

MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA
JUNE 18, 2001, 6:30 P.M., BRADLEY LIBRARY

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Muscogee County School District was held on Monday, June 18, 2001, 6:30 p.m. in the conference room at the Bradley Library.

The following members were present: Mary Sue Polleys, Chairman, David E. Ebron, Linda Parker, Fife Whiteside, John Wells, Brenda Storey and Owen Ditchfield.

Others present: James E. Humes, II, Legal Counsel, Fred M. Jones, Treasurer, Brenda Dozier, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Gordon Stallings, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Tom Walters, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel, Bill Horton, Associate, Superintendent, Myles Caggins, Assistant Superintendent for Business Affairs and representatives from the media.

Dr. Polleys called the meeting to order with an invocation and pledge of allegiance to the flag. Dr. Polleys recognized visitors in the audience. Dr. Polleys called on Maxine Lee who presented Michelle Jones, a Baker Middle School teacher who won the Excellence in Teaching of Mathematics Award for 2001; Mr. Bill Arrington introduced Connie Ussery, Media Specialist at Midland who received the Fulbright Award Teacher Program to Africa; Maxine Lee introduced Matthew Williams who won the National History Day Competition and Alice Budge representing Friends of the Libraries who recognized Dr. Kendall for his support of the library during his interim period. Dr. Polleys called on Coach Flowers of Shaw High School who as coach won the State championship for baseball. Coach Flowers introduced the Shaw High School Baseball Team who won the State Championship.

Dr. Polleys recognized those individuals on the public forum, Mr. Jerrete Lee and Mr. Edward Dubose. Mr. Lee was not in attendance. Dr. Polleys then called on Mr. Dubose, President of the NAACP who spoke to the board concerning the selection process for magnet schools such as Carver and Columbus also the issue of zero tolerance with a lack of evidence.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ditchfield, the Board unanimously approved official actions taken at the regular Board of Education meeting held on May 21, 2001 and a called meeting held on June 4, 2001.

Dr. Polleys called on Mr. Wells, Chairman of the Finance Committee who conducted a public hearing in accordance with O.C.G.A. §48-5-32.1 on the Notice of Property Tax Increase and the FY2002 budget. Mr. Wells informed the audience that this is the third hearing of three required hearings in accordance with the law. Mr. Wells asked if there was anyone from the audience that would like to speak regarding this issue. There were none in attendance that spoke regarding the issue.

Upon motion of Mr. Ebron, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the document to establish a semi-autonomous library board to engage with the Muscogee County School District in the operation and management of the Muscogee County Public Library System and to serve on behalf of the School District on the Chattahoochee Valley Regional Library System.

Mrs. Parker made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ebron, to appoint Mrs. Shirley Jaegar as Assistant Superintendent for Personnel. Mr. Wells commented that there needs to be some consistency in these appointments and he had previously opposed not an individual but the position of assistant superintendent. Mr. Wells said that at this time through an attrition process it gives the Board an opportunity to downsize the number of assistant superintendent positions and this position could be downsized to a director of personnel. Mr. Wells said that he would like to make a substitute motion to table this item and ask the Superintendent to come back with a plan that would downgrade the assistant superintendent position to a director or other position that would reduce the number of assistant superintendents. The substitute motion was seconded by Mr. Whiteside who asked to table the item until the next board meeting. Mr. Whiteside said he would “like consideration to be given to introducing non - education, human resource type individuals into the personnel area.” Dr. Polleys said that the substitute motion takes precedence. Mr. Ebron commented that while the Board is responsible for fiscal management of the system and there are concerns and issues of the number of administrators, timeliness in how the board does things is also important. Mr. Ebron said that although nothing is official until the Board votes on it he, “feels quite embarrassed that there is a candidate here that has been given word that we are going to offer a position and then at the last minute we decide we need to think about it.” Mr. Ebron said, “I cannot vote tonight not to follow through on what I believe to be a commitment and a promise.” Mrs. Parker said, “it puts us in an awkward position when we bring a person here and they have gotten the thumbs up that they are going to be getting the position and as I stated in the committee meetings we brought all of these items up for approval but the things that have been said tonight by my two other colleagues were not mentioned in our committee meeting and maybe I would have had another thought. I too cannot vote to table this item because of that.” Mr. Ditchfield, “I agree with Mr. Ebron and Mrs. Parker. I remember the arguments given at the time of replacing the assistant superintendent for Business Affairs and I feel the person hired has been the best hired since I have been attending the meetings and it’s for that reason that we should continue doing that.” Mr. Whiteside, “I’m not going to miss the opportunity to say what a great job I feel Mr. Caggins has done and coming from one who does not have an education degree and is a business person.” Mr. Wells, “if you all remember, I opposed the position but I strongly supported the candidate. But if I have an opportunity to downsize some of the assistant superintendent positions then I will.” Dr. Polleys asked for a vote on the substitute motion to table. The vote to table until the next board meeting was (4) affirming were (Wells, Whiteside, Polleys, Storey) and those opposing (4) were (Parker, Ebron, Schley, Ditchfield) Dr. Polleys said that the motion failed. Dr. Polleys asked for a vote on the original motion. Dr. Schley commented, “I want to reiterate that we are not approving a position. The position is there. What we are doing now is voting on the person who has been submitted for the candidacy. I am as distressed as anybody that this has come before this meeting at all tonight. We should have dealt with this otherwise but I am prepared to vote.” Mr. Wells commented, “since the position stands and the Superintendent has made a nomination, I’m going to vote as I did before to strongly support the candidate that the Superintendent has nominated.” The vote on the original motion was unanimous.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. Eddie Oblton to the position of Director of Secondary Education.

