

MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA
MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2002, 6:30 P.M.

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Muscogee County School District was held on Monday, March 18, 2002, 6:30 p.. 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, Brenda Storey, and Owen Ditchfield.

Others present: Guy W. Sims, Superintendent of Education, James E. Humes, Legal Counsel, Robert L. Bushong, Interim Superintendent of Education, 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 Wynnton Elementary School. Richards Middle School students presented a musical performance to the Board. Dr. Polleys recognized visitors in the audience. The Board recognized Mr. Walker for a NSBA award; Fair Bear Writing Competition winners, Youth Advisory Council report to the Board; Star Student and Star Teacher from Columbus High School; Academic Decathlon winners from Hardaway and Columbus; SACS Accreditation for MCSD and for the Academic Success Center and TAPP Center; ABCD award winners. Dr. Polleys called on Nicole Greer a Wynnton teacher who had asked to speak on the public forum regarding the 9-week grading schedule.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved official actions taken at the regular Board of Education meeting held on February 19, 2002.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. Issac Neal, Jr. for the position of Assistant Principal at Carver Night High School.

Mrs. Parker made the motion, seconded by Mr. Ebron to approve the revision of the nine-week grading system for elementary schools. The Board discussed at length the revision. Mrs. Storey said that, "the Board had the understanding that there had been a consensus reached by elementary principals requesting the change to a nine-week grading period but, if principals are calling board members regarding this, there does not seem to be a consensus." Mr. Whiteside said that he was "concerned about voting on a revision that does not have the full support of the Superintendent and that will increase paperwork for the teachers." Mrs. Parker said she "had the understanding that Mr. Sims was supporting the revision but since he does not support it, she will be voting to delay the revision until the Board can have more information." Mrs. Storey made a motion seconded by Mr. Whiteside, to table the policy revision until next month. The vote to table this item until next month was (6) affirming and (3) opposing, Mr. Ebron, Mr. Walker, Mr. Ditchfield.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the revision to policy KEBB and JKB related to Solicitations By Students. The revision will address the issue of schools conducting raffles.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board approved the revision to policy JQE regarding Pregnant/Married/Unwed Students. The revision is recommended to address the issue of assigning all pregnant students during the term of their pregnancy to the Teenage Parenting Program. The vote was (8) affirming and (1) opposing, Mr. Ebron.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the revision to the Board of Education Policy Manual as reviewed by the Georgia School Boards Association.

Upon motion of Mrs. Parker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the proposed school calendars for the 2002-2003 school year for regular school programs and year round school programs.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously approved the pre-engineering academy for Northside High School at a training and license of \$9,500.00 from the FY03 budget.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously approved the second year of participation in the Georgia's Choice Program.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved financial statements for seven months ending January 31, 2002.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved change orders no. 2 and no. 3 for renovations at Hardaway High School. The Board discussed the fact that these change orders will cause a temporary deficit and that efforts by the Administration are being made so that these problems will not be encountered in the future.

Mr. Whiteside commented that he understood from Mr. Sims that he is asking the Board to take another action that is not a part of the Board agenda and that is to establish a perpetuated authority to make a transfer up to \$500,000 and this would require that the agenda be modified. Mr. Humes said that it would take a unanimous consent to bring it for consideration. Mrs. Storey made the motion, seconded by Mr. Walker to modify the agenda. There was no vote. The consensus of the Board was to bring this item back next month.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved change order no. 11 in the amount of \$7,915.44 for construction at Fox Elementary School.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Dr. Schley, the Board unanimously approved change order no. 28 in the amount of \$2,705.63 and a budget adjustment to test drill for rock at the North Site Project.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Dr. Schley, the Board unanimously approved change order no. 3 in the amount of \$105,086.28 for construction at Northside High School.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved change order no. 3 in the amount of \$6,824.13 for renovations at Wesley Heights Elementary.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved change order no. 1 in the amount of \$15,370.00 for track and field renovations at Kinnett Stadium.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Dr. Schley, the Board unanimously approved a request from Columbus Water Works for easement across a portion of Northside High to run water lines.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved a request from the Columbus Consolidated Government for 1,000 square feet of property located at Mathews Elementary School. It was the consensus of the Board that the Administration along with Mr. Humes continue to negotiate with the City to work out the details concerning this property.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved as one motion the donation of land and an easement at Kendrick High and an additional donation of land and easement at Kendrick and East Columbus Magnet.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved resolutions and certificates certifying that all payments have been paid in full to the contractor and architects in order to receive final reimbursement from the State Department of Education for various school construction projects.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the audit on financial statements for SPLOST Capital Projects Fund for five months ending November 30, 2001.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the change of the April school board meeting to April 22nd with committees being held on April 15, 16, 2002. This change is due to spring break and the NSBA Conference.

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

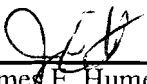
- Personnel Report (Appendix A)
- Emergency purchase order to purchase automobile for superintendent.
- TANF contract, \$94,396.00 for Adult Education.
- New budget Title I Special Budget-sale of portable buildings, \$5,741.50.
- New budget Georgia Department of Education Capacity Building Grant, GLRS, \$45,000.
- New budget K-3 Statewide Reading Grant from Woodall Program, \$3,000.00.
- New budget Title II Eisenhower Funds from Georgia Department of Education.
- New budget Title VI Innovative Strategies Funds from GDOE.
- New budget Title VI Class Reduction Funds from GDOE.
- New budget AFLAC donation, \$14,000.00 for Summer Reading Program.
- Budget adjustment FY02 \$59,537.00 for office of Interim Superintendent of Education.
- Budget adjustment Title VI carry-over funds, \$58,665.00.
- Budget adjustment supplemental appropriation for Title I, \$1,031.00.
- Budget adjustment School Nutrition Program, to cover account shortages.

- Budget adjustment budgeted reserve, \$1,269.00 to Reese Road for maintenance supplies.
- Budget adjustment donations from Sam's Club and Wal-Mart, \$2,000.00 for Bradley Library and North Branch Library.
- Budget adjustment financing technology expenses, \$45,000.00 for Bradley Library.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Walker, 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 Mr. Ditchfield, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the March 18, 2002 regular board of education meeting.



James E. Humes, II
Legal Counsel