

MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA
MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2001, 6:30 P.M.

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Muscogee County School District was held on Monday, December 17, 2001, 6:30 p.m. at the Columbus Museum.

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, Brenda Storey and Owen Ditchfield.

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, Shirley Jaeger, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel, Myles Caggins, Assistant Superintendent for Business Affairs, Billy Kendall, Administrative Assistant, Bill Hortman, Associate Superintendent, Gordon Stallings, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, and representatives from the media.

Dr. Polleys called the meeting to order with an invocation and pledge of allegiance to the flag led by students from Reese Road Elementary. Musical performances by: Mrs. Joann Wilson, Allen Elementary Fourth Grade, Richards Middle School Orchestra and Carver High Mixed Ensemble. The Board recognized two teachers Joyce DeCarlo and Betty Spragg for National Teacher Certification; Georgia School Counselors Association State leadership team, Gwen Barnes, B. J. McBride, Shelby Eagle, and Bea Allen. GSCA State winners were Calvin Smyre as Legislator of the Year, Bea Allen as Region 5 Elementary Counselor of the year, and Guy W. Sims as Region 5 Advocate of the Year for GSCA. Dr. Polleys recognized Mark Rice and Richard Hyatt for the GSBA Beacon Award recipients. Also recognized were the City and Regional Championship winner, Shaw High School. Knox Culpepper Sportsmanship Trophy went to Columbus High School. Nolan Murrah and Fred Wyrosdick were in attendance who played football with Knox Culpepper. Rochelle Jones, Principal at Blanchard Elementary introduced Michelle Boyd who spearheaded the Stars & Stripes flag project at Blanchard. Karl Roberts introduced and recognized representatives from the West Central Georgia Health District

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Ditchfield, the Board unanimously approved official actions taken at the regular Board of Education meeting held on November 19, 2001.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Ms. Jan Greene to the position of lead teacher in the Health Improvement Program.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board approved the revision to policy BCBF regarding Board Meeting Agenda. The vote was (8) affirming and (1) opposing (Wells).

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously approved to adopt by resolution the final library board document and the selection procedure as policy FG Project Administration.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved financial statements for four months ending October 31, 2001.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved a budget adjustment in the total amount of \$233,630.00 for removal of mass and rock trench rock at the North Site, change order no. 21 in the amount of \$108,844.90 for rock excavation and change order no. 22 in the amount of \$122,109.20 for rock excavation at the North Site Project.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved change order no. 3 in the amount of \$18,199.14 for construction at Marshall Middle School.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the transfer of \$9,600.00 from the FY02 Capital Projects Fund to Britt David SPLOST Fund as a scope change to pay a portion of new playground equipment.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the renewal of rental lease agreement in the amount of \$32,000.00 with J.E.L. Properties for warehouse space at Cartersville Spinning Mill from December 15, 2001 until December 14, 2002 to store furniture and equipment.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ditchfield, the Board unanimously awarded a contract to NetPlanner Systems, Inc., in the amount of \$213,032.03 to provide structured cabling and fiber run services for seven different locations.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved a project by Hardaway High School parents to construct a new athletic facility next to the baseball field. This project will be done in phases and will accommodate both girls and boys athletic teams. The estimated cost is \$200,000.00 and the Hardaway High parents will fund this project through donations. Dr. Schley commended the faculty, students and parents who have come forward with such a splendid effort.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved by way of a resolution to include a Lease Purchase Agreement, a Tax Compliance Agreement with Synovus Leasing Company and the execution of a fiscal agent agreement with Columbus Bank & Trust Company in order to close the QZAB bonds that are to be used to construct the Jordan High School Construction Academy. Mr. Jones introduced David Williams, Attorney presenting legal aspects of the bond. Dr. Schley asked what the law was in requiring outside money to be used. The representative stated that Federal Law requires a private entity to make a match. Dr. Schley commented that he wanted to recognize that “without the generosity of the Jordan family, this would not happen.” Dr. Schley wanted to thank the Jordan family.

