

**September 13, 2010**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charleston County School District was held on Monday, September 13, 2010 with the following members of the Board present: Chair – Mrs. Ruth Jordan, Vice Chair - Mr. Ray Toler, Rev. Chris Collins, Mr. Chris Fraser, Mrs. Elizabeth Kandrac, Mr. Gregg Meyers, Mr. Arthur Ravenel and Dr. Nancy J. McGinley – Superintendent of Schools and Executive Secretary. Mrs. Toya Hampton-Green and Mrs. Ann Oplinger were absent. Staff members Mr. Michael Bobby, Mr. John Emerson, Dr. Doug Gepford, Mrs. Audrey Lane, Mr. Bill Lewis, Dr. Brenda Nelson and Mr. Elliot Smalley were also in attendance.

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

Vice Chair – Mr. Ray Toler called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers, 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: Superintendent's Evaluation
- 1.3: Legal Briefing

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

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 5:17 p.m. Board Chair – Mrs. Jordan called the meeting to order. Rev. Willie Hill - Pastor of New Israel Reformed Episcopal Church offered the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **III. SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

### **3.1: Title I Distinguished School Award**

Interim Principal Abigail Woods and former principal, Ms. Marguerite Middleton of Minnie Hughes Elementary were recognized for receiving the National Distinguished Title I School Award - third place.

### **3.2: SCSBA Recognitions**

Superintendent, Dr. Nancy McGinley presented a certificate and pin to Mrs. Ruth Jordan for reaching level four of the South Carolina School Boards Association Boardmanship Institute. Level six is the highest level of recognition. Mrs. Toya Green, who was absent, will also receive a certificate and pin for her level three achievement.

## **IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **4.1: Superintendent's Report**

Dr. McGinley shared the following:

- Last week, Pinckney Elementary won a National Blue Ribbon School award, given by the U.S. Department of Education to only 300 schools nationally-and only five in our state. Blue Ribbon Schools are models of excellence for the entire country, and Pinckney, which has always earned an "Excellent" rating on its report card, is our own "best practice" of teaching and learning. Principal Sheppard will be recognized next month in Washington, D.C. Mrs. Sheppard and her faculty will also be brought to a future meeting for the Board to officially recognize them.
- The 10<sup>th</sup> day enrollment confirmed 43,796 students, which marked our third straight year of enrollment increases. We have 854 more students than we had last year, which marks our highest increase in over twelve years. Many factors influence enrollment, but we also see this as a very positive sign that we're going in the right direction. Dr. McGinley thanked all employees for helping to prepare schools for success this year. She also said Ken Burger did a

great job of publicly honoring the tireless contributions of our facility services staff in a news article last week titled "Blue Shirts Dig In, Get Work Done".

- All across the district people are working hard on behalf of children. Sometimes they work too hard. CCSD has officially launched the Employee Wellness Initiative staff has been talking about. Schools are now developing School Wellness Committees to promote the health and well-being of their faculties using strategies that they will create and lead themselves. The Committees-designed to address multiple components of wellness-will kick off in October, when each school will dedicate a faculty meeting to the topic. Ultimately, this is about valuing our staff and reaching out to them-together with partners from the health community-to create and promote a culture of wellness that is employee focused, not employer focused.
- CCSD's S.A.T. and Advanced Placement scores were released today. Similar to the state and country this year, we experienced a dip in our S.A.T. scores, and that's something we're going to look into. The district wants these scores to increase. The district also had a slight decrease in the percentage of students scoring a "3 or higher" on the AP exam, but a record number of exams were taken. While staff is pleased about increased participation and access, they want our scores to go up with participation in the coming years, so they will work on moving this forward.
- Dr. McGinley is visiting two schools each week to meet with faculties, observe classrooms, and listen to teachers' concerns. She enjoys the chance to get up close and personal with teachers and students.
- Last week while visiting C.C. Blaney and Mitchell elementary schools, staff talked a lot about the district's highest strategic priority, "Effective Teaching and Leadership." Information on teacher effectiveness was presented at a board workshop last school year, and staff recently did a lot of planning and organizing around the "Teacher Development Cycle." The idea here is to look comprehensively at a teacher effectiveness system that addresses not just evaluation and compensation, but recruitment, on-boarding, development, and other key factors. Staff wants to take the time to do this WITH teachers, not TO them. A district-wide e-mail was sent to teachers about this last week. In closing, Dr. McGinley said she looks forward to updating the Board on forward progress in this high-priority area.

