expenditure Budget

\$318,322,883

on page 519. However, it wasn't updated on page 8 of the revised budget. He went on to say that the key is after collection rate and reduction of TIFF, the amount changes. The motion to change the amount of page 8 mentioned earlier was approved 9-0.

Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mrs. Oplinger to adopt the budget recommended by staff with three qualifications:

1. During fy 2020, the Superintendent shall identify expenditures equivalent to not less than 10% General Operating Fund the Superintendent deems least effective expenditures and recommend to the Board ways to improve effectiveness on ways to close and consolidate schools.
2. The Board direct policy changes to improve Literacy standards, and
3. Add one mill dedicated to Fund Balance.

The motion failed 5-4 (Collins, Jordan, Kandrac, Ravenel and Toler opposed). Mr. Collins suggested the motion be amended to delete "ways to close and consolidate schools." However, no one seconded the amendment.

Mrs. Jordan motioned, seconded by Mr. Ravenel approval the General Operating Fund budget with no tax increase, minus line #9 on page #32 of the proposed budget (teacher furloughs). District staff was also directed to find \$3 million to cover the shortfall. Mr. Ravenel requested the motion be amended to include the other four parts of the budget listed below. Mrs. Jordan accepted the amendment. The motion was approved 5-4 (Fraser, Green, Meyers and Oplinger opposed).

FY2010 budget

Approved FY2010 Budget - Note: (a) with the stipulation that furloughs be added back in and staff find ways to cover the \$3M in furloughs

General Operating - \$318,322,883.00

Special Revenue - \$69,083,038.00

Food Service - \$19,957,377.00

EIA - \$28,707,343.00

Debt Service - \$75,774,145.00

Capital Projects - \$176,460,275.00

9.4: Tax Anticipation Note Resolution – *A recommendation to approve the Resolution authorizing the issuance of a Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) in the amount not to exceed \$66.8 million. Mr. Bobby stated that the following amounts were to be used to fill in the blanks shown in Section 1a \$318,322,383 and Resolution Section 1b \$180,288,642 on the proposed Resolution.* Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation. The motion was approved 8-0.

9.5: Approval of Administrative Contracts for 2009-2010 - *A recommendation to approve administrative personnel contracts for the 2009-2010 school year.* Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Fraser approval of administrative contracts for 2009-2010. The motion was approved 9-0.

9.6: Approval of Purchase of Supplemental Materials - *A recommendation to approve the purchase of mathematics manipulative and game kits to accompany Everyday Mathematics for k-6th grades.* Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jordan approval of the recommendation to purchase mathematics manipulative and game kits to accompany the Everyday Mathematics (K-6) text series using Title II funds in the amount of \$657,700. The motion was approved 8-0.

9.7: Real Estate Matters - *A recommendation to approve staff's recommendations regarding future use of district campuses and sale of stranded properties.* Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers to approve the recommendations from staff regarding the dispositions of school campuses and sale of the most marketable stranded properties except Wando South. However, after discussion, Mr. Fraser withdrew the motion and suggested the Board vote on each property individually.

CCSD District Properties

District	Campus	Status	Proposal
1	McClellenville MS	Close 6/09	1) Lease 2) Future Lincoln HS
2	Woodland Hall	Vacant	Lease
2	Whitesides ES	Close 1/10	1) Swing Space 2) Sell to ToMP
2	Wando South	Swing Space	1) MPA/MMS move out 6/09 2) Laing move in 6/09
3	Baxter Patrick	Vacant	1) Demolish
4	Bethune	CTA Close 6/09	1) Sell
4	AMHS	AMHS move 6/10	1)Swing 2) Sell to Clemson
4	Berry Campus	SOA	1) Vacant 1/10 2) Potential campus for Montessori
4	McNair	Six Grade Academy	Swing Space
4	Brentwood	Close 6/09	1) Future Garrett Jr. Academy of Technology
9	None		
10	None		
20	Fraser	Close 6/09	Swing Campus
20	Archer	Sanders-Clyde	Swing Campus
23	E.B. Ellington	Vacant 6/09	Lease to Ravenel
23	Schroder	Vacant 6/09	1) Keep gym 2) Lease

