

**March 22, 2010**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charleston County School District was held on Monday, March 22, 2010 in the Board Room at 75 Calhoun Street 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.

Board Chair – Mrs. Ruth Jordan called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Ravenel 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: Student Expulsion Appeals
- 1.3: Appointment – Principal – Midland Park Elementary
- 1.4: Legal Matters
- 1.5: Stiles Point Elementary - Change Order no. 12
- 1.6: Haut Gap Middle School – Site Work Change Order
- 1.7: Workers' Compensation Settlement
- 1.8: Personnel Matter

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

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 5:15 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: Wando Teacher Recognition**

The Board recognized Ms. Misty Pallotta, a Wando High School teacher for receiving the National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) Teacher of the Year Award.

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

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

Dr. McGinley shared the following:

- A new visitor management system which promotes student and faculty safety by keeping account of everyone in CCSD buildings was launched last week. The system runs all visitors against the sexual offender registry and provides all visitors with a photo ID badge for clear identification.
- A celebration for the five Teacher of the Year finalists was held at Rick Hendricks' Volvo.
- A ribbon cutting ceremony was held for a new high-tech Education Center at Patriot's Point.
- Phillippe Cousteau, the grandson of Jacques Cousteau visited Chicora Elementary award-winning usage of "Streamline S.C.", a free on-demand video service provided for teachers and students.

- The District has been planning behind the scenes for the Accelerated Literacy Pathways that will begin this summer.
- The District is working on parent notification letters that will be timed with the 3<sup>rd</sup> nine week report card, which goes out on March 30<sup>th</sup>.
- As a follow-up to the seismic reports, the district conducted parent meetings at each of the downtown schools with seismic issues. Engineers were brought out to the parents who provided feedback on the kinds of relocation factors that were most important to them.
- John Emerson reported at the end of last week, the District raised over \$51,000 for the children and families of Haiti. In closing, Dr. McGinley thanked the CCSD community for its kindness and generosity.

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

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

1. Ms. Claire Curtis, Mr. Lonnie Hamilton, III, Mr. Jerry Ballinger, Mr. Larry Krounoff, Ms. Andres Brisbin, Ms. Julie Hussey, Ms. Jamie Molony, Mr. Michael Allen, Mr. Arnie McClure and Mr. Mark Cumins addressed the Board regarding relocation of schools with seismic issues.
2. Ms. Vonie Gilrsath addressed the Board regarding a new school in the St. Andrews area and urged the Board to schedule a community meeting to share details about this project.

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

Mr. Toler motioned, seconded by Mr. Collins approval of the Open and Executive Session minutes of March 8, 2010. The motion was approved 9-0 after Mrs. Kandrac pointed out that page 6.1-3 should have Roman Numeral VI instead of XI.

### **6.2: Motions of Executive Session of March 22, 2010**

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

1.1: Student Transfer Appeals – The Board approve student transfers C, D, H and G; student transfer appeals A, B, E, F, I, K, L, M, N, O and P were denied. The vote was 8-1 (Kandrac opposed). Student transfer N was deferred for information on housing.

1.2: Student Expulsion Appeal – The Board identified a date to hear a student expulsion appeal. No action was taken.

1.3: Appointment – Principal – Midland Park Elementary - The Board approved the appointment of Ms. Diane Benton to the position of principal at Midland Park Elementary. The motion was approved 9-0.

1.4: Legal Matters –

Greg Mathis Charter

A. The Board approved a motion to issue a notice of revocation to G. Mathis Academy for the end of this academic year. The motion was approved 9-0.

B. The Board approved a motion authorizing General Counsel to resolve a claim regarding Gregg Mathis Charter. The motion was approved 9-0

1.5: Stiles Point Elementary - Change Order No. 12 – The Board approved a motion for staff to enter into a Change Order No. 12 with Metro Contracting for constructing a five foot concrete

sidewalk around the perimeter of Stiles Point Elementary School in the amount of \$129,339.00. The motion was approved 9-0.

1.6: Haut Gap Middle School – Site Work Change Order – The Board approved a change order with Newton Builders, Inc. for the site work required by the City of Charleston Technical Review Board in the amount of \$136,182.00. The motion was approved 9-0.

1.7: Workers' Compensation Settlement – The Board approved a motion authorizing a Workers' Compensation Settlement. The motion was approved 8-0-1 (Toler abstained).

1.8: Personnel Matters – The Board received information on three personnel matters. No action was taken.

### **6.3: Financial Minutes of March 8, 2010**

Mrs. Jordan motioned, seconded by Mr. Collins approval of the financial minutes of March 8, 2010, 2010. The motion was approved 9-0.