Mr. Whiteside commented that at this point these were the only two system-level, central office positions to be dealt with tonight and he would like a complete list of who is in the cadre of system-level administrators and what percentage of funding for those positions comes from the state and local money along with a short job description for each one. Mr. Sims agreed to get this information.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Ms. Kristen Zohn for the position of Curator of Education at the Columbus Museum.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Dr. James Arnold for the position of Principal at Shaw High School.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ditchfield, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Mrs. Veronica Kirkland to the position of Principal at Britt David Elementary.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Mrs. Sheila Brock to the position of Principal at Johnson Elementary.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Ms. Lura Reed to the position of Principal at Dimon Elementary.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Mrs. Barbara Motos to the position of Principal at Allen Elementary.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Mrs. Donna Kemp to the position of Principal at Wesley Heights Elementary.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ditchfield, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. Thomas Pooler to the position of Assistant Principal at Baker Middle.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. Johnny Freeman to the position of Assistant Principal at Blackmon Road.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Mrs. Vicki Hardaway to the position of Assistant Principal at Carver High.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ditchfield, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Mrs. Jeanette Schomburg to the position of Assistant Principal at Kendrick High.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. James Wilson to the position of Assistant Principal at Spencer High.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Dr. Ann Robison to the position of Assistant Principal at South Columbus and Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. Edward Wilson to the position of Assistant Principal at Midland Academy and Waddell Elementary.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved a new policy (BBF) Board Advisory Committees.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved revisions to policy (IHA) Grading System.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ditchfield, the Board unanimously approved payroll deductions for PAGE and MAE membership dues.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Ditchfield, the Board unanimously approved local school council business representatives for Midland Academy, Robert Nelson, for East Columbus Magnet, Michael Johnson and for Hardaway High, Ray Underwood. Mrs. Parker asked that it be noted for the record that she did not have a part in this selection process.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the “Choosing the Best Life” program for high school students.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved a pamphlet to be distributed to 7th grade students teaching fact based information on AIDS. Mr. Ebron asked that it be noted that this pamphlet encourages abstinence rather than the use of a condom.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously adopted the General Fund and Debt Service Fund budgets for FY2002.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the Bradley Library budget for FY2002.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the School Nutrition budget.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved financial statements for ten months ending April 30, 2001.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved a resolution for board member travel to functions of the GSBA and NSBA during FY2002.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved a revision to the target dates for the Library Project Development Committee in order to provide a report to the Board for approval.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the installation of a commemorative garden at Baker Middle.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved a budget adjustment in the amount of \$450,000.00 from the Un-obligated Land Budget to cover rock removal at the North Site Project; Change Order No. 5 in the amount of \$966,613.55 for rock excavation at the site; Change Order No. 6 in the amount of \$55,650.00 for the deletion of the retaining wall at the site.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously awarded a contract in the amount of \$135,405.00 to Vibra-Whirl for renovations to the track and field at Kinnett Stadium and approve the budget for a total amount of \$150,592.00.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the FY2002 Sales Tax Construction budget.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the FY2002 Capital Projects Fund budget.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the Employees Assistance Program administered through the Pastoral Institute. The cost of the Program is \$75,000.00 to be paid from Trust Funds.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved a new budget in the amount of \$36,000.00 to pay Newton Aaron & Associates, Inc. for consulting services related to the evaluation of Sales Tax Construction Projects.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously awarded a contract in the amount of \$61,632.00 to G & G Electronics, low bidder to replace intercom system at Carver High to include an emergency purchase order and a budget adjustment.

