

MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 19, 1999, 6:30 P.M.

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Muscogee County School District was held on Monday, July 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, Philip Schley, Fife Whiteside, John Wells, Barbara Pierce and Brenda Storey.

Others present: Guy W. Sims, Superintendent of Education, James E. Humes, II, Legal Counsel, Fred M. Jones, Treasurer, Brenda Dozier Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Billy Kendall, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, Bill Hortman, Associate Superintendent, and representatives from the media.

Mrs. Polleys called the meeting to order with an invocation and pledge of allegiance to the flag. Mrs. Polleys recognized visitors in the audience, a class from Georgia Military College, Bill Jarrett's class, official PTA representative from Mathews Elementary, Doris Halouska from the League of Women Voters and Friends of the Library, Ted Edgar from the Friends of the Library, Junie Christian from the Coalition of Children Youth and Families, John Adams from Partners In Education and a PAGE representative.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved official actions taken at the regular Board of Education meeting on June 21, 1999 as corrected.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Jose' Negron for the position of Principal at Arnold Middle School.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mrs. Pierce, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Ed Smith for the position of Principal at Marshall Middle School.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Donna Kemp for the position of Principal at Bibb Elementary School.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board approved the appointment of Joe Ryan for the position of Principal at Mathews Elementary School. The vote was (5) affirming, (1) abstaining and (2) opposing.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Matt Bell for the position of Assistant Principal at Hardaway High School.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Lawrence Lipscomb for the position of Assistant Principal at Columbus High School. Mr. Lipscomb was not in attendance.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Willie Watts for the position of Assistant Principal at Kendrick High School.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mrs. Pierce, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Dr. Vera Varner for the position of Assistant Principal at Daniel Middle School.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Sheila Brock for the position of Assistant Principal at Blanchard Elementary School.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Dr. Edward Barnwell for the position of Assistant Principal at Midland Middle School.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Sylvia Bunn for the position of Manager at the Mildred L. Terry Branch Library. Ms. Bunn was not in attendance.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Dana Brumbelow for the position of Manager at the North Columbus Branch Library. Ms. Brumbelow was not in attendance.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved a \$75,000 expenditure for the Employee Assistance Program with the Business Resource Center.

Mr. Whiteside asked permission of the Chair to change the order of the agenda and was so granted.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved a contract between Muscogee County School District and Region 9 FY2000 for funding the Peer Helper Conference.

Mr. Whiteside asked the Parliamentarian if he moved the motion regarding uniforms at Clubview Elementary, could he come back and ask that the item be tabled? Mr. Humes said that it would be appropriate for him to do so.

Mr. Whiteside made the motion, seconded by Mr. Ebron, to approve students to begin wearing uniforms at Clubview Elementary for the 1999-2000 school year. Mr. Whiteside then made a motion to table the main motion, seconded by Mr. Ebron until a date certain to the next school Board meeting. Mr. Whiteside informed the Board that he had received 4 or 5 phone calls from parents at Clubview with concerns. They have alleged that there were irregularities in the way the vote was taken. Mr. Ebron stated if the item is tabled, school will have started by the time of the next school board meeting and he is concerned that parents have already prepared for the new school year with uniforms in mind. Mr. Whiteside said that he had tried to contact Ms. Lindsey, the Principal because she has a right to be at the meeting to answer the charges. Mrs. Polleys asked for the vote on the motion to table. The vote to table was (4) affirming and (4) opposing. Mrs. Polleys said the motion to table failed because it needs (5) votes to pass. Mrs. Polleys called for a vote on the main motion to approve the wearing of uniforms at Clubview for the 1999-2000 school year. The vote was (6) affirming and (2) opposing. Mr. Whiteside asked that this item be on the agenda at the next Board meeting so that the Administration at Clubview can be given a chance to respond to the slanderous charges.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the FY2000 Special Education Comprehensive Plans as required for local school districts.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved financial statements for eleven months ending May 31, 1999.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved a resolution allowing the school district to establish an investment account with Synovus Securities, Inc.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved a resolution providing board approval of travel to functions of GSBA and NSBA.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the plans and specifications for the construction of new elementary school no. 4 to be built on the Psalmomd Road site next to Midland Middle School as prepared by Southern A&E, LLC, Architects and Engineers.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously awarded a contract in the amount of \$46,836.00 to Summit Systems, Inc., low bidder, for data cabling at Fort Middle School.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously awarded a contract in the amount of \$68,025.62 to Southeastern Cabling Contractors, low bidder, for data cabling at Arnold Middle School.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously awarded a contract in the amount of \$14,175.00 to Grant Environmental Contractors, Inc., low bidder, for the installation of an irrigation system at Midland Middle School. The Administration received only one bid for landscaping and will re-bid the item for the next meeting.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved a purchase order to Federalgraphics in the amount of \$5,838.00 for a digital duplicator at Midland Middle School.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved a purchase order to Columbus Paper Company in the amount of \$2,853.81 for a floor scrubber at Midland Middle School.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved \$12,500.00 in budgeted SPLOST funds to be used to offset the purchase of a dish machine at Columbus High School.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved payment of \$400,000.00 to the Columbus Water Works for the installation of a sewer trunk line on the Williams Road property to accommodate the three new schools to be built on this site.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Dr. Schley, the Board unanimously approved French & Associates, landscape architects, to prepare a site topographic survey and site engineering services for parking lot improvements at Columbus High School. The total fee for services will be \$6,950.00.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the transfer of funds in the amount of \$275,000.00 set aside in FY2000 Capital Projects Fund budget for construction of a warehouse to a major equipment and improvement needs fund for improvements at various schools.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the adjustment to the revenue FY99 budget in the General Fund.