## **VII: MANAGEMENT REPORT**

### **7.1: Presentation – High Priority Work Required to Open School Year 2010-2011**

Mr. Bobby presented information on high priority work required to open school year 2010-2011.

Mr. Bobby said it is necessary to add resources and staff to accomplish goals listed below:

- Relocation of the CDFC due to lease termination
- Expansion of the Child Development Programs
- Early Headstart
- Potential Relocation of District 20 Schools
- Relocation of Portables at 9 sites
- Addition of Portables to various sites
- Literacy Pathways Program – 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grades
- High School Alternative Sites
- Opening of New Buildings (7)
- Construction Planning Project – Stall HS and Midland Park ES

### **7.2: Capital Projects Report – January 2010**

The Board received the January 2010 Capital Projects Report as information.

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

### **8.1: Global Studies Curriculum**

Ms. Maura Ondo, Ms. Melissa Tranchida, Ms. Elizabeth McLaughlin and Mr. Antoine Calwell presented curriculum information for Memminger School of Global Studies to the Board.

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

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

#### ***A. JICG – Tobacco Free Schools – Student***

#### ***B. GBED - – Tobacco Free Schools – Employee/Visitor***

*A recommendation to approve the second reading of Board policies listed above.* Mrs. Oplinger motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the second reading of Board Policies JICG and GBED. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.2: Home Instruction Application** – *A recommendation to approve a home instruction application.* Mrs. Oplinger motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the home school application. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.3: Annexation of Land, Section 48-W (TMS #172-12-00-035 and #172-12-00-018** – *A recommendation to authorize the Superintendent to annex land, Section 48-W (2.8 acres) into the City of North Charleston, at no cost to the district.* Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Collins approval of the recommendation authorizing the Superintendent to annex land Section 48W (2.8 acres) into the City of North Charleston. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.4: Federal Title I School Improvement Process** – *The Board received information on an alternative governance Oversight Board at Stall HS (RP), Goodwin ES (RP-Delay), Alice Birney MS (R), and Burke HS (R).* No action was taken.

**9.5: Facility Use Request – Archer, Fraser, or Baxter-Patrick** - *This item was pulled from the agenda. Therefore, no action was taken.*

**9.6: Bond Anticipation Notes** - *A recommendation to approve the resolution authorizing the Sale of General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes, in the amount not to exceed \$16,700,000.00.*

Mr. Bobby requested the amount be increased from \$16,700,000 to \$17.8 million to include funds to move CDFC before the end of July and the remainder would pay for options if a Board decision is made to relocate schools with seismic issues this summer. Issuance of Bond would take place at the end of April 2010. **Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation authorizing the sale of General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes in the amount of \$17,800,000.00. The motion was approved 9-0.**

**9.7: Refunding Resolution (PFM and GO)** – *A recommendation to approve a Resolution to Refund Series 2001 and 2001B General Obligation Bond. Usual and customary fees for the costs of issuance which will be funded through the proceeds of the Note sale Series 2001 - \$46,640,000 and Series 2001B - \$14,330,000).* Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers to approve the recommendation to approve a Resolution to Refund Series 2001 and 2001B General Obligation Bond. Usual and customary fees for the costs of issuance which will be funded through the proceeds of the Note sale Series 2001 - \$46,640,000 and Series 2001B - \$14,330,000). The motion was approved 9-0.

Before the Board discussed agenda items 9.8 – 9.10, Dr. McGinley said staff was directed to do a seismic analysis on buildings with multi-stories, masonry or soil conditions. The assessment was done based on building codes. Sanders Clyde and Rivers were part of the 2005 assessment. She shared the results of the findings and recommended Buist, Memminger, James Simons, Charleston Progressive Academy and Sullivan's Island be relocated with a commitment to return them in three years. Mr. Lewis summarized the cost to repair or rebuild buildings. He also said staff is looking at renovating the administration building at 75 Calhoun Street to use for school space. In response to questions about why Sullivan's Island is included with District 20 schools, Mr. Lewis said it's because of un-reinforced concrete. He added that it was discovered during the assessment that the roof would come off if the walls shifted. Also in response to a question about other schools that may have same issues, Mr. Lewis referred to page #27 of his report (Recommendations: Schools with Life Safety Issues). The Seismic Inspection Priority report

