MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2000, 6:30 P.M.

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Muscogee County School District was held on Monday, April 24, 2000, 6:30 p.m. in the conference room at the Bradley Library.

The following members were present: James Walker, Vice Chairman, David E Ebron, Linda Parker, Fife M. Whiteside, John Wells, Barbara Pierce, and Brenda Storey.

Others present: James E. Humes, Legal Counsel, Fred M. Jones, Treasurer, Brenda Dozier, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Tom Walters, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel, Gordon Stallings, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Billy Kendall, Administrative Assistant, and representatives from the media.

Mr. Walker called the meeting to order with an invocation and pledge of allegiance to the flag, led by Kavontay Cook, a student from 30th Avenue Elementary. The Columbus High School Boys' Quartet performed a musical selection for the Board. Mr. Walker recognized visitors in the audience, PTA representatives and Leadership Columbus participants. Mr. Walker called on Bill Hortman who in the absence of Mr. Sims recognized the 50th Anniversary Committee. Mrs. Dozier and Laura Sartin recognized a student from Edgewood Elementary and Carver High who won the National Very Special Arts Poem Contest; Mr. Stallings recognized Edgewood Elementary which achieved the Model Library Certification; Annette Walters introduced the student winner of the Bob Jerrolds Award given by the Georgia International Reading Association; and student Spelling Bee winners; Mrs. Stallings recognized students and their teachers who won National FBLA and DECA Competition; Susan Bryant, Principal at Columbus High recognized winners from Columbus High School who won in the Literary Meet and those students from Columbus High who won the Science Olympiad Competition; Keith Seifert, Principal at Hardaway High recognized winners in the Academic Decathlon, Weightlifting, and ROTC Competition; and Maxine Lee of the Instruction Office recognized Social Science Fair Regional winners. There was no one to speak on the public forum.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Parker, the Board unanimously approved official actions taken at the regular Board of Education meeting on March 20, 2000 and a called Board meeting held on April 10, 2000.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously voted to excuse Mrs. Polleys and Dr. Schley from the regular meeting of the Board due to personal business.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Pauline Talley for the position of Principal at J. D. Davis Elementary for the 2000-2001 school year.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Carol Casion for the position of Principal at Key Elementary for the 2000-2001 school year.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Bill Watson for the position of Principal at Georgetown Elementary for the 2000-2001 school year.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Donna Johnson for the position of Principal at Edgewood Elementary for the 2000-2001 school year.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the name of the new elementary school on Psalmond Road as Midland Academy.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mrs. Parker, the Board unanimously approved the final local technology and Career Education Curriculum Guides.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the proposed International Baccalaureate Program for Hardaway High School. Mr. Whiteside commented to Mr. Seifert that this is a school driven initiative and the Board commends them.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved financial statements for eight months ending February 29, 2000.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved Robinson, Grimes & Company to perform financial and compliance audits of the school district for four fiscal years ending June 30, 2000 through 2003.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved plaques that will display the names of Baker Middle, Martin Luther King, Jr., Double Churches Middle, East Columbus Magnet Academy and Midland Academy. Mrs. Parker noted that the plaque will also include the citizens of Columbus, Georgia who made it possible for the Muscogee County School District to have new schools and renovations.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, as one motion the Board unanimously approved items K - through – R, the following change orders: change order no. 1 for Arnold Middle in the amount of $5,696.38 for a data-cabling project; change order no. 1 for Fort Middle in the amount of $15,411.92 for a data-cabling project; change order no. 12 for Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary; change order no. 1 for Allen Elementary in the amount of $28,386.80 for an early site package; change order no. 5 for Reese Road in the amount of $66,792.48 for construction work; change order no. 9 for Midland Academy in the amount of $48,585.68 for construction work; change order no. 1 for Fox/Bibb Replacement facility in the amount of $90,185.68 for construction work; and change order no. 9 for Baker Middle School in the amount of $139,456.78 for construction work.

The Administration asked that the Board hold any action on item S-Bids for construction at Marshall Middle and; item T-Bids for HVAC system at Columbus High be held until the called Board meeting on Friday in which additional information will be presented.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously awarded a contract in the amount of $665,147.00 to Davis Electrical Service and Contracting Company for computer power at Double Churches, Hannan, Brewer, Mathews and Carver and approve a budget in the total amount of $740,308.61.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, as one motion the Board unanimously approved the following items: awarded a contract in the amount of $225,421.00 to Columbus Power Company, low bidder for re-lighting of Kinnett Stadium and approved the budget in the total amount of $262,840.59; assignment of architects for the last twelve projects that are under the SPLOST program.; assignment of JRA Architects, Inc., to prepare plans and specifications for the renovation of Hardaway High School's kitchen and approved the budget of $316,727.00; approved a request from the City of Columbus, Georgia for accel/decel lanes at St. Marys and Blanchard Elementary Schools; approved a request from BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., for an easement across a portion of a lot at Hannan Elementary; and approved four emergency purchase orders to A-Com Protection Services, Inc., for burglar alarm systems at ten schools.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board approved the following consent agenda items:

- Approved Personnel Report (Appendix A).
- Approved two students from Blackmon Road to travel to Savannah for All-State chorus competition.
- Approved two students from Richards to travel to Savannah for All State chorus competition.
- Approved students from Daniel Middle to travel to Savannah for All-State chorus competition.
- Approved students from Midland Middle to travel to Savannah for All State chorus competition.

