

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charleston County School District was held on Monday, December 14, 2009 with the following members of the Board present: Chair – Mrs. Ruth Jordan, Vice Chair - Mr. Ray Toler, Rev. Chris Collins, Mr. Chris Fraser, Mrs. Toya Hampton-Green Mrs. Elizabeth Kandrac, Mr. Gregg Meyers, Mrs. Ann Oplinger, Mr. Arthur Ravenel 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.

Vice Chair – Mr. Ray Toler called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Fraser to convene into Executive Session to discuss agenda items listed below. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### **Executive Session Agenda Items**

- 1.1: Personnel Matter
- 1.2: Student Expulsion Appeals
- 1.3: Carpet Tile Pilot Program
- 1.4: CCSD/City of North Charleston Land Swap for the New Chicora ES
- 1.5: Legal Matters
- 1.6: Contractual Matter

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

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 5:35 p.m. Chairperson – Mrs. Jordan 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: 2009 State Board of Education Volunteer Awards** - The Board recognized a St. Andrews School of Math and Science School volunteer for being the recipient of the South Carolina State Board of Education Volunteer Award. A volunteer from Frierson Elementary will be recognized at a future meeting.

#### **IV. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

##### **4.1: Superintendent’s Report**

Dr. McGinley shared the following:

- 2009 has been a year of improvement and growth. Dr. McGinley expressed appreciation for the hard work and partnership of Board Members, students, parents, employees, community partners, and volunteers.
- Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> marked the sixth annual “Principal for a Day” event. Business and community leaders were again matched up with school principals for a full day of job shadowing. Principal for the Day is an ongoing strategy which builds and strengthens enduring connections that support schools throughout the year.
- The final Town Hall event at Baptist Hill for Constituent District 23 was rewarding and like the other Town Hall sessions provided the district with constructive feedback from parents and community members that will allow the district to improve and help students thrive.
- Invaluable feedback was received last week when the Teacher Roundtable convened for a final meeting. New representatives will take rein in January.
- The district’s first quarterly video message was sent out last week with a message to teachers. This is part of the District’s plan to continue to work on maintaining an open dialogue with staff members.
- Academic Magnet High School was congratulated for being named by U.S. News and World Report as the best magnet high school in the country. School of the Arts was congratulated for being recognized with Silver Status and Garrett Academy of Technology was congratulated for earning Bronze status.
- In closing, Dr. McGinley said she looks forward to witnessing the exciting achievements that all schools and programs in Charleston County can make in 2010 as the District continue to address challenges and work towards ensuring a world-class education for every student.

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

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

No visitors addressed the Board at this meeting.

## **XI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/EXECUTIVE SESSION AGENDA ITEM**

### **6.1: Open and Executive Session Minutes of November 23, 2009**

Mr. Collins motioned, seconded by Mr. Fraser approval of the Open and Executive Session minutes of November 23, 2009. The motion was approved 9-0.

### **6.2: Motions of Executive Session of December 14 2009**

The Board approved the following motions that were made in Executive Session on December 14, 2009:

1.1: Personnel Matter – The Board discussed a Personnel Matter in Executive Session. No action was taken.

#### **1.2: Student Expulsion Appeals**

- A. The Board approved a motion to overturn the Moultrie Constituent Board’s decision for a Cario Middle School student as follows: 1) permit the student to enroll in a Virtual School, 2) prohibit the student from entering Cario Middle School or any CCSD school property for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year. 3) In addition, student must successfully complete a CCSD approved drug program and must apply to his home school for admittance next school year. The motion was approved 9-0.
- B. The Board agreed to hear two student appeals on Monday, December 21, 2009.

**1.3: Carpet Tile Pilot Program** – The Board approved a pilot program to install carpet tiles in the academic classrooms at Mount Pleasant Academy to test and evaluate CCSD migrating to using carpet tiles in elementary classrooms in any future elementary school in the next building program. The cost to the district is \$70,000.00. The funding source is Capital Funds. The motion was approved 8-1 (Kandrac opposed).

**1.4: CCSD/City of North Charleston Land Swap for the New Chicora Elementary School**– The Board approved the district entering into a formal agreement with the City of North Charleston to transfer the current Chicora campus for land that the city currently owns and will purchase to build the new Chicora Elementary School adjacent to the Military Magnet Academy campus. The motion was approved 9-0.

**1.5: Legal Matters** – The Board approved a proposed Financial Settlement Template. The motion was approved 9-0.

**1.6: Contractual Matter** – The Board approved a recommendation authorizing the Superintendent to approve contracts negotiated with ADC, Collins Engineering and Davis and Floyd to perform the seismic analyses of 6-District 20 schools. The cost to the district is \$998,463.00. The funding source is Capital Funds. The motion was approved 9-0.

### **6.3: Financial Minutes of November 23, 2009**

Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Toler approval of the financial minutes of November 23, 2009. The motion was approved 9-0.

\*\*\*

## **VII: MANAGEMENT REPORT**

### **7.1: FY 2008-2009 Financial Audit**

Mr. Bruce Illsley, a CPA with Greene Finney and Horton presented findings from the independent audit that was conducted by his firm. The district received an “Unqualified Opinion”. Mr. Illsley and Dr. McGinley commended Mr. Bobby and the Finance Staff on the outcome of the audit.

### **7.2: CCSD Property Management Update**

Mr. Troy Williams announced that the CCSD Property Management Update has been posted on the district's website.

