

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charleston County School District was held on Monday, August 24, 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, 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. Toler motioned, seconded by Mrs. Oplinger 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: Personnel Matters
- 1.3: Appointment – Principal – James Island Elementary
- 1.4: Sanders Clyde Change Order
- 1.5: Legal Briefing
- 1.6: Student Appeal Hearings
- 1.7: Appointment – District 3 Constituent Board

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

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 5:15 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**

- 3.1: MUSC** – The Board recognized Ms. Dianne Inman, Ms. Tiffany Williams, Dr. Debra Williams, Ms. Angel Harmon and Dr. Lincoln of MUSC for their work with the “Incredible Years Program” at Burns Elementary.
- 3.2: Burke High** – This item was pulled from the agenda.
- 3.3: Behind the Scenes Hero Award** – The Board recognized Mr. Mark Cobb, Executive Director of Facilities and the Operations Division team for working behind the scenes to prepare for the opening day.

**IV. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

**4.1: Superintendent’s Report**

Dr. McGinley shared the following:

- This year’s school opening was smoother than previous years.
- The 2009-2010 first day of school student enrollment, not counting CD students, was 39,251, up 700 from last year’s first day count of 38,551.
- Dr. McGinley thanked everyone who worked so hard to make the first day of school a success.
- The new Parent Help Line, initiated this school year, responded to nearly 400 parent calls.
- Approximately 400 people attended the grand opening for Jerry Zucker Middle today.
- ACT scores were released last week. CCSD averaged a 20.6 score, which is higher than the state average and a significant increase from the 18.4 the district averaged five years ago. Also, the district had 834 students take the ACT which is up from 769 the last two years.
- Tenth Day enrollment will be presented at the next Board meeting.

**V. VISITORS, PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

**5.1: Visitors, Public Communications**

1. Mr. Ronald Middleton, Ms. Sylvia Middleton, Ms. Marie Delestine, Mrs. Harriet Wilder, Mr. Arthur Wilder and Rev. Carri Williams addressed the Board in support of the James Island Elementary School principal appointment.
2. Ms. Marsha Spainhour and Ms. Landy Sykes spoke in opposition of the James Island Elementary School principal appointment.
3. Mr. David Colwell, principal of the Charleston Math and Science Charter School thanked CCSD staff for their support during the opening of school. Mr. Colwell also stated in reference to Rivers facility, that he is willing to share, accommodate or do whatever is necessary.

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

### **6.1: Open and Executive Session Minutes of August 10, 2009**

Mr. Toler motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the Open and Executive Session minutes of August 10, 2009. The motion was approved 9-0.

Also, at this time, Mrs. Kandrac requested the July 20<sup>th</sup> minutes be corrected to reflect the appointment of the James Island Elementary School principal, instead of St. James Santee Elementary.

### **6.2: Motions of Executive Session of August 24, 2009**

The Board approved the following motions that were made in Executive Session on August 24, 2009:

- 1.1: Student Transfer Appeals** – The board approved student transfer appeals B, C, D, E, F, N, O, P, and Q. Student appeals A, G, H, I, J, AA and BB were denied. The motion was approved 9-0.
- 1.2: Personnel Matters** – The Board discussed personnel matters in Executive Session. No action was taken.
- 1.3: Appointment – Principal – James Island Elementary** - The Board approved a motion to appoint Christy Thompson to the position of principal at James Island Elementary. The motion was approved 6-3 (Kandrac, Ravenel and Toler opposed).
- 1.4: Sanders Clyde Change Order** – The Board approved the Sanders Clyde Change Order #004 to H.G. Reynolds Construction Company in the amount of \$300,000.00. The funding source is 2006-2009 Capital Improvement funds for the Sanders Clyde project. The motion was approved 9-0.
- 1.5: Legal Briefing** – This item was pulled from the agenda. No action was taken.
- 1.6: Student Expulsion Appeal Hearings** – The Board identified a date to hear four student appeals.
- 1.7: Appointment – District 3 Constituent Board** – The Board approved the appointment of Mr. Douglas Adams to the District 3 Constituent Board. The motion was approved 9-0.

### **6.3: Financial Minutes of August 10, 2009**

Mr. Toler motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the financial minutes of August 10, 2009. The motion was approved 9-0.