categorizes all schools. Schools in Category 1 were schools with un-reinforced masonry and poor soil condition. He reviewed other schools, district by district, which has either been addressed or are on the list to be upgraded. The group discussed swing space upgrades and funding to prepare them for occupancy. According to Mr. Lewis, there is a significant decrease in risk at swing space properties. Mrs. Jordan said staff was directed to present the information to the public, discuss when and where, cost for repairs/replacement before the Board takes action. Mr. Collins suggested a Seismic Committee be formed to study the report and make recommendations. Dr. McGinley said the full packet will be posted on the District's website at 7pm tonight. Mrs. Jordan said a Capital Planning Committee will be formulated. Mr. Meyers commented about the earthquake of 1886 and the risk of those buildings being within the fault line and said no one wants to want children to die on their watch. He appreciates the work of staff and sense of urgency. Mrs. Green urged the Board to talk about pursuing financing and suggested agenda item 9.9 be amended to include the words "this year" to statement about financing.

In response to Mr. Ravenel's statement that Charleston Math and Science Charter should not be asked to move to another campus because their area is not seismically challenged, Dr. McGinley said that no one objected the suggestion to move the school to the Academic Magnet campus on the Naval Base. However, they wrote their issues with the relocation, made technology requests and asked for a commitment to return to their current location.

Mr. Troy Williams presented info on swing options as follows. He added that this information has been posted online and fact sheets will go out to parents on tomorrow. Parent survey information for each school were shared.

**Options for Relocation of Campuses with Life Safety Issues**

Schools	Option A	Option B	Option C
Buist	Academic Magnet	Berry Campus	Wando South Campus
Charleston Progressive	Berry Campus	Brentwood	Whitesides
James Simons	Brentwood	Mobiles at Rivers*	Berry Campus
Memminger	Brentwood	Mobiles at Rivers*	Berry Campus
Sullivan's Island	Whitesides	Whitesides	Whitesides
Relocation Costs	\$1.1M - \$1.3M	\$1.3M - \$1.5M	\$1.3M - \$1.5M

\*Staff met with leadership of Charleston Charter for Math and Science to offer the option of temporarily relocating that school to AMHS campus on the Navy Base

Mr. Fraser said 75 Calhoun St. should be an option and suggested staff look at keeping students closer to their current school.

During discussion of funding options, Mr. Bobby said \$100 million was available in 8% Debt Funds and that \$150 million could be generated with a 20 year payoff. However, this would eliminate the 8% Debt Fund capacity. He cautioned 8% Debt Fund alone is not the solution. A meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup> to discuss function options—8% Debt Fund (pay as you go), Bond Referendum, Sales Tax, or a combination. Mrs. Jordan asked questions about prioritizing—fixing all schools at once and addressing needs at other schools across the district that are out-dated. She said life safety should be first on the list and continuing the building plan should be second.

**9.8: Follow-up Schools with Identified Life Safety Issues –**

- A. *Cost of school renovations and/or Replacements - Information*
  - B. *Recommendation to temporarily relocate the following schools to a swing space location--Buist Academy, Charleston Progressive Academy, Memminger ES, James Simons ES and Sullivan's Island ES – Action*
- Recommendation to return students to District 20 campuses once schools can be made safe or rebuilt - Action*
- C. *Presentation of swing space options and next steps – Information A recommendation to approve the resolution authorizing the Sale of General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes, in the amount not to exceed \$16,700,000.00.*

*Recommendation to temporarily relocate the following schools to a swing space location--Buist Academy, Charleston Progressive Academy, Memminger ES, James Simons ES and Sullivan's Island ES – Action*

*Recommendation to return students to District 20 campuses once schools can be made safe or rebuilt – Action*

Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers to defer action on agenda item 9.8 to allow the Board time to receive additional information. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.9: Capital Funding – (Green, Fraser, Oplinger and Myers)**

*The Board is committed to pursuing the following options this year to continue the Capital Program:*

- 1. *Bond Referendum*
- 2. *One cent sales tax*
- 3. *Eight Percent Debt Pay as you go*
- 4. *A Combination of A, B or C Options*

*School building projects will be prioritized as follows: Life safety issues, overcrowding, programmatic.*

Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of a recommendation to pursue options – 1) *Bond Referendum*, 2) *One cent sales tax*, 3) *Eight Percent Debt Pay as you go* and 4) *A Combination of A, B or C Options this year to continue the C this year to continue the Capital Program.* The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.10: Fund Allocation for Advance Designs**

*A recommendation to direct staff to bring forth a proposal to re-allocate funds to begin advance designs for schools identified with life safety issues.*

Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of a recommendation directing staff to bring forth a proposal to re-allocate funds to begin advance designs for schools identified with life safety issues. The motion was approved 9-0.

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 8:10 p.m. Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Collins to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by consensus.

Approved:

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