### **IX. POTENTIAL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**9.1: Approval of SRO Memorandums of Understanding** – *After approval of the SRO Memorandums of Understanding on November 23, 2009, the Board requested the item be re-visited by the Board on December 14, 2009.*

Mr. Collins led the discussion on Memorandums of Understanding for School Resource Officers. He expressed concerns about how SROs at various campuses handle things differently. Mr. Emerson informed the Board that the memorandum requested by the Board at the November 23, 2009 meeting regarding School Resource Officer Responsibilities is included in the agenda packet. Mr. Collins suggested the memo be revised to include SC Statute 63-19-810. He said SROs should follow the law as it relates to releasing students to the custody of their parents, unless the situation involves violence. No action was taken.

**9.2: Board Policies – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – JICG – Tobacco Free Schools and ILD – Education Surveys and Research** – *A recommendation to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of Board Policies listed above.*

Mrs. Oplinger motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation to approve the second reading of Board Policies ICG – Tobacco Free Schools and ILD – Education Surveys and Research. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.3: Board Policies – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading** – A) BBA – School Board Powers and Duties & B) Literacy Requirements and Intervention Policy. *A recommendation to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Board Policies listed above.*

A. BBA – School Board Powers and Duties: Mr. Meyers responded to Mrs. Kandrac concerns with the Superintendent being informed of Board member school visits. Mr. Meyers said it addressed things that happened in the past. I.e., Individual board members gave directives to staff. Therefore, the Superintendent should be informed. The Board's role is to set and enforce rules. After further discussion, Chairperson Jordan suggested the word "promptly" be removed from the policy. Mr. Collins and Mr. Ravenel agreed with staff making a courtesy call notifying the Superintendent of Board member school visits. **Mrs. Oplinger motioned, seconded by Mr. Fraser approval of the first reading of Board policy BBA – School Board Powers and Duties. The motion was approved 8-1 (Kandrac opposed).**

B. Literacy Requirements and Intervention Policy - Dr. McGinley presented information on the Literacy Policy presented earlier to the Policy Committee which requires the Superintendent to make reports to the Board on Literacy. In spring 2010 Gateway #1 is for students to start on grade level for reading or go into an accelerated Reading Pathway during the summer. If they catch up during the summer, they go to the first grade. If not, they continue to stay in the program to catch up and are required to attend a summer program. If they catch up, they may re-enter at the beginning of the year or mid semester. Literacy support will be provided at the primary level. If a parent refuses their child's participate in the Accelerated Literacy Pathway, the child will be retained. It was determined that the policy would make it mandatory for students who have problems with reading to attend a Reading Academy. Also, it was determined that the policy would be revised to read "shall not" instead of "may not" on page 9.3B. During discussion about funding, Mr. Collins asked how this could be funded after stimulus funds run out. Dr. McGinley said funding is always an issue. However, it could be covered with ongoing Title Funds and Stimulus Funds. IDEA and General Operating Funds are also needed. Furthermore, she said it's hard to correct the Reading problem in high schools. Therefore, funds will be shifted to the lower level. Dr. Gepford shared information on the cost for the upcoming year. Mr. Ravenel said funding this effort could prompt a tax increase. Mrs. Jordan said she worked on the Literacy Policy for a year because she believes in literacy for all students and remediation costs more money. She also added that the Literacy Policy should be funded and implemented along with the Acceleration Policy. **Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mrs. Oplinger approval of the first reading of the Literacy Requirements and Intervention Policy. The motion was approved 9-0.**

**9.4: Proposed Capacity for the Advance Design of Jennie Moore Elementary School** – *A recommendation to approve the proposed capacity for the Advance Design for Jennie Moore Elementary. The Board has already approved and funded a project for advance design of Jennie Moore and Laing Middle. The planning*

and design funds for these projects will be reallocated to fund the design of a 3 school campus versus a two school campus. The funds to construct these schools will have to be included in the 2010-2015 building program. Mrs. Oplinger motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation that Jennie Moore Elementary School Advance Design project be planned and designed with a 1,000 student primary school (CD-2) and a 900 student elementary school (3-5) to accommodate the growth in the Jennie Moore campus and to down load Laurel Hill Primary and Pinckney Elementary School to their design capacities. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.5: Gartner Contract** – The Board received the Gartner Contract as information. No action was taken.

**9.6: Facilities Use Agreement** – *A Facilities Use Agreement for Trident Technical College.* Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mrs. Oplinger approval of the Facilities Use Agreement to allow Trident Technical College to use the Wando High School Campus for evening classes, at no cost to the district. The motion was approved 8-1 (Kandrac opposed).

**9.7: Facilities Use Agreement** – *A Facilities Use Agreement for Charlestowne Academy.* Mrs. Jordan motioned, seconded by Mr. Toler approval of the Facilities Use Agreement to allow the Healing and Deliverance Church Center to use the former Charlestowne Academy building to hold church services, at no cost to the district. Mr. Meyers suggested this item be brought back before the Board if the church is willing to cover utility costs for the building. The motion failed 4-4-1 (Fraser, Green, Meyers and Oplinger opposed, Collins abstained).

**9.8: National School Boards Association Conference Request** – *A request from Mr. Collins and Mrs. Kandrac to attend the upcoming NSBA Conference.* Mr. Toler motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jordan approval of the request allowing Mr. Collins and Mrs. Kandrac to attend the NSBA Conference in April 2010 in Chicago. The motion was approved 5-4 (Fraser, Green, Meyers and Oplinger opposed).

**9.9: Timeline for NPT School Choice/Partial Magnet Program** – The Board received the Timeline for NPT School Choice/Partial Magnet Program as information. No action was taken.

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 8:00 p.m. Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by consensus.

Approved:

---

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