- Approved journalism students from Hardaway to travel to Athens for GA Scholastic Press Convention.
- Approved selected students from Hardaway to travel to Germany, Austria and Switzerland.
- Approved emergency purchase order to G&P Heavy Truck Body Works in the amount of $5,412.03 for bus repair.
- Approved emergency purchase order to Quail Country in the amount of $3,200.00 for repair to wheelchair lift on school bus.
- Approved purchase order to Deep South Compressors for a spare Trane Compressor in the amount of $5,400.00 at Hardaway High.
- Approved purchase order to Dell Marketing for a poweredge file server in the amount of $3,995.00 for software license, installation.
- Approved purchase order to Computer Curriculum Corporation in the amount of $3,000.00 for software license, installation.
- Approved purchase order to Dell Marketing, LP, in the amount of $7,905.00 for a server in Transportation Department.
- Approved purchase order to Woodworker's Supply in the amount of $3,542.00 for a shaper costing at Carver in construction program.
- Awarded a contract to American Canopy & Window, low bidder in the total amount of $13,272.00 for venetian blinds at various locations.
- Approved contract renewal to Columbus Fire & Safety Equipment Company, Inc., in the amount of $11,472.00 for furnishing and refilling fire extinguishers.
- Approved contract renewal to Waste Management of Alabama in the amount of $179,095.00 for solid waste pick-up service for the school district.
- Approved contract renewal to Orkin Exterminating Company in the amount of $56,633.18 for pest control services.
- Approved contract renewal to Stevens Gymnasium, Inc., in the amount of $14,268.00 to screen, paint and re-coat gym floors at various locations.
- Approved contract renewal to Southeastern Facility Management, Inc., in the amount of $56,620.08 for carpet cleaning in various locations.
- Approved new budget High School Remedial Summer School, $57,868.83.
- Approved new budget Governor's Discretionary Fund, $15,000.00.
- Approved new budget Pre-K Professional Development Enhancement grant, $40,000.00
- Approved new budget Title VI, carryover funds.
- Approved new budget One-Stop Grant funds, $5,800.00 for Tillinghurst Adult Education.
- Approved budget adjustment over $25,000.00 for Blanchard Pay for Performance.
- Approved budget adjustment over $25,000.00, FY99 carry-over funds for Even Start Family Literacy Program.

- Approved budget adjustment FY00 Homeless Children Youth Program.
- Approved budget adjustment Adult Education for additional Staff Development funds.
- Approved budget adjustment FY00 State and Federal Preschool.
- Approved the appointment of Joe Byrd, Insurance Consultant for Insurance Review Management.
- Approved financial assistance for three employees in the total amount of $4,870.00.

Mrs. Pierce asked if there was any clarification regarding trips presented to the Board. Mrs. Dozier informed the Board that there is a policy in place that would allow the superintendent to approve student absences for school related activities up to three days and that these approvals would be listed as information items on the board agenda.

Mr. Wells updated the Board regarding the use of the property at Lake Bottom by Columbus High School athletics. Pursuant to the resolution that was presented to the City Council, construction has been halted and the City Manager informed Mr. Wells that they are now working on a plan that would keep Columbus High Schools fields whole for use and when they make a presentation to Council, they would include the school district. The City Manager also informed Mr. Wells that the City needs an agreement with the Board prior to presenting the plan to City Council.

Mrs. Parker commented that as information to the public audience attending, the items approved have been thoroughly discussed in committees, therefore discussion at the Board meeting is limited.

Mr. Wells informed that Board that a sample resolution has been sent to Mr. Sims from Georgia School Boards regarding health care insurance. There are changes that would allow Board members to participate in an insurance program but GSBA would be collecting the premiums and a resolution would need to be approved in order for Board members to participate. Mr. Humes commented that if the Board decides to contract with GSBA to allow them to procure the health insurance plan, then the law requires that the Board must have an agreement with them and this is by resolution. Each individual Board member would have the option of participating in the insurance plan by way of a resolution signed by that Board member. The premiums that the school boards pay for individual members who choose to participate are pegged to the same percentage that the state pays it employees through the state sponsored health plan which GSBA says at this time is 75%. It would be up to the individual board member to come up with the balance, which is now 25%. Mr. Jones commented that there are two resolutions; (1) an inter-governmental agreement between the school district and GSBA; and (2) each individual Board member who chooses to be a member will have to sign an individual resolution as proof of a desire to enter the plan. Mr. Jones informed the Board that there is some risk involved. It was the consensus of the Board that this item be placed on the agenda for the called board meeting on Friday, April 28th.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously voted to go into executive session to hear a student discipline appeal.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously voted to come out of executive session.

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

James E. Humes, II
Legal Counsel