

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charleston County School District was held at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, October 13, 2008 with the following members of the Board present: Chairperson Hillery Douglas, Vice Chair - Ms. Nancy Cook, Mr. David Engelman, Mrs. Toya Hampton-Green, Mrs. Ruth Jordan, Mr. Gregg Meyers, Mr. Arthur Ravenel, Mr. Ray Toler and Dr. Nancy J. McGinley – Superintendent of Schools and Executive Secretary. Mr. Brian Moody arrived at 6:10 p.m. Staff members Mr. Michael Bobby, Dr. Doug Gepford, Mr. Bill Lewis, Dr. Brenda Nelson, Mr. John Emerson and Mr. Elliott Smalley were in attendance.

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

### **I. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chair Hillery Douglas called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mrs. Green to convene into Executive Session. The motion was unanimously approved.

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

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 5:15 p.m. Chair Douglas 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: Special Recognition for October 13, 2008**

The Board recognized Drayton Hall Elementary Principal John Cobb and his staff for receiving the Healthy Schools award from the State Department of Education and the Department of Health and Environmental Control.

The Board recognized Ms. Lynn Young, Founder of LowCountry Orphan Relief for providing clothes, school supplies, and other materials to CCSD parents and students

### **IV. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

#### **4.1: Superintendent’s Report**

Dr. McGinley shared the following:

- She shared how Sanders-Clyde Elementary is working hard to focus on its students and move forward after a SLED investigation was prompted to address the school’s history on the PACT test. The district has determined that the discussion of this investigation will be led by state investigators, at their discretion.
- During an update on School Choice, Dr. McGinley stated that after months of community engagement led by Neighborhood Planning Teams, on Friday the district received proposals from over a half-dozen schools who are proposing to redefine themselves around new and exciting partial-magnet themes.
- Last week, the Superintendent surprised Ms. Liz Cook, a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher at Murray-LaSaine with the first “Teacher of the Month” award this school year. The week before, the U.S. Deputy Secretary of Education, Mr. Ray Simon, surprised biology teacher from Wando High School, Ms. Ruth Truluck, with South Carolina’s American Star of Teaching award.
- Feedback from the first round of the School Redesign Initiative will be presented later during this meeting. However, she made it clear that no specific school has been targeted for redesign. Current economic times require maximizing the effectiveness and efficiency of schools, and the district will continue to do everything possible to make public education a great investment, as exemplified by significant increases in our graduation rate to be released Wednesday and record-high ACT, PACT and AP exam scores.

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

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

1. Mayor Opal Baldwin of Ravenal and Constituent District 23 Board Member Sammy Hiott shared the importance of the continuance of constructing the new E.B. Ellington Elementary.
2. Ms. Judy Dunston Epps, Ms. Maria Crawford, Mr. Michael Allen, Mr. John Jones and Ms. Lisa Perez addressed the Board in support Dunston Elementary and requested the Board consider excluding the school from the Redesign initiative.
3. Mr. Jerome Ford, Ms. Ramona Allen and Ms. Toshiba Gadsden expressed support for the principal at Frierson Elementary.
4. Ms. Johanna Martin-Carrington requested the Board consider re-naming Murray Hill Academy for Dr. Daniel Jenkins.
5. Ms. Carmen Hanlin, Ms. Paige Bickar, Ms. Mary Elise Marcy, Mr. Rau; Connello, Ms. Denise Harris, Mr. Chris Franks, and Ms. Dee Dee Jensen requested a larger facility for the Montessori Community School.
6. Mr. Kenneth Sellers, Ms. Melissa Dawson, Ms. Maria Jackson and Mr. Vernon Holmes requested a funding advancement for Gregg Mathis Charter School.
7. Rev. Michael Ray Mack expressed concerns about the principal at Frierson Elementary.

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

### **6.1: Open and Executive Session Minutes of September 22, 2008**

Mr. Toler motioned, seconded by Mr. Moody approval of the Open and Executive Session minutes of September 22, 2008. The motion was approved 9-0.

### **6.2: Motions of Executive Session of October 13, 2008**

**1.1: Student Transfer Appeals** – The Board acted on one student transfer appeal. The Board approved a motion to deny the student transfer request due to lack of space. The motion was approved 9-0.

**1.2: Student Appeal Hearing** – The Board identified a date for a student appeal hearing.

#### **1.3: Contractual Matters** –

- A. The Board received information on the Noisette Foundation. No action was taken.
- B. The Board received a briefing on a cleaning contract. No action was taken.
- C. The Board approved a motion to continue the construction and offer the right of first refusal to Academic Magnet High School principal, faculty, staff, current parents and students of the classes of 2011 and later, to be exercised by May 1, 2009. The motion was approved 8-1 (Douglas opposed).
- D. The Board received an update on the Wando HVAC contract. No action was taken.
- E. The Board received information Sea Island YouthBuild Charter. No action was taken.

**1.4: Appointment – Principal – James Island Middle** – The Board approved a motion to appoint Mr. Murton Hudson as the principal at James Island Middle. The motion was approved 7-2 (Cook and Engelman opposed).

**1.5: Appointment – Principal – Oakland Elementary** – The Board approved a motion to appoint Ms. Jennifer Swearingen as the principal at Oakland Elementary. The motion was approved 9-0.

**1.6: Appointment – Principal – Angel Oak Elementary** – The Board approved a motion to appoint Mr. Rodney Moore as the principal at Angel Oak Elementary. The motion was approved 9-0.

