



**AGENDA
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SEVEN OAKS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM
JUNE 11, 2012**

1. Call to order at **6:00 p.m.**
2. Enter executive session to consider the following:
 - a. Selected employment items (Exhibit A)
 - b. Legal briefing regarding lawsuit filed by Matthew Alexander Nielson, and the Freedom From Religion Foundation, Inc., versus School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties
3. Welcoming remarks at **7:00 p.m.**
4. Invocation – Karl Fulmer
5. Pledge of Allegiance – Robert Gantt
6. Approve the agenda
7. Public participation*

ACTION AGENDA

8. Items considered in executive session
9. Approval of the committee's recommendation for the name of the new high school (Exhibit B)
10. Approval of the proposed resolution requesting flexibility for state funded instructional materials (Exhibit C)
11. Conduct the superintendent's evaluation (Exhibit D)
12. Approval of the minutes of the May 21, 2012 board meeting (**3 minutes**)

DISCUSSION AGENDA

13. Adjourn by **9:30 p.m.**

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

14. The next regular scheduled board meeting will be June 25, 2012 at Ballentine Elementary School.

*The Board welcomes and encourages public participation and includes an opportunity during its meetings for the public to do so. We respectfully ask that you adhere to the procedures and the decorum provided in board policy BEDH "Public Participation at Meetings". We ask that you sign-up to speak before the meeting begins and that you provide us your name, address and topic of input. Your comments should be limited to three minutes. Questions asked during public participation and placed in writing will receive a written response in a timely manner. Comments, questions and opinions are appreciated but should always be presented in a manner that reflects the respect and dignity expected by our community. Personal attacks on members of the community, the Board, or the staff of the school system will not be allowed.



To: Members of the Board of Trustees

Through: Dr. Stephen W. Hefner
Superintendent

From: Buddy Price
Director of Community Services

Date: June 7, 2012

Re: Committee Recommendation for Name of New High School

We have asked for community input on the naming of the new high school under construction at the corner of Mt. Vernon Church Road and Broad River Road. The new high school is scheduled to open in August 2013.

Background: On April 18, 2012, a meeting was held with a group of citizens from the community adjacent to where the new high school is being built.

Key Points: Buddy Price explained the charge of the committee and the recommendation process.

Discussion: The committee members provided the following history of the Dutch Fork/Spring Hill area:

1. There were numerous springs located around/near Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church located at 11733 Broad River Road. The church is located in the heart of Dutch Fork in the old settlement of Spring Hill.
2. Around 1770, Spring Hill Academy was located next to Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church and later moved off of Pet Sites Road.
3. Around 1860, Spring Hill School moved to the corner of Mt. Vernon Church Road/Broad River Road – a/k/a Twin Bridge. The last class to attend Spring Hill School was the class of 1938-39.

Recommendation: Approve naming the new high school to be opened in August 2013 "Spring Hill High School." The administration supports this recommendation and requests the Board of Trustees approval.

BP/aw

Attachment - April 18, 2012 Meeting Agenda



Committee Meeting – Naming of New High School

School Location: Intersection of Mount Vernon Church Road and Broad River Road

Opening Date: August 2013

April 18, 2012

2:30 p.m.

District Office – Board Conference Room

Agenda

- 1) Welcome
- 2) Introductions
- 3) Charge of the Committee
- 4) Recommendation Process
- 5) Group Discussion and Input
- 6) Questions & Answers
- 7) Adjourn



Memorandum

To: Members of the Board of Trustees

Through: Dr. Stephen W. Hefner
Superintendent

From: Buddy Price
Director of Community Services

Date: June 7, 2012

Re: Proposed School Board Resolution: Flexibility in Instructional Materials
Funding

Attached is a proposed resolution for the board's consideration regarding the flexibility in instructional materials funding, to allow for the purchase of e-books, and other technology in addition to standard textbooks.

The administration requests the Board of Trustees approval.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

BP/aw

Attachment - Board Resolution



A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT FIVE OF LEXINGTON AND RICHLAND COUNTIES

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties formally discussed and approved the following resolution at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 25, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the board recognizes there is a need to take full advantage of available technology that will enhance the educational environment of our classrooms and help students achieve their maximum academic potential;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board requests that the South Carolina School Boards Association include on its upcoming Legislative Agenda a request to the South Carolina Legislature for flexibility in instructional materials funding, to allow for the purchase of e-books, and other technology in addition to standard textbooks.

Robert Gantt, Chairman

Beth Watson, Vice Chairman

Ellen Baumgardner, Secretary

Jan Hammond

Kim Murphy

Jim Turner

Ed White

Stephen Hefner, Superintendent

Report Prepared by Stephen W. Hefner for Consideration in the Evaluation of his Performance as Superintendent (April 2011 through June 2012)

In 2010, School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties obtained its initial district-wide accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS-CASI). In keeping with its goal of promoting and requiring the continuous improvement of accredited school systems, SACS-CASI identified three (3) required actions for the District to secure renewal of its accreditation in 2015. The three required actions are:

- 1) Formalize a continuous improvement process;
- 2) Develop a succession plan for district leadership; and
- 3) Conduct a comprehensive long-range study of land use, demographics, and population changes to address facility construction and needed modifications.