Upon motion of Dr. Schley, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved a contract between Muscogee County School District and the National Center on Education and the Economy. This agency will provide assistance through a program model called "America's Choice" for (9) low performing schools.

Mr. Ebron made the motion, seconded by Mr. Wells to approve the architect's verification with revisions to the Cohen Report for the new main library. Mr. Whiteside asked if this was the June step on the time schedule. Mr. Caggins agreed. Mr. Whiteside said, "as far as I am concerned, a vote in favor of the verification of the Cohen report. The Cohen report assumes that the library will be built with the park behind it. Isn't that right?" Mr. Caggins, "no sir." Mr. Whiteside commented, "I don't understand that cause that's what we were told last month was that the Cohen report made an assumption about the placement of the library based on the assumption that a park would be built in the back of the building." Mr. Caggins, "No sir. The Cohen report." Mr. Whiteside, "I'm sorry, it's not the Cohen report. The Cohen report is the program report. The program report then feeds into the architect's work and then the architect's work makes the assumption that the park will be built behind the library." Mr. Caggins, "that's correct." Mr. Whiteside, "explain to me why a vote in favor of the architect's verification of the Cohen report which assumes the library constructed in front of a park isn't sort of implicitly a vote that a park going to be back there." Mr. Caggins, "the Cohen report addresses the layout and use of the square footage that we've authorized for the library." Mr. Whiteside, "I understand that. I mean the architect's making his placement of the building on the assumption that it's going to be in front of a park." Mr. Caggins, "the architect is making his location for the building to make best use of the site and give the library it's best setting. The park that he envisions to be on the south end of the library is just added to that and is derived from the location that he places it in." Mr. Whiteside, "what bothers me about voting on this now before we come to some understanding with the city or come to the understanding that we can't come to a understanding with the city is that I could easily see how people on council, in city government could feel like we are pressuring them into making a commitment to build a park back there which is exactly what I think happened when this came to last council meeting. So on the one hand if we are proceeding on the assumption that we're not going to build a park and that the city by default will build a park then I think it's a little presumptuous of us to make that decision until after the city has committed to do so. If on the other hand we're saying we really don't care who's going to build the park then I think that the default is that we will build the park. And I don't know that we have the money to do that with." Mr. Caggins, "that's not a default and we don't have the money to build the park." Mr. Whiteside, "the public sure thinks that." Mr. Caggins, "we do not have the money to build a park Mr. Whiteside." Mr. Whiteside, "the public thinks that a park is going to be built back there and that sentiment grows everyday." Mr. Caggins, "there's not sufficient money in the library project budget to

