CALLED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
MONDAY, JUNE 7, 1999

MINUTES

A called meeting of the Board of Education of the Muscogee County School District was held on Monday, June 7, 1999 at 12:00 noon in the conference room at the Bradley Library.

The following Board Members were present: Mary Sue Polleys, Chairman, James Walker, Vice Chairman, Philip Schley, Linda Parker, Fife Whiteside, John Wells, Barbara Pierce, David Ebron 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, Gordon Stallings, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, William Hortman, Associate Superintendent, Billy Kendall, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Myles Caggins, Assistant Superintendent for Business Affairs and representatives from the media.

Mrs. Polleys called the meeting to order with an invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Mrs. Polleys stated that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss and take action on a tentative budget for FY00. Mrs. Polleys stated that this was only a tentative process, a public hearing would be held on June 15, 1999 at 7:00 p.m. after committee meetings and the second public hearing and final adoption would be at the regular meeting of the Board on June 21, 1999.

Mr. Sims informed the Board that he was bringing the Board a balanced budget and after concentrating on the guidelines of the Board he excluded some of his own priorities. Mr. Sims informed the Board that teachers had to be reduced from this budget. Mr. Wells asked about new positions being created and the need for such. Mr. Sims stated that one new position was left in the budget that is for a systemwide e-rate person for the system. Mr. Jones commented that this new job is needed because of moving rapidly from a mainframe environment and needing a systemwide network person where everything is neutralized. Mr. Sims stated that a position was eliminated in Personnel and one has been added in Student Services. Mr. Jones said an instructional technology specialist has also been added that was employed with a grant. Mr. Whiteside commented that the position in Student Services is important because of Mrs. Allen dealing with the rezoning issues.

Mr. Sims detailed the Superintendent's priorities (Attached) for the Board such as a supplemental retirement plan for public school employees who are not a part of the teacher retirement system. Mr. Jones stated that this plan would include, bus drivers, maintenance, custodians, and cafeteria workers but not those workers classified as supervisors in those areas. Mr. Ebron stated that he has met with this group and this is an issue for them. Mr. Walker commented that there is a morale problem with these people because of their retirement benefits. Mrs. Parker commented that there is a need for a grant writer rather than a teacher on assignment for grant writing and maybe this can be considered in the next budget. Mr. Ebron said that even now, we have people writing grants spending a great deal of time such as in Student Services and it could be an incentive to offer a portion of the grant as salary if it could be done. Mr. Wells said he concurred that it would be an incentive if we could utilize part of the grant for their salary, it would be worth looking into or use somebody that is retiring and wants to work 49% of the time. Mr. Sims said he would like to have that option. Mrs. Polleys commended the Administration for giving the Boards' priorities (Attached) consideration.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the adoption of a tentative budget for FY2000.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the special called meeting of the Board.

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James E. Humes, II – Legal Counsel