At this time, Mrs. Kandrac suggested the Superintendent share good news about the district on radio stations, since that is a part of her evaluation. In response to Mrs. Kandrac's suggestion, Dr. McGinley said she was recently on the Savage Report and Talk Back. In addition, other CCSD staff members have also appeared on talk shows.

## **V. VISITORS, PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

### **5.1: Visitors, Public Communications**

There were no visitors signed up to address the Board at this meeting.

## **VI. APPROVAL OF OPEN SESSION BOARD MINUTES**

### **6.1: Approval of Open Session Minutes of August 23, 2010**

Mr. Toler motioned, seconded by Rev. Collins, approval of Open Session Minutes of August 23, 2010. The motion was approved 7-0.

### **6.2: Motions of Executive Session of September 13, 2010**

The Board approved the following motions that were made in Executive Session:

**1.1: Student Transfer Appeals** – The Board approved student transfer appeals B, C, & D; student transfer A was approved under the No Child Left Behind criteria. The motion was approved 7-0.

**1.2: Superintendent's Evaluation** - The Board discussed the Superintendent's Evaluation in Executive Session and approved a motion to adopt the Superintendent's Evaluation Instrument. The motion was approved 6-1 (Kandrac opposed).

**1.3: Legal Briefing** – Mrs. Jordan announced that the Board received a Legal Briefing in Executive Session. No action was taken.

### **6.3: Financial Minutes of August 23, 2010**

Mr. Toler motioned, seconded by Rev. Collins, approval of the financial minutes of August 23, 2010. The motion was approved 7-0.

## **VII: MANAGEMENT REPORT**

### **7.1: Sole Source and Emergency Procurement Report**

The Board received the Sole Source and Emergency Procurement Report as information. Mrs. Kandrac suggested staff review documents she brought from conferences she attended to find information on newer products on the market and seek better bargains. Mr. Frederick Feil, responded to several procurement questions. In response to a question from Mrs. Jordan regarding Sole Source for a tree cutting service, Mr. Feil said that the Town of Mt. Pleasant and City of Charleston have the responsibility of identifying tree cutting service for Urban Foresters. Mrs. Jordan expressed concerns about the large money spent without bids. She requested staff secure something in writing from both the City of Mt. Pleasant and the City of Charleston that confirms Urban Foresters' agreement. Mrs. Kandrac questioned the funding source for \$10,000 spent to move Mt. Pleasant Academy. Mr. Lewis said two schools were moved during the holiday. Mr. Bobby said he would respond to Mrs. Kandrac's question at a future meeting.

### **7.2: SWMBE 2010 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Update**

The Board received the SWMBE 2010 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Update as information. Mr. Bobby highlighted page 7.2-2 indicating the key statistics could be found there. He said the district was well ahead of where it was in 2009. He also said that while disaggregated info was not available to show if race of women owned businesses, the criteria could be adjusted to address that in the future. Mrs. Jordan suggested it was necessary to have the race breakdown for the next quarterly report.

## **VIII: CHARLESTON ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE UPDATE**

### **8.1: Adult Education Update**

Mrs. Susan Friedrich presented the following information on Adult Education

#### **Program Services**

- **High School Diploma / Exit Exam Remediation**
  - This program is offered to students who wish to obtain a high school diploma. Students must meet the same graduation requirements as a student who graduates from a high school in South Carolina.
- **GED Preparation**
  - This high school equivalency diploma program is based on the GED Tests, a battery of assessments in four core academic areas: Language Arts (reading and writing), Social Studies, Science, and Mathematics.
- **Adult Basic Education**
  - This program serves adults who function below the 8th grade in reading and mathematics.
- **Church and Community Collaborative Initiatives**
  - This program partners with faith-based and community organizations. For on-site service, Adult Education provides GED Preparation, ESL instruction, and a WorkKeys Career Readiness Certificate Program.
- **WorkKeys Career Readiness Program**
  - The Work Keys Career Readiness Program® provides instructional and assessment services to adult learners needing employability skill development for the purpose of job placement.

The Career Readiness Certificate Program utilizes the Worldwide Interactive Network (WIN) Curriculum in preparing participants for the Work Keys assessments.

- **English Literacy**
  - This program is designed to provide English instruction for those adults who speak a native language other than English or who have difficulty speaking, reading, writing, or understanding the English language.

