MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 15, 2000, 6:30 P.M.

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Muscogee County School District was held on Monday, May 15, 2000, 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 T. Schley, Linda Parker, Fife Whiteside, John Wells, Barbara Pierce, and Brenda Storey.

Others present: Carter Page, Legal Counsel, Fred M. Jones, treasurer, Brenda Dozier, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Billy Kendall, Administrative Assistant, Gordon Stallings, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Tom Walters, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel, 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, led by students from Waddell Elementary School. The Mathews Elementary 3rd grade class under the direction of Joe Elder presented a musical story to the Board. Mrs. Polleys, recognized visitors in the audience; Leadership Columbus participants; Mr. & Mrs. Halouska, representing Friends of the Libraries and League of Women Voters, Mr. Ditchfield, representing the South Columbus Concerned Citizens and the Muscogee Education Excellence Foundation Board, Gifted Program representative and PTA representatives. Mr. Sims introduced Janice Hudson, Teacher of the Year for 2000, a Physics teacher at Columbus High School; Brewer Elementary was recognized for winning the GAESP School Bell Award for 2000; Dr. VanderGheynst introduced four teachers who won Teaching with Technology awards; Faye McCollum introduced three teachers who are District Science Teachers of the Year; Tom Meltzer introduced student winners for the State Science Fair; Brenda Dozier introduced Laura Owens who designed the Elementary Coloring Book of Discipline Rules; Steve Pitts introduced Bob Yarborough who received the Outstanding Vocational Education award from Wright Associates.

Mrs. Polleys asked if the Board would agree at this point to go to the second item on the action agenda because Mr. Wells had to leave. The Board agreed to take up a personnel item.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Rodney Harrison as principal of Gentian Elementary School.

Mrs. Polleys then returned to the Board recognitions. Steve Pitts introduced students who won the National Skills USA/VICA competition; Mr. Sims recognized Fred Jones and his department for winning a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the U.S. Government. It was noted that Mr. Jones and his department have won this award for twelve years.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved official actions taken at the regular Board of Education meeting on April 24, 2000 and called Board meetings on April 28 and May 9.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. Joseph G. Saulsbury as Principal at Carver High School for the 2000-2001 school year.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved Felicia Johnson as assistant principal at Dimon/St. Marys Elementary Schools for the 2000-2001 school year.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Angelia Britton as Education Coordinator at Columbus Museum.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the Elementary Behavior Code and Discipline Policy handbook.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved revisions to policy IFBH as it relates to Internet/Network acceptable use.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved tuition for Conduct Summer School. The fees remain the same as last year.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the request from the Columbus Police Department to use Kinnett Stadium for their Fire Games on June 21, 2000 in accordance with the policy on use of facilities.

Upon motion of Mrs. Pierce, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the delay in the timeline for the projected organizational cost of the new library to the June Board meeting.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved new budgets in Technology/Career Education.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved elementary summer school for grades 3 through 5 from June 19 through August 4, 2000. Mr. Sims commented that there may be State money available for those students who cannot afford the tuition but he will continue looking into the matter. Mr. Sims also informed the Board that the site will be changed from Downtown Elementary and the Administration is working on a new location.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved financial statements for nine months ending March 31, 2000.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously awarded a contract in the amount of $188,770.00 to Diversified Sheet Metal and Roofing Systems, Inc., low bidder for the re-roofing of Benning Hills Elementary School and approve the budget in the amount of $209,535.00.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously awarded contracts in the total amount of $469,793.07 to the low bidder as indicated for gymnasium renovations at Arnold, Eddy, Fort, Marshall, Richards, Rothschild, Spencer, and Shaw and $275,950.00 for gymnasium renovations at Columbus High.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously awarded a contract in the total amount of $96,681.00 to Warr Grading Contractor, Inc., for paving the bus driver training range and widening the driveway to Plant Services from Whitesville Road.

Mr. Whiteside amended a motion seconded by Mr. Ebron, to reflect the correct amounts in awarding a contract in the amount of $38,944.00 to Grant Environmental Contractors, Inc., low bidder for the Baker Middle School landscaping and irrigation work and approve the budget in the amount of $43,227.84 and award a contract in the amount of $43,500.00 to A-Cut-Above Landscape Management, low bidder for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School landscaping and irrigation work and approve the budget in the amount of $48,285.00. The Board unanimously voted to award these contracts.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Dr. Schley, the Board unanimously awarded a contract in the amount of $1,130,760.00 to Holley Construction Company & Associates, Inc., low bidder for renovations and alterations to Jordan High and approved the budget in the amount of $1,265,143.00.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mrs. Parker, the Board unanimously approved the plans for construction at Waddell Elementary as prepared by Neal, Kendust and Murray, P.C., Architects.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved change order no. 10 in the amount of $15,283.84 to be added to the original contract for construction at Double Churches Middle School.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved change order no. 2 for $40,360.32 to be added to the original contract for construction at Fox/Bibb replacement facility.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved change order no. 6 in the amount of $3,519.20 to be added to the original contract for construction at Dimon Elementary.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved change order no. 2 in the amount of $20,357.30 to be added to the original contact for construction of Allen Elementary early site package.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved change order no. 4 in the amount of $46,588.06 to be added to the original contract for construction, renovations, modifications and additions at Edgewood Elementary.

Mrs. Polleys stated that there is an addendum and that item A regarding the construction at Marshall Middle School will be delayed until the called Board meeting on May 22. Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved an application to the Division of Family and Children Services for a mini grant at the Teenage Parenting Center to purchase equipment.

Upon motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board voted unanimously to go into executive session to hear (2) student discipline appeals.

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

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

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James E. Humes, II
Legal Counsel