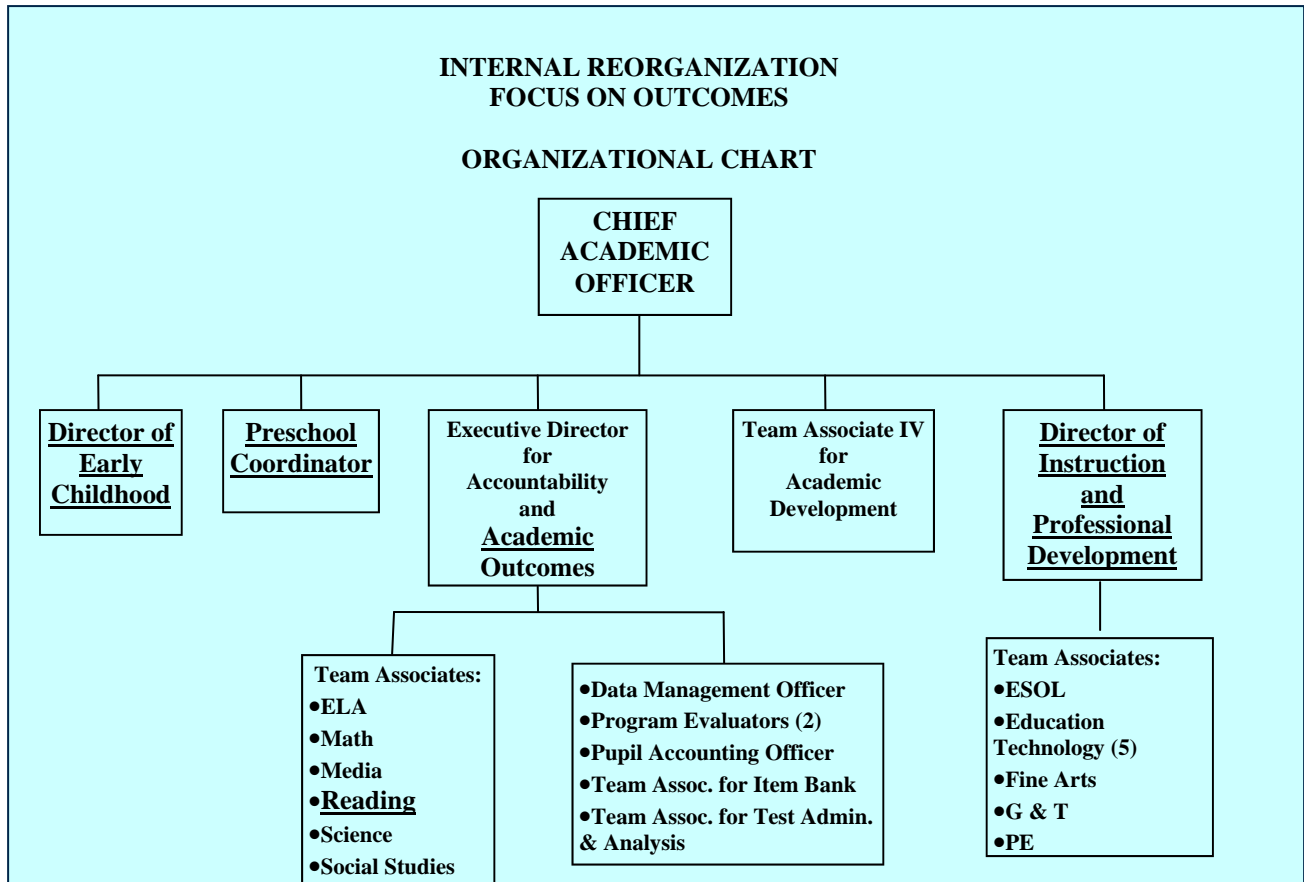
## **VII: MANAGEMENT REPORT**

### **7.1: Capital Projects Report**

The Board received the Capital Projects Report as information. Mr. Bobby responded to questions from Mr. Ravenel regarding the Charleston Education Excellence Financing group which oversees funding and financing of the district's Capital Fund projects. Mr. Bobby said they worked with the 2005-2009 program and will continue to work with the District until the program is finished. He went on to say that while there isn't a financial report for CEEF, the second page of the Capital Projects Report shows the remaining balance. Mr. Bobby also noted that the contingency amount may not be there at completion of the project. Mr. Ravenel also questioned the 8% funds and how much is available. Mr. Bobby said the district has the ability to issue debts and \$100 million is available for future needs. While the total amount is \$200 million, some of it was used to pay off Alternative Funds Debt.

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

**8.1: Reorganization – Chief Academic Office** – Dr. Doug Gepford, Chief Academic Officer presented information on the reorganization of the Curriculum and Instruction Department. Dr. Gepford said this was being done to focus on outcomes, not programs and instructional decision making is data-driven. The division is reorganizing around the work that has to be done. He highlighted the following district priorities-- Improve Achievement, Close Gap, and Increase Graduation Rate. The new organizational chart is shown below.