build a park. We do have enough money however in the library project budget to build the library building and suitable landscaping close around the building, but not the park.” Mr. Whiteside, “I want to offer a motion that we lay this on the table. I know that there are time constraints here and I don’t mind coming back for a called board meeting. But I would like to have the city take a position on it. I don’t want them to feel like they’ve been pressured on this. I’d like to offer a motion that we table it until a date certain, set a called board meeting and come back and revisit it after council has taken a position.” Mr. Whiteside’s motion was seconded by Dr. Schley. Mr. Sims, “I wanted to clarify what you actually had in your packets here. You’ve already voted to accept the architect’s proposal of the site of the library contingent on us working out how the park is going to be handled. This that was brought tonight was a result of us naming a new director for the library and the first input that she has had in this process. The revisions that are necessary for the architect; without this the architect has to stop. There is no other work that can go on without this being approved otherwise we cannot even incorporate the recommendations that were brought to the Project Development Committee and recommended on to this full board. So, I want to make sure you know what you are doing if you table this. You are asking the architect to put on hold and not do anything else. I also want to caution you if you really are voting for waiting until the city takes a vote you are putting pressure on the city.” Mrs. Storey, “It doesn’t matter if we have the money to build the park, the school district by law cannot manage a park. So, we’re splitting hairs for the sake of argument. It matters not if we can’t manage the park, we can’t fund the park, so somebody else is going to have to do it if there’s going to be a park there. We have to take care of and make sure the little part that we are going to oversee is handled correctly. I don’t see this as having anything to do with the park.” Mr. Ditchfield, “My question was answered by Guy. I was going to ask how this was going to impact the process and he’s clarified that to my satisfaction that all we’re really voting on is the internal changes in the design of the building and the use of the space that our new director is recommended and that we already have committed to the architect’s plan so, I would hate to see things derailed at this point.” Mr. Wells, “I can see Mr. Whiteside’s point about wondering what we are doing. It’s been some talk in the paper about somebody was going to build a park and then somebody didn’t know about it. The park is kind of up in the air and it’s sort of hinges upon this project. Whatever the impact of this, the architect’s report was presented to the library Project Development Committee the other day and there was some revisions to that earlier report done by our new library director and they were incorporated in the architect’s scheme of things and so we are just revising that. I see that this vote we are taking here today is simply a revision of the scheme that the architect is going to do based upon the recommendations of the new library director. I’m not voting on anything else but that and I think this is what that is.” Mr. Whiteside, “I want to make sure that I’m clear about this because when we voted in the last committee board cycle to approve the site design, I was under the impression that it was on the assumption that the park would be built and we approved it subject to the condition that funding and financing would be worked out for the development of the park which has not occurred. I don’t see why the park isn’t really an integral park of this issue and I just want someone to explain that to me. Suppose the park never gets built. Suppose it just never gets built then, if you leave a parking lot where the park would be then wouldn’t that fact if known in advance have an affect on where the architect would place the building.” Dr. Polleys, “Does this item have to do with where the architect’s placing the building? This just has to do with the programming inside the building.” Mr. Caggins, “That’s correct, programming inside the building.” Mr. Whiteside, “That’s just different from what we were told last month.” Dr. Polleys, “It’s different from what we voted on last month.” Mr. Whiteside, “What we were told last month was that the location of the park affected the location of the library building and that we would have a chance to revisit at the next round of board meetings which is now.” Mr. Caggins, “Part of that and I understand it the way that you do Mr. Whiteside but we were under the impression that we were to go out and study and find support for someone to help build and maintain the park. As a condition for us to go forward with the schematic design that the architect is to undertake and deliver in August. We thought we had a good report the last time and at that time we were going to go forward with the schematic design basing the design then on the revisions in the Cohen report as well. We still think that there is movement toward someone else to do the park, a lot of others and to maintain it but at this time I don’t I know think I know the answer to that and I’m not sure if Mr. Sims has any new information to that.” Mr. Whiteside, “Am I not right that the location of the libraries in part dictated by the concept of having the park in the back?”