Mrs. Polleys directed the Board's attention to the addendum.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the non-binding letter of intent as it relates to the Library.

Mrs. Polleys called on the Administration to inform the Board regarding a recognition program that encourages the school custodian teams to give better service that leads to having the cleanest and most attractive facility. In addition the Administration has proposed modifications in the punishment list for student conduct on school buses.

Mr. Wells pointed out that Mr. Ebron will not be able to attend the Inter-City Leadership Conference in Austin, Texas with the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the following consent agenda items with the exception of items D, 2, 3, and 4:

- Approved Personnel Report (Appendix A)
- Awarded contracts to various vendors for paper products, linen, bread, juice, and dairy products in School Nutrition Program.
- Awarded contract to Columbus Productions, Inc. in the amount of \$6,138.00 for printing student behavior code booklet.
- Approved confirmation purchase order to Convergent Media Systems in the amount of \$8,215.00 to install a satellite dish at Midland Middle School.
- Approved confirmation purchase order to Deep South Compressors, Inc. in the amount of \$2,900.00 for a rebuilt air conditioner compressor at Bradley Library.

- Approved two confirmation purchase orders to Integral Systems, Inc., in the total amount of \$22,800.00 for the upgrade of payroll/personnel software.
- Approved purchase order to KAM, Inc. in the amount of \$3,400.00 for the removal of a hydraulic lift at Spencer.
- Approved three purchase orders to Motorola and Columbus Consolidated Government in the total amount of \$320,730.31 for updating two way radio systems at Plant Services and Security Department.
- Approved purchase order to Trapeze Software in the amount of \$15,420.00 for base license renewal fee to make school assignments and for use in Transportation for routes and mileage.
- Approved purchase order to Computer Associates International, Inc., in the amount of \$16,248.00 for software maintenance of CA-Foundation License for the school district's mainframe.
- Approved new budget for FY99 Georgia School of Excellence Grant for Hardaway High School.
- Approved new budget for JTPA Summer Youth Contract Program at Kendrick High School.
- Approved new budget for Chattahoochee Valley Regional Library LSTA Technology and Connectivity Grant.
- Approved new budget for JTPA Section 1234 training Funds Contract for Adult Education Department.
- Approved new budget for Federal and State applications for funding of Adult Education Programs.
- Approved new budget for FY2000 Special Education Comprehensive Plan.
- Approved new budget for SIA FY2000.
- Approved new budget for Pre-Kindergarten FY2000.
- Approved new budget for Technology/Career Education Capital Outlay FY99 for Health Occupations Program at Teenage Parenting Center.
- Approved new budget for Safe & Drug Free Schools FY2000.
- Approved financial assistance in the total amount of \$1,000.00.
- Approved attendance of Board Members Walker and Pierce to attend Inter-City Leadership Conference with the Columbus Chamber of Commerce in Austin, Texas, September 15-17, 1999.

Mr. Walker asked that the Administration briefly review the rationale for the School District becoming a part of the Columbus Consolidated Government's radio system. Mr. Jones said last year MCSD agreed to join the City Government in their radio system. The first phase was to put the Transportation Department and the second phase is to join the Maintenance Department into the system with radios connection also with Public Safety. Mr. Sims said that it would cost the system close to a million dollars to put up our own tower so by joining in with the City MCSD is coming out a lot cheaper. Mr. Walker also inquired of plans for the school district's software maintenance license for routes, mileage and the school district's mainframe.

Upon motion of Mr. Ebron, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved the absence of Mrs. Parker.

Upon motion of Mr. Ebron, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously voted to go into executive session regarding a property matter.

Upon motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board voted unanimously to come out of executive session.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board.

James E. Humes, II
Legal Counsel.