- After sharing the new organizational chart, Dr. Gepford shared the following:
- The Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction Position was eliminated;
- Job responsibilities for the current Executive Director of Assessment and Accountability has increased ;
- The Director of Instruction and Professional Development position was created;
- The District Reading Coordinator Position was created; and
- The previous Director of Early Childhood was realigned as Coordinator of Early Childhood under the Chief Academic Officer.

In closing, Dr. Gepford said existing resources were realigned to focus on outcomes, literacy and early childhood. After responding to a number of questions from individual board members regarding literacy and teacher accountability, it was determined that staff would bring back information on proposed interventions to the Board that would link to teacher quality. Further, staff publicly stated that teachers are accountable for growth (August through May). Those who don't move students may not be considered for rehire. Dr. McGinley also stated during this time that she believed all students should be enrolled in a full day early childhood program.

**8.2: Low Country Tech Update** – Dr. McGinley presented an update on Low Country Tech Academy for Health, Human and Public Services (LCTA). After sharing the history of the project which began fall 2006, Dr. McGinley said graduates of LCTA would

- ▶ Meet all requirements to earn South Carolina High School Diploma;
- ▶ Qualify to enroll in institutions of higher learning;
- ▶ Be trained in general skills required by all employers;
- ▶ Obtain mastery in core technology skills;
- ▶ Obtain mastery in technology skills specific to major field of study ;and
- ▶ Obtain extensive work experience in area of major field of study;

The Angelou Study of 2005 identified the following as growth areas in the Trident region:

- Advanced Security
- Automotive
- Aviation
- Bioscience
- Creative Industries

Current conditions and economy have changed the job market in the Trident region since this study. Medical related occupations have remained strong as areas with high employment opportunities in our region and state. The focus for the first phase of Low Country Tech Academy (located at the Rivers Campus) will be Health, Human and Public Services. Upon completion of LCTA, students could potentially enter the workforce in Massage Therapy, Medical Record Coder, Pharmacy Technician and Certified Nurse Assistant. Further career opportunities after limited coursework beyond Low Country Tech Academy for Health, Human and Public Services include Expanded Duty Dental Assisting, Medical Assisting, Ophthalmic Clinical Assistant and Pharmacy Technician. Foundation for the following careers would be laid at Low Country Tech Academy for Health, Human and Public Services:

- Biological Sciences
- Dental Hygiene
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Medical Lab Technology
- Nursing
- Pre-Med
- Respiratory Care
- Veterinary Technology

After reviewing the key issues, Dr. McGinley shared the following next steps.

- ▶ Establish task force with internal and community members.
  - MUSC
  - Trident Health System
  - Roper St. Francis
  - Trident Technical College
  - EMT
- ▶ Develop program for Low Country Tech Academy for Health, Human and Public Services.
- ▶ Establish joint task force with the Charleston Charter School of Math and Sciences to develop educational specifications for the Rivers campus.

The intent is to start LCTA with 100 students and add 100 more students each year, up to 400 students.

Mrs. Jordan said Work Keys is important for employment everywhere. She also suggested staff look at expanding the program to include electrical skills, plumbing, and other needed skills.

### **8.3: Board Member Annual Expenditure Summary**

As required by Board Policy BID, expenditures for each board member are published annually in August.

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

**9.1: Home School Applications** – Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval home school applications. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.2: Recommendation for Award of District-Wide Remediation and Restoration Services for Charleston County School District (B1000)** - *A recommendation to approve the bid award for district wide remediation and restoration services.* Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation to award the district wide remediation and restoration services to ServiceMaster of Charleston and Clean Masters. The funding source is General Operating Funds. The potential contract cost over the maximum for (5 years) is unknown at this time. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.3: CCSD Purchase of Scholastic Book Bundles K-8** – *A recommendation to approve the purchase of Scholastic book bundles for grades k-8.*

Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation to purchase Scholastic book bundles for grades k-8. The funding source is EIA Funds and the amount is \$681,720.03. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.4: Board Agenda Timeline – Collins, Kandrach, Ravenel and Toler** – Mrs. Kandrach expressed concerns about the board agenda timeline and said there wasn't always enough time to get questions answered by staff prior to the meeting. Dr. McGinley suggested the Board consider having one meeting for business stuff and another for other things. Mr. Fraser and Mr. Collins suggested the preliminary agenda be posted early without backup documents. Dr. McGinley will discuss this matter with members of her cabinet and make a recommendation to a future meeting.

**9.5: Policy Revisions – First Reading** – The Board approved the first reading of Board Policies GCCAF – Professional Staff Personnel Business Leave and GDCF – Classified Staff Personal Business Leave. The motion was approved 9-0.

**9.6: Policy Regulation Revisions** – The Board received revisions for Policy Regulation GCCAF - Personnel Business Leave and GDCF – Classified Staff Personal Business Leave as information. No action was taken.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 7:50 p.m. Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jordan to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by consensus.

Approved:

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