Since accepting the Superintendent's position on April 1, 2011, I have used these three required actions as my goals as the chief executive officer of the District. (Note: It is important to note that the District Staff was already engaged in working on these three required actions prior to my joining the District.) A status report on each of the required actions/goal is presented below:

Required Action/Goal # 1: Formalize a continuous improvement process.

The SACS-CASI Quality Assurance Review Team found that *"...an understanding and a common language specifically referencing continuous improvement were not evident during stakeholder interviews. No articulated plan for the process of continuous improvement exists (in District Five)."*

I am working diligently to ensure that District Five is "a school system" and not just "a system of schools." Specifically, I am promoting a clear and more structured continuous improvement plan with all schools using a common language and strategies to improve teaching and learning. This plan has been developed based on the District's number one belief that "students are the primary focus of all decisions."

As part of the district plan, a continuous improvement rubric was created focusing on strategies that are related to teaching and learning. The rubric contains specific questions related to teaching and learning strategies such as the research based instructional practices, school-based professional development, and the use of data to inform instruction. Questions related to three major District initiatives—PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Systems), RtI (Response to Intervention), and the District's data teaming model are included. Three times each year, each principal reports on the status of each

strategy and initiative—as well as giving reports on their school renewal and professional development plans. Through the use of this common rubric, the principals and district staff are able to stay focused on and attain the academic achievement goals which have been established for each individual school as well as the district as a whole.

Extensive professional development has been provided on Dr. Doug Reeves' data teaming model. District, building, and teacher/unit data teams have been created. By and large, teachers and administrators have been very positive about the data team initiative stating that they feel that they know the strengths and weaknesses of their students better now than ever before and that this increased knowledge of students' strengths and weaknesses is making a difference with instructional planning. Consequently, MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) data show that the majority of our students are reaching their academic achievement goals.

Each summer, I provide a three-day leadership conference for all administrators in the District as a part of the continuous improvement plan. Sessions are devoted to reviewing district initiatives as well as further data analysis. School professional development plans (which are a subset of the district professional development plan) are created and presented by each school.

Required Action/Goal # 2: Develop a succession plan for district leadership.

The SACS-CASI Quality Assurance Review Team observed that *“The District has experienced considerable instability in leadership in recent years with at least four superintendents in the last six years.”*

One of the reasons I committed to a contract as superintendent through June 30, 2015 was to address the need to provide stable, sustained leadership for at least four years. Recognizing that the need for stability in leadership extends far beyond the superintendent to include all members of the District's leadership team, I have worked to assemble a team of leaders who have a long-term commitment to the District.

As administrative positions have opened up in our District, I have sought to fill those positions with highly competent professionals who have committed themselves contractually to work in the District for multiple years. Included within this group of key leaders who have made multi-year commitments to the District are our Director of Student Services, Director of Special Services, Director of Career and Technical Education, the Coordinator of Certified Personnel, and two principals.

A key component of providing stable, sustained leadership within our system is ensuring that our organizational culture is one that ensures that all our employees feel valued, respected, and appreciated when they are faithful in the performance of their job responsibilities. My regularly scheduled meetings with our principals, district administrative staff, representatives of our teachers (Superintendent's Faculty Advisory Council), support staff (Superintendent's Support Advisory Council), and students (Superintendent's Student Advisory Council) are vehicles for my establishing and ensuring the continuance of a positive organizational culture in our district through effective two-way communication in our district.

Required Action/Goal #3: Conduct a comprehensive long-range study of land use, demographics, and population changes to proactively address facility construction and needed modifications.

The SACS-CASI Quality Assurance Review Team observed that: *"The district has experienced significant population shifts over the past several years. Population projections exist; however, there is currently no comprehensive plan for the future."*

The school district hired Dr. Jerome McKibben, a professional demographer, to analyze population data over the past several years and to complete a 10-year population/land use study. Mr. McKibben's report (which has been updated annually) presents population forecasts through 2022 and advises where future schools should be built. Dr. McKibben will update his forecasts in the fall of 2012 based on fall 2012 enrollment and the status of the nuclear power plant being constructed just a few miles outside our school district.

Vision 2015, which I presented to the Board on September 12, 2011, addresses the renovation of older facilities and the construction of new facilities (which are fundable because of the November 2008 Bond Referendum).

The renovations at four elementary schools (Chapin, Irmo, Leaphart, and Seven Oaks) are nearing completion. These were four of the older elementary schools that were in need of renovation and/or expansion. The data show that future growth will be in the Chapin/Ballentine area. Chapin High School is now being renovated and expanded to accommodate 1700 students. A new high school, which will open in 2013, is under construction on Broad River Road near Mount Vernon Church Road. The District's Center for Advanced Technical Studies is nearing completion and will open in August 2012.