**1.7: Gregg Mathis Charter Request** – The Board approved a motion to deny a request from Gregg Mathis Charter for an advancement of funds. During a lengthy discussion Mr. Vernon Holmes requested a loan. Mr. Douglas responded indicating that the district would not give Gregg Mathis Charter a loan. However, the Board agreed to issue a letter with the expected November 2006 payment amount. Mr. Douglas suggested the letter be used to secure a bank loan.

At this time, General Counsel John Emerson and Mr. Bob Olson clarified the payment of funds requested by Gregg Mathis Charter. Mr. Ravenel pointed out that the Board was in violation of Act 189 and questioned why the district wasn't paying the rent for Gregg Mathis Charter. After Mr. Meyers and

Mrs. Green suggested the Board seek court clarification on Act 189, Ms. Cook motioned, seconded by Mrs. Green to pursue a declaratory of Act 189 to clarify whether the district is required to pay rent and other amounts in accordance to Act 189. The motion was approved 9-0.

**6.3: Financial Minutes of September 22, 2008**

Mr. Toler motioned, seconded by Mr. Moody to approve the Financial Minutes of September 22, 2008. The motion was approved 9-0.

**VII: MANAGEMENT REPORT**

**7.1: Bond Sale**

The Board received information on the recent sale of bonds.

**7.2: Children In Crisis Fund**

The Board received information on the Children In Crisis Fund.

**7.3: Staff Recognition Fund**

The Board received information on the Staff Recognition Fund.

**7.3: Financial Report – General Operating Fund and Capital Projects**

The Board received information on the General Operating Fund and Capital Projects.

**VIII: CHARLESTON ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE UPDATE**

**8.1: Title I Restructuring – Mitchell Elementary**

Mr. Derk Bedford, principal at Mitchell Elementary presented the “Mitchell 5” restructuring plan designed to address concerns related to the school’s Adequate Yearly Progress report.

**8.2: Media Center Update**

Team Associate, Ms. Connie Diopielara, presented a plan to update school media centers.

**8.1: Carolina Preparatory Academy**

This item was pulled from the agenda. No action was taken.

**IX. POTENTIAL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**9.1: Second Reading – Board Policy BCA – Board Member Code of Ethics.**

*A recommendation to approve the second reading of Board Policy BCA – Board Member Code of Ethics.*

Mr. Meyers motioned, on behalf of the Policy Committee approval of the second reading of Board Policy BCA – Board Member Code of Ethics. The motion was approved 7-2 (Engelman and Toler opposed).

**9.2: Visiting International Faculty Program Invoice**

*A recommendation to approve the payment of the Visiting International Faculty program invoice in the amount of \$468,500 (GOF funds) for 34 VIF teachers to provide services to 17 CCSD schools.*

Ms. Cook motioned, seconded by Mr. Moody approval of the recommendation to approve the payment of the Visiting International Faculty invoice in the amount of \$468,500. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.3: Faculty Use Request – Burke High School**

*A recommendation to approve a facility use request for Burke High School as required by Policy KF, at no cost to the district.*

Ms. Cook motioned, seconded by Mr. Moody approval of the recommendation for a facility use request for Burke High as required by Board Policy KF. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.4: Recommendation for Dedicating the Wando Performing Arts Center**

*A recommendation to approve the recommendation to name the Wando High School Performance Arts Center for Dr. Lynda Davis, at no cost to the district.*

Ms. Cook motioned, seconded by Mr. Moody approval of the recommendation to name the Wando High School Performance Arts Center for Dr. Lynda Davis. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.5: Minority Business Enterprise Utilization Plan and Minority Business Enterprise Annual Report**

*A recommendation to accept the Minority Business Enterprise utilization plan with its combined verifiable goal of 20%, a combination of 10% certified MBEs/SWMBEs and 10% non-certified MBEs/SWMBEs, at no cost to the district.*

Ms. Cook motioned, seconded by Mr. Moody approval of the Minority Business Enterprise Utilization Plan and Minority Business Enterprise Annual Report. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.6: Stiles Point Elementary School – Early Steel Package**

*A recommendation to award the contract for Stiles Point Elementary Early Steel Package*

Ms. Cook motioned, seconded by Mr. Moody approval of the recommendation to award the Stiles Point Elementary School Early Steel Package to Steel Fab of South Carolina in the amount of \$2,121,312.00. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.7: Mamie Whitesides Elementary School**

*A recommendation to award the contract for Mamie Whites Elementary School to prepare the site for construction to Brantley Construction Company in the amount of \$13,369,000.00.*

Ms. Cook motioned, seconded by Mr. Moody approval of the Mamie Whitesides Elementary School construction contract to Brantley Construction Company. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.8: New District 4 Stall High School – Project #5642 Approval of Commissioning Services**

*A recommendation to approve the contract for commissioning of services for the new District 4 Stall High School to Commissioning & Green Building Systems, Inc (GxGBS) in an amount not to exceed \$176,142.*

Ms. Cook motioned, seconded by Mr. Moody approval of the recommendation to award the contract for Commissioning Services for the New District 4 Stall High School project to Commissioning & Green Building Systems, Inc. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.8: School Redesign Initiative**

*A recommendation to adopt the revised criteria based on the community feedback collected during Phase I of the public engagement process which includes a set of twelve criteria framed around three core topics— Educational Quality, Demographic Factor, and Facility Conditions.*

Ms. Cook motioned, seconded by Mr. Moody approval of the School Redesign Initiative. The motion was approved 9-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Approved:

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