MUSCOGEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Muscogee County School District
Columbus, Georgia

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Tuesday, January 19, 1999, 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Muscogee County School District was held on Tuesday, January 19, 1999, 6:30 p.m., in the Conference room at the Bradley Library.

The following members were present: Mary Sue Polleys, Chairman; James Walker, Vice Chairman; David E. Ebron, Linda Parker, Barbara M. Pierce, Philip T. Schley, Brenda Storey, and Fife M. Whiteside.

Others present: Guy W. Sims, Superintendent of Education; James E. Humes, II, Legal Counsel; Dr. William Hortman, Associate Superintendent; Brenda Dozier, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services; Fred M. Jones, Treasurer; Billy Kendall, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent; Gordon Stallings, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction; Susan Taunton, Internal Auditor; Tom Walters, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel, representatives from the media, and others.

Mrs. Polleys called the meeting to order with an invocation and pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Ms. Polleys recognized the Carver Basketball Team. They were given special recognition for being number one in the AAAA Region and placing number five at the national level at a competition in Myrtle Beach where they were one of ten schools in the nation competing. It was noted they were moved up on the agenda because they had to leave to play in a basketball game.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the election of the 1999 officers: Ms. Mary Sue Polleys, Chairperson; Mr. James Walker, Vice Chairman; Mr. Guy W. Sims, Secretary; and Mr. Fred M. Jones, Treasurer.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Ms. Storey, the Board unanimously approved Jim Humes as Parliamentarian and that the law firm of Hatcher, Stubbs, Land, Hollis & Rothschild be appointed as legal counsel for the Board of Education of Muscogee County for the calendar year of 1999.

Ms. Polleys replied that she and Mr. Walker are honored to serve as Chair and Vice Chair and thanked the Board for their confidence.

Dr. Philip T. Schley was welcomed as a new Board member.

The Board approved a motion to excuse John Wells' absence. Ms. Polleys explained that he was absent due to being out of the country on a church mission trip.

Ms. Polleys recognized and welcomed visitors attending the Board meeting.

The Board gave special recognition to students from the MCSD/PAGE Academic Bowl. Both Arnold and Fort Middle Schools will represent the Southwest Region in the State Finals to be played in Griffin, Georgia on January 30. The teams demonstrated a competition for the Board.

There were no persons to speak on the public forum.

Ms. Polleys read a letter from Mr. David Rothschild thanking the Board for the retirement ceremony, resolution and engraved light house presented to him at the December 1998 Board meeting.

The Board approved the December 14, 1998, Board minutes after Mr. Whiteside requested they be amended to include an attached copy of the resolution presented to Mr. Rothschild at the December meeting.

Upon motion of Ms. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the recommendation for students to wear uniforms at South Columbus Elementary School for the 1999-2000 school year.

Upon motion of Ms. Storey, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved for Roosevelt Hunter, a motivational speaker for young people, to speak at individual schools if desired.

Upon motion of Ms. Storey, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the AIDS Day material sent out by the Georgia Department of Education for grades 6 through 12.

Upon motion of Ms. Storey, seconded by Ms. Pierce, the Board unanimously approved for Jordan Vocational High School to proceed in designing a Career Academy.

Upon motion of Ms. Storey, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved a plan of Block scheduling for high schools. This motion will permit (not require) high schools to move to block scheduling. Mr. Whiteside noted that since this is not a requirement, schools would be allowed flexibility in their schedule if needed for innovative programs. It was confirmed that all high schools desire to go to Block scheduling at this time.

Item "F" under the action agenda was deferred to next month in order that all Board members have an opportunity to vote.

Upon motion of Ms. Storey, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved the MCSD Strategic Plan, 1999-2003. This was addendum item #2. Mr. Whiteside asked that the record show that the format had been changed from what was published in the newspaper but the content is the same with one action goal added as a result of public input.

It was noted that in the absence of Mr. Wells, Chairman of the Finance Committee, Mr. Whiteside would be presenting items for the Finance Committee.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Ms. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the Financial Statements for five months ending November 30, 1998.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the purchase order to Troup Electric Membership Corporation in an amount not to exceed $7,000.00 for the relocation of a power line at the Daniel Middle School Replacement Facility site.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Ms. Storey, the Board unanimously approved change order number 1 in the amount of $72,000.00 to be added to the original contract for the construction of New Middle School No. 3 the Baker Middle School Replacement Facility.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved change order number 3 in the amount of $21,574.00 to be added to the original contract for construction of Fort Middle School addition project.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Ms. Storey, the Board unanimously approved change order No. 2 in the amount of $51,212.00 to be added to the original contract for the HVAC and related modifications at Kendrick High School.

Moving to Addendum item #1, upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Dr. Schley, the Board unanimously approved to table the assignment of an architectural firm for New High School No. 1 project to a time certain at next Board meeting in order for the Administration to have time to address some questions.

Upon motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Ms. Pierce, the Board voted unanimously to change the Monday, February 15, 1999 Board meeting to Tuesday, February 16, 1999 because of Presidents Day holiday.

Upon the motion of Ms. Storey, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved the following consent agenda items:

- Approved Personnel Report

- Approved contracts awarded:
  1. B & H Photo Video, low bidder, in the amount of $3,500.00 for a digital tape recorder at the Patterson Planetarium.

  2. Technical Laboratory Associates, low bidder, in the amount of $6,000.00 for a CNC modular lathe at Spencer High School.

  3. Phenix Mechanical Contractors, low bidder, in the amount of $215,400.00 for HVAC renovations at the Columbus Museum.

- Purchase order to Spitz, Inc., in the amount of $4,162.00 for the maintenance of Model 512 equipment at Patterson Planetarium.

- New budgets:
  1. FY '99 cultural Arts Program
  2. FY '99 Drafting and Design and Health Occupations "Program Certification" Grant—Career Education.

- Budget adjustment in Capital Projects Fund FY '99 budget for additional funds donated and deposited in the Waverly Terrace Renovation Account. These donated monies are to be used for landscaping around this facility.

Upon motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously voted to go into executive session to hear six discipline appeals, to discuss a property matter, and to discuss a personnel matter.

The Board unanimously approved a motion to come out of executive session.

The Board unanimously voted to adjourn the regular January 19, 1999 meeting of the Board.

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James E. Humes, II
Legal Counsel