

MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
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MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2003, 6:30 P.M.

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Muscogee County School District was held on Monday, March 17, 2003, 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, Brenda P. Storey, Philip T. Schley, David E. Ebron, Fife M. Whiteside, John Wells, Naomi Buckner and Owen Ditchfield.

Others present: John A. Phillips, Jr., Superintendent of Education, Charles Staples, Legal Counsel, Del Parker, Treasurer, Brenda F. Dozier, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Robin Pennock, Chief Academic Officer, Billy Kendall, Administrative Assistant, Bill Hortman, Associate Superintendent 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 River Road Elementary. Dr. Polleys recognized visitors in the audience.

Dr. Polleys called on the following for special recognitions: Dr. Pennock for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Accreditation; Ms. Dawn Upshaw, Principal at River Road introduced the State winners for "Readers of the Year"; and Dr. Kendall recognized River Road and their Business Partner, W.C. Bradley Company for winning the State award for Education Partnership of the Year.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Ditchfield, the Board unanimously approved official actions taken at the regular meeting held on February 18, 2003 and called meetings on February 10, 2003 and March 10, 2003.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the renewal of a waiver in the Secondary Vocational Connections Program for an additional three years due to its success at the Academic Success Center.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved summer school for middle and high schools students starting June 5 through July 31, 2003.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Dr. Schley, the Board unanimously approved financial statements for seven months ending January 31, 2003.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved reimbursement to the General Fund, \$20,296.12 for bus driver and bus monitor salaries and benefit overages involving Medicaid for FY02 Special Education Extended Year Program.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Dr. Schley, the Board approved the Medicaid Reimbursement Program. The vote was (8) affirming and (1) abstaining, Whiteside. Mr. Whiteside commented that "this is the second time in ten years that I will abstain on a school board vote because it does materially affect either the compensation or service tenure of an immediate family member." Dr. Phillips noted that "the program has been streamlined and with the corrections that have been made over time, there were some statewide issues as to how it was implemented before and now with remediation in place and use of technology it will be easier for us to monitor and report the data. We believe also that significant dollars will come from the reporting of this to Medicaid so that we will be reimbursed. One of the commitments we've made is to reinvest this money in services to children with special needs not to supplant."

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Dr. Schley, the Board unanimously approved change orders no.s' 26, 27 and 28 totaling \$5,536.00 for construction at Northside High School.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ditchfield, the Board unanimously approved change order no. 21 in the total amount of \$3,045.38 for renovations at Key Elementary.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Dr. Schley, the Board unanimously awarded a contract in the amount of \$137,400.00 to Southern Environmental Services, Inc., for demolition of the old Fox Elementary School.

Dr. Polleys directed the Board to the addendum. Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously voted to consider the addendum item which was not a part of the regular agenda.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved a purchase order to Paragon Total Solutions, Inc., in the amount of \$30,748.00 for a fingerprinting system.

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

- Personnel Report (Appendix A).
- Audit of financial statement of SPLOST Capital Projects Fund for five months ending November 30, 2002.
- New budget for anonymous donation to Downtown Elementary, \$8,000.00.
- New budget After School Program Grant for Eddy, \$38,000.00.
- New budget Georgia Learn and Serve for Carver High, \$3,633.00.
- New budget PIAG Educational Foundation Grant, Kendrick High, \$2,500.00.
- Budget adjustment Even Start FY03, \$9,320.00.
- Budget adjustment Arts and Humanities Program, \$100.00.
- Pre-School FY03, \$14,800.00.
- Donation, \$6,792.05 from River Road PTA to K-3 classrooms at River Road for classroom furniture.
- Funds from Rothschild Library Trust, \$4,319.00 for Accelerated Reader Program at Rothschild Middle.
- Funds from Rothschild Cultural Arts Fund, \$478.00 for a clavinoia at Rothschild Middle.
- Purchase order to Summit Systems, \$21,251.00 for cabling at Kendrick High.

The Board acknowledged appreciation for the many donations received for schools and their programs.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously voted to go into executive session to hear a personnel matter and property acquisition.

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

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the regular March 17, 2003 meeting of the Board.

Charles T. Staples
Legal Counsel