Am I not right about that?" Dr. Polleys, "But this isn't the location." Mrs. Storey, "What we would vote on then is the actual site plan. We haven't ever approved exactly what the building is going to look like or where it's going to set. We've had a conceptual project presented to us but, it's never been actually approved and it can't go any further until we know what's going to be inside. Because you can't know how big the building is going to be and if you don't know how big the building is going to be and if you don't know how big the building is going to be then you're not going to know where it's going to sit in the land because you don't if the buildings, this big or this big." Mr. Whiteside, "Let me ask it this way. I have issues with this whole process and I want to make sure my vote is right and consistent with my conscience. Will there be a point where if we say there's not going to be a park back there, where the architect his positioning of the building would be affected by that decision?" Mr. Caggins, "I think that wouldn't be a point in time where that would occur although, he may be very disappointed that we don't have a park there as a community. There were a lot of factors that went into the consideration of the site of the building. One being the traffic pattern and location for the building, the other being the flood plain which is further into the sight but not much further behind the library building itself and also the relocation and realignment of the intersection at Boxwood Boulevard to Macon Road and the general use of the site for parking and also for development making the best use of the land." Mr. Whiteside, "I didn't just dream that the architect said and we were told that the position of the building was in part based on the assumption that a park would be built back there. I didn't dream that up." Mr. Wells, "I think you're right about that. It was said that you could look down on this meadow type field which could later be developed into a park. But nobody ever said that we were going to build a park." Mr. Whiteside, "That's exactly right. But what I don't want to do is create a default position here that we are building a library on the assumption that there's going to be a park back there." Mr. Wells, "Just say that. Just say that flat out, we are not taking a position to build a park." Mr. Ebron, "The issue tonight is the inside of the building based on what Ms. Mueller recommended after meeting with Stern and meeting with Carrion. That's what we're talking about. We're talking about where the terrace is going to be and how much, where are we going to move those bathrooms nearer to the children's area. We need to just say we already took a position on the park last month and we need to just say that." Mr. Whiteside, "That's just different from what we were told last month because what we were told last month. I asked this question very directly would there be a point where we could reconsider the location of the building based on where the park would be built." Dr. Polleys, "It seems that we are just not ready, we're not at that point." Mr. Whiteside, "At what point will that be?" Mr. Caggins, "We'll get a report back from the architect on his schematic next month I think about the 10th or 12th of July. We haven't asked him to take another look at the site at all because we were in general agreement that the location and orientation of the building." Mr. Whiteside, "Will that be the July report, the schematic design report?" Mr. Caggins, "No, there won't be a report in July. We will have a discussion, a technical meeting. The report is due to come in August." Mr. Whiteside, "So, it's the August schematic report, review and approval. Would that be the point at which the location of the building would have to be corrected if there's going to be no park?" Mr. Sims, "Mr. Whiteside, I don't think the building placement is contingent upon a park. It can overlook a parking lot. It is not contingent upon us having a park. The ideal thing is to have a park but the worst thing that could happen would be the park doesn't get built and it overlooks a parking lot. The building is in the location where the architect thinks it's the best location from the vantage of Macon Road and coming into it and the affect that this would have presenting itself to the rest of the community from the front." Mr. Whiteside, "I am sure that when we talked about this last month that it was said that the architect in part based his location of the building on the fact that there would be a park back there." Dr. Polleys, "I believe that several of us raised that question but I don't know that we had a definite yes from the architect that this was the case. I don't think the architect has ever sent us a message that if there's no park, I would move the building somewhere. We just raised the issue." Dr. Polleys asked for a vote on the motion to table the issue of the architect's verification with revisions to the Cohen report for the new main library. The vote was (2) affirming (Whiteside, Wells) and (6) opposing. Dr. Polleys called for a vote on the main motion to approve the architect's verification with revisions to the Cohen Report for the new main library. Mr. Whiteside stated, "I will vote against the main motion to be consistent with comments I have made concerning the need to limit the size of the project to funds assured to be available to fund operations as I consider that to be our commitment to the public and to each other." The vote was (7) affirming and (1) opposing (Whiteside).

Dr. Schley commented, "I wanted to express my concern that there didn't seem to be any way to memorialize the name of the former Bibb and former Fox Elementary Schools in the naming of the new school. There just didn't seem to be a way that was acceptable to all parties concerned. It's particularly concerning to me about the name Fox. Bibb of course will continue to be memorialized in the location of Bibb City and people won't forget that and I trust we're not going to forget Ms. Susie McDonald Fox. She was a remarkable educator. She was principal at North Highlands Elementary School from 1918 until 1928 and died while principal. At an appropriate time the school was changed to memorialize her name. In addition to that she had a remarkable education family. Her daughter Ms. Sue Mack Fox later Sue Mack Hatcher taught at Jordan High School for a good long time married Colonel Hatcher of Mr. Humes firm and for a number of years Mr. Hatcher sat where Mr. Humes sits. It's a remarkable family that has contributed to the community and education for a long time. I intend to see to it that in this school some how or another we memorialize Ms. Susie Fox's name and I'm not sure how we'll do that now but, we will do it one way or another." Dr. Polleys commented, "I have just received this just tonight and haven't had a chance to open it which is from people related to the Hatcher family. I hardly ever ask for a point of privilege to explain why I'm voting how I am going to vote but, I'm not ever going to vote to take a persons name off of a school I'm not happy with what we did on Daniel. We made the commitment to name a new school Daniel and it may or may not ever get built. While I don't like to name new schools for people I feel just as strongly about taking names off of old ones. So I'm just explaining how I'm going to vote." Upon motion of Dr. Schley, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board approved the name of Highlands Academy for the new elementary school no. 2 formerly Fox/Bibb Elementary Schools. Dr. Schley, "The vote was (7) affirming and (1) opposing (Poleys)