**District Goals**

1. Elevate Achievement Overall
2. Close the Achievement Gap Between Groups
3. Increase High School Graduation Rates

**2009-2010 Charleston County Adult Education Performance**

	Total Students	Number Completed Level
ABE & ESL Total	1,584	893

In closing, Mrs. Friedrich said, CCSD will continue to

- Meet and exceed state and federal performance measures
- Reduce CCSD's potential dropout numbers
- Generate significant numbers of high school diploma graduates and GED recipients
- Provide quality training and educational programs to businesses, industry, and community-based organizations

**IX. POTENTIAL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**9.1: Board Approval – Second Reading – Board Policies**

- A. ECAA – Video Cameras in Classrooms, Hallways, School Buses and Other District Property
- B. GBI – Employee Participation in Political Activities
- C. JFAB – Nonresident Students - **Pulled**

*A recommendation to approve the second reading of Board Policies Listed above.* – On behalf of the Policy Committee, Mrs. Jordan moved approval of the second reading of the two policies listed below. Please also see votes below. Board Policy JFAB – Nonresident Students was pulled. Therefore, no action was taken.

- ECAA – Video Cameras in Classrooms, Hallways, School Buses and Other District Property - Approved 7-0.
- GBI – Employee Participation in Political Activities – Approved 6-1 (Kandrac opposed).

**9.2: Board Approval – First Reading – Board Policies**

- A. JICFAA – Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying - **Pulled**
- B. GBEBD – Acceptable Use of Technology – Approved 6-1 (Kandrac opposed).

On Behalf of the Policy Committee, Mrs. Jordan moved approval of the first reading of board policy GBEBD – Acceptable Use of Technology. The motion was approved 6-1 (Kandrac opposed).

*Note: Board Policy JICFAA was pulled from the agenda. Therefore, no action was taken.*

**9.3: Home School Applications** – *A recommendation to approve the home school applications.* Mr. Meyers moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, approval of home school applications. The motion was approved 7-0.

**9.4: Purchase of Fountas & Pinnel Leveled Literacy Intervention Program** – *A recommendation to purchase Fountas & Pinnel Leveled Intervention Kits and diagnostic assessments for 32 elementary schools to use for First Grade Academy Students. The funding source is K-5 professional development*

*funds. The total amount of this purchase is \$89,456.40. – Mr. Meyers moved, seconded Mr. Fraser, approval of the Fountas & Pinnel Leveled Literacy Intervention Program purchase. The motion was approved 7-0.*

**9.5: CCSD Funding for Wings** – *A recommendation to approve the funding request for Wings. The funding source is K-5 funds. The total amount is \$90,000. Mr. Meyers moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, approval of the CCSD Funding for Wings. The motion was approved 7-0.*

**9.6: 2010 – 2011 School Resource Officer Program Agreements** – *A recommendation to approve the 2010-2011 School Resource Officer Program Agreements. The funding source is 2010-2011 GOF funds for Security and Emergency Preparedness. A total amount is 414,000.00 – Rev. Collins moved, seconded by Mr. Meyers, approval of the 2010-2011 School Resource Officer Program Agreements. The motion was approved 7-0.*

**9.7: Approval of Easement Authorization** – *A recommendation to authorize the Superintendent or designee to execute agreements, contracts, deeds and/or memorandum of understanding regarding easements. – Mr. Meyers moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, approval of the recommendation giving the Superintendent or designee authorization to execute agreements, contracts, deeds and/or memorandum of understanding regarding easements. The motion was approved 7-0.*

**9.8: Memorandum of Agreement with Town of Mt. Pleasant regarding a Storm Water Pond** – *A recommendation to approve the MOA with the Town of Mount Pleasant regarding a Storm Water Pond, at no cost to the district. – Mr. Ravenel moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, approval of the MOA with the Town of Mt. Pleasant regarding a Storm Water Pond. The motion was approved 7-0.*

**9.9: Forensic Audit**– *A follow up on an earlier discussion which took place on August 23, 2010. - Mrs. Kandrac led the discussion and moved the Board order an independent Forensic Audit be conducted by an outside entity. However, since no one seconded the motion, it failed. Mrs. Jordan suggested the Board direct the Superintendent to have staff investigate the pros and cons of a Forensic Audit and the next step. During discussion about the audit, Rev. Collins said he inquired and learned that a Forensic Audit is designed for criminal investigations. However, it could result in something good. Mr. Meyers requested the objectives should be clarified. He suggested a copy of the KPMG Report which was done years ago be made available to help sharpen the meaning of the audit. Mr. Fraser said Forensic Audits are fairly expensive because of all the details involved. Mrs. Kandrac said because the district is asking for a tax increase, someone should first look at objective elimination of waste. Mrs. Jordan directed Mr. Bobby to bring the KPMG information back to the Board. Mrs. Kandrac suggested it be brought back by September 27<sup>th</sup>.*

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 6:55 p.m. Mr. Meyers moved, seconded by Rev. Collins to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by consensus.

Approved:

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