- A. McClellanville Middle – Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation to lease the property and use for the future Lincoln High. The motion was approved 8-0.
- B. Woodland Hall – Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation to lease the property. The motion was approved 8-0.
- C. Whitesides ES - Mr. Toler motioned, seconded by Mrs. Kandrak not to sell the property. The motion was approved 8-0.
- D. Wando South – Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mrs. Kandrak approval of the recommendation not to sell the property. The motion was approved 8-0.
- E. Baxter Patrick – Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Toler approval of the recommendation to demolish the property. The motion was approved 8-0.
- F. Bethune – Mr. Collins motioned, seconded by Mrs. Kandrak to retain property and lease. The motion failed 1-7 (Mr. Collins supported the motion). Mrs. Jordan offered a second motion which was seconded by Mr. Meyers to sell the property. The motion was approved 8-0.
- G. AMHS – Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Fraser approval of the recommendation from staff. The motion was approved 7-1 (Toler opposed).
- H. Berry Campus – Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation from staff. The motion was approved 8-0.
- I. McNair – Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers to use as swing space. The motion was approved 8-0.
- J. Brentwood – Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Toler approval of the recommendation from staff. The motion was approved 8-0.
- K. Fraser – Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jordan approval of the recommendation from staff. The motion was approved 8-0.
- L. Archer – Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jordan approval of the recommendation from staff. The motion was approved 8-0.
- M. E.B. Ellington – Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Fraser approval of the recommendation from staff. The motion was approved 8-0.
- N. Schroder – Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Fraser approval of the recommendation from staff. The motion was approved 8-0.

CCSD Stranded Properties

Priority	Property	Status	District	Proposal
1	Laing Campus	Close 7/09	2	Sell FY10
2	Wando South	Available	2	Sell FY10
3	District 2 Office	Close 1/10	2	Sell FY10
4	District 4 Office	Close 1/10	4	Sell FY10
5	Riverland Terrace	Available	3	Trade to City of Charleston
6	Porcher	Leased	1	Demo & land bank
7	Baxter Patrick	Leased	3	Demo & land bank
8	Marlowe Drive	Available	20	Negotiate with City of Charleston
9	Red Top	Available	10	Sell FY 11

- A. Laing Campus – Mrs. Jordan reminded the Board that the Board had already approved the proposal for the Laing campus.
- B. Wando South, Whipple and Mathis Ferry Mr. Fraser, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation not to sell the property at this time. The motion was approved 8-0.
- C. District 2 Office Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation from staff. The motion was approved 7-2 (Kandrac and Toler opposed).
- D. District 4 Office – Mr. Collins motioned, seconded by Mr. Toler the property not be sold at this time. The motion failed 4-4 (Fraser, Green, Jordan and Meyers opposed).
- E. Riverland Terrace - Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation from staff. The motion was approved 8-0.
- F. Porcher – Mr. Toler motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation from staff. The motion was approved 8-0.
- G. Baxter Patrick - Mr. Toler motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation from staff. The motion was approved 8-0.
- H. Marlowe Drive – Mrs. Jordan reminded the group that this recommendation was approved last year during approval of the budget.
- I. Red Top – Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jordan approval of the recommendation from staff. The motion was approved 8-0.

9.8: Camp Hope - *A recommendation to approve an agreement to support the operation of Camp Hope. The monthly utilities cost to operate Fraser is \$4,900. Since Camp Hope will not require full access, an estimated cost for electricity for Camp Hope is \$1,500 per month. In addition, CCSD is required to keep the fire system at UL standards which will cost \$2,250. The total estimated cost CCSD will be responsible for is \$5,250. The funding source is General Operating Funds. Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Fraser approval of the recommendation to approve the agreement for Camp Hope. The motion was approved 9-0.*

9.9: Electrical Service Provision to New Ellington Elementary School - *A recommendation allowing SCE&G to provide services to the new Ellington Elementary School. The cost is included and available in the 2009 Building Program. Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Fraser approval of the recommendation for SCE&G to provide electrical service to the Ellington campus. The motion was approved 9-0.*

9.10:Improvements to the Parking Lot at Schroder Middle - *A recommendation to approve a bid for improvements to the Schroder Middle School parking lot. The funding source is Capital Funds in the amount of \$56,800. Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Toler approval of the bid for improvements to the parking lot at Schroder Middle. The motion was approved 8-0.*

9.11:Changes in Personal Business Days/Professional Staff Temporary Leave - *A recommendation to approve changes in personal business days and professional staff temporary leave days.* Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Fraser approval of the recommendation for changes in personal days and professional staff and temporary leave days. The motion was approved 9-0.

9.12:Reallocation of FY2009 and 2009 Fixed Cost of Operations Program Contingency Funds – *A recommendation to reallocate the FY2009 and FY2009 Fixed Cost of Operations Contingency Funds. The funding source is FY2008and FY2009 Fixed Cost of Operation bond funds. The funding source is Capital Funds and amounts are listed below.*

Project 5598 - Redesign & Programmatic changes - \$456,200.00

Project 9992 - FY09 Fixed Cost of Ownership – Program Contingency - \$(387,200.00)

Project 9993 - FY08 Fixed Cost of Ownership – Program Contingency - \$(69,000.00)

Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Fraser approval of the reallocation of FY2009 and 2009 Fixed Cost of Operations Program Contingency Funds. The motion was approved 9-0.

9.13:North Charleston High – School Improvement Council and Curriculum (Collins, Green, Kandrach and Jordan

The Board discussed a request from the North Charleston High School Improvement Council and the Curriculum used at the school. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 9:40 p.m. Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jordan to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by consensus.

Approved:

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