Mr. Wells commented, "I've done a lot of listening about the new north high school and the name that everybody continues to put to me is Northside High School. It seems to be a name that has location as well as character to it. It has absolutely not received up to this point, to me any negative press or comments about it." Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the name of Northside High School for the new north site high school.

Dr. Polleys asked for comments and vote on the addendum awarding a contract in the amount of \$11,933,700.00 to Freeman & Associates, Inc., low bidder for construction of the new north site high school and a budget in the total amount of \$18,521,088.00. Mr. Wells made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Storey to award the contract. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Humes informed the Board that "there is an extended day contract that pays 228 days to 232 at Dawson that has an indemnification provision where we have to indemnify the contractor and this does not need to remain in the contract. Also the assignment language needs to be cleared up to show that if they want to assign the contract to anybody, it would have to be with our approval." Mr. Humes commented that he and Fred Jones could take care of these things.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously voted to approve the following consent agenda items:

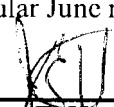
- Personnel Report (Appendix A)
- Software maintenance lease for FY02 in Systems and Data Processing Department.
- Contract awarded to VirtuCom, low bidder, for PC-type microcomputers for FY02.
- Contract awarded to Knox Pest Control for termite treatment in the amount of \$25,125.00
- New budget for Federal, State and Local funds in Adult Education.

- New budget for Explore Summer Reading Program at Cusseta Road(\$37,500.00) and Dawson Elementary(\$37,500).
- New budget for JTPA Summer Youth Contract (\$28,995.00).
- Budget adjustment Tobacco Use Prevention Grant from Columbus Board of Health.
- Budget adjustment over \$25,000.00 for Plant Services.
- Budget adjustment State Adult Education funding for \$7,353.00.
- Budget adjustment Tecnage Parenting Center for \$7,000.00.
- Budget adjustment Staff Development for \$150,861.00.
- Membership dues to Chattahoochee Flint Regional Educational Agency ending FY02.
- Increase prices of meals in School Nutrition Program for FY02.
- Financial Assistance in the amount of \$5,049.00.

Upon motion of Mr. Ebron, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously excused Mr. Walker due to personal business out of the state.

Mr. Wells asked if counsel is at liberty to brief the Board on the results of the mediation held today on Premier Academy. Mr. Humes commented, "where we are with that is the group that represented the Board, Mr. Whiteside, Dr. Polleys, Mr. Ebron, Mr. Sims and I were there with Dr. Hortman. What we're going to do and the rest of the Board will have a chance to take a look at it and certainly get your input is to go back to the petitioner with the concerns basically that have been on the table at least in the Board's view have been addressed. We will do that in writing. We will give that to the petitioner. The petitioner will take a look at that and if he has any questions about what it is that the Board when it last met had in the way of issues it felt needed to be addressed, then we will meet with the petitioner, try to explain what those concerns are. The petitioner will let us know whether it intends or can address these items and that process according to the timetable we established today subject of course the Board's approval will be completed by the 1st of September. If indeed there is any change in the will of the Board on any of these items and if the petitioner were to meet those concerns Mr. Wells, it would then mean another vote would have to be taken. If it worked out to where you approved the charter petition and everything fell into place that the petitioner would not anticipate opening his school until the beginning of the 2002-2003 school year. The process may or may not work and lead to an agreement but the methodology that was discussed and agreed to at the mediation today was just that. In other words everybody will have a chance to take a look at what your concerns are and you may remember there was correspondence that preceded the March 19, 2001 Board meeting. Everybody will have a chance to see that and then it will go back to the petitioner and we'll just take it from there. In answer to your question nothing was really worked out today except the process that could lead to a resolution if things get worked out."

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ditchfield, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the regular June meeting of the Board.


James E. Humes, II
Legal Counsel