Dr. Polleys asked that the Board go back to item K that was inadvertently skipped. Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the revision to change order no. 5 in the total amount of \$56,918.82 for construction of the new gymnasium at Jordan High School and revision of the project budget.

Dr. Polleys asked the Board to consider the addendum and addenda items.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board approved the recommendation that the superintendent institute administrative procedures for all school instruction which would include, (1)developing a clear procedure for making all school choice-based theme proposals; (2)research ways of meeting the needs of students interested in a fine arts choice-based program; (3)give all interested schools the opportunity to submit proposals in case the most viable option is the development of a fine arts theme within an existing school. Dr. Polleys added, “the school board asked about a year ago that each high school develop choice-based programs of excellence for which they would recruit students. The purpose of that was part of the Board’s efforts to help enable and to create environments that foster high motivation and achievement. In the process of doing that the administration of the school district became involved in serious communication breakdowns. Although the Superintendent told the Board that no high school had developed or requested to develop a fine arts choice-based program, we’ve learned that the Planning office had steered other schools away from that theme. So because now we understand that serious communication breakdowns occurred and that there has been unknown to the Board, at least exploratory interest in a fine arts theme by one or more schools while no proposal has been submitted and certainly no proposal has come to the Board. The Board was not even aware that any interest had been expressed or exploratory interest had been expressed by any schools and so with that knowledge now the school board is making this particular recommendation. Mrs. Parker asked where does the Board stand regarding policy BCBF regarding Board Meeting Agenda. Mr. Whiteside made a priority motion that the agenda be amended tonight. Mr. Humes said that after the Board passed policy BCBF tonight regarding Board Meeting Agenda, this action amended the existing policy therefore, there would be no need to wait the (30) days in which a simple majority could carry an effective vote. Mr. Whiteside withdrew his motion. Mrs. Parker suggested that instead of high school there should be inclusion of middle and elementary as a part of the recommendation. Dr. Polleys suggested that it read all choice-based theme proposals. It was the consensus of the Board to include all choice-based theme proposals. Dr. Polleys called for a vote. The vote was unanimous.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mrs. Storey the Board modified the agenda in order to take action on Legislative Priorities for the 2002 Legislative Session. Dr. Polleys noted that the Legislative Priorities for 2002 have been discussed at length by the Board on several occasions including discussion with State Legislators in draft form. Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Ditchfield, the Board unanimously approved the 2002 Legislative Agenda.

Upon motion of Mr. Ebron, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved the change of Board meetings for January to Tuesday, January 22, 2002, because of the MLK holiday and February to Tuesday, February 19, 2002, because of President's Day holiday.

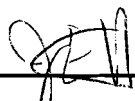
Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ditchfield, the Board unanimously approved the following consent agenda items deleting item G as it relates to a financial assistance grant:

- Personnel Report (Appendix A)
- Contract to Performance Stage and Specialties, L.L.C., \$24,999.00 for new stage curtains at twelve schools.
- MCSD to serve as fiscal agent for Columbus Children, Youth and Family Coalition.
- New budget Homeless and Displaced Children and Youth, \$25,000.00.
- New budget Local Assistance Grant for Teenage Parenting Center, \$21,000.00.
- Budget adjustment Technology/Career Education Extended Day Grant FY02 State Funds, \$10,203.00.
- Budget adjustment Fort Foundation Grant, \$6,000.00 for Bradley Library.
- Budget adjustment Federal budget for Woodall 15-21 year olds.
- Budget adjustment over \$25,000.00 from Bradley Library Transfer Account.
- Budget adjustment transfer of funds to cover overages in certain accounts and buy kitchen equipment for Columbus High, FY02 Plant

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ditchfield, the Board unanimously voted to go into executive session to hear three student discipline appeal and a personnel matter.

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

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



James E. Humes, II
Legal Counsel