Renovations and additions at Irmo High School and Dutch Fork High School are scheduled to begin this year. I am continuing to develop proposed plans for funding a facility or facilities to address the increased student enrollments at Lake Murray Elementary School, Chapin Elementary School, and Chapin Middle

School as well as the need for an auditorium at Chapin High School and for renovations for the remaining older elementary schools (Dutch Fork, Harbison West, H. E. Corley, and Nursery Road).

Vision 2015 also calls for the expansion and creation of magnet programs for schools throughout the district. In addition to the four magnet programs which previously have been established, proposals are being developed for a magnet program for Irmo Middle School and at least three elementary schools for the 2013-14 school year to ensure maximum usage of existing space and to meet the unique educational needs of our students. Today, there are students from all 12 elementary schools attending the magnet program at Harbison West Elementary School. The engineering magnet at Leaphart Elementary School has almost 100 applicants (coming from all elementary schools in the district) for the 2012-2013 school year.

Another huge need for the district is to expand access to and usage of 21st Century technologies to improve teaching and learning. Great progress is being made in this regard. Included within the 2012-2013 Capital Budget is funding for wireless technological devices for all high school teachers and plans have been made to provide these devices to all students and teachers in the district over the course of the next five years. Furthermore, funding from the General Operating Budget has been requested to ensure that the district has the capacity to provide the professional development training and the district technology staff necessary to ensure the success of our technology initiatives.

Other Relevant Information

As my performance as superintendent is evaluated, I would respectfully request that you consider the following data points in addition to the information presented above.

1. The academic performance of our students is outstanding.
 - Our district's report card grade on the "absolute performance" rating from the state was an "excellent" for the second consecutive year.
 - All 19 traditional schools in the district received "Palmetto Gold or Silver" awards for the 2011-2012 school year.
 - The district's average SAT score exceeded both state and national averages and is the second highest in the state.
 - The percentage of students enrolled in Advanced Placement courses is among the highest in the state as is the percentage of students earning a "3" or higher on at least one AP test.
 - The classes of 2012 earned more than \$117 million in scholarship offers (the highest total in district history).

2. Our district's fiscal audit was excellent.

- On the annual audit of the district's financial accounting, the district received an "unqualified opinion with no material weaknesses or significant findings" from our outside auditors.

3. Great strides are being made in our new construction and facilities improvement program.

- The major improvements (provided by funding from the 2008 Bond Referendum) at Chapin Elementary, Leaphart Elementary, and Seven Oaks Elementary are nearing completion.
- The major additions and renovations (provided by funding from the 2008 Bond Referendum) at Irmo Elementary are scheduled for completion in August 2012.
- The major additions and renovations (provided by funding from the 2008 Bond Referendum) at Chapin High School have been initiated.
- The Center for Advanced Technical Studies (provided by funding from the 2008 Bond Referendum) is under construction and scheduled to open in August 2012.
- The district's fourth high school (provided by funding from the 2008 Bond Referendum) is under construction and scheduled to open in August 2013.
- The conceptual designs for major improvements at Irmo High School and Dutch Fork High School (provided by the 2008 Bond Referendum) have been approved by the Board.

4. The District continues to receive positive recognition for its outstanding students, staff and schools. Among those recognitions are:

- Dr. Christina Melton was named as South Carolina's Elementary Principal of the Year.
- Dr. Karl Fulmer was selected to receive the William B. Harley Lifetime Achievement Award from the South Carolina Association of School Administrators.
- Mr. Craig Andrysczyk was selected as a finalist for South Carolina's Teacher of the Year.
- Irmo Middle School's Scott Thur was named S.C. Autism Teacher of the Year.
- Dutch Fork High School's Norma Brown was named Entrepreneurial Teacher of the Year.
- Dutch Fork High School's Ginny Haynes was named S.C. Dance Instructor of the Year.
- *U.S. News and World Report* ranked Chapin High School and Dutch Fork High School as the 4th and 5th best high schools, respectively, in South Carolina.
- *The Washington Post* ranked Dutch Fork High School and Chapin High School as the 4th and 5th best high schools, respectively, in South Carolina.

- The Dutch Fork High School Girls Basketball Team won the state 4A championship.
- The Chapin High School cheerleaders won the state 3A championship.
- The Chapin High School Boys Tennis Team won the state 3A championship.
- The Chapin High School Naval JROTC was named the best unit in the nation.
- The District's Skills USA Teams, as well as several individuals, earned the honor of competing in the National competition.
- Wrestlers from Irmo High and Chapin High won three individual state championships.
- Twenty three (23) additional teachers earned National Board Certification.

5. New initiatives are helping create a "sense of family" across the district.

- The newly-established District Five Foundation for Educational Excellence (DFFEE) is building support for our District through such activities as "The Walk Across the Dam", professional development initiatives (i.e., STEAM Conference and Back-to-School Rally), and through grants to our schools, teachers, and programs.
- *Footloose*, the first intra-district musical, was a huge success.
- The "\$5 for Five" program, which provides a back pack for students filled with food to sustain them over weekends, has been supported with great enthusiasm by many individuals, churches, and civic groups in our community.
- 448 employees have joined the Superintendent in the "5 to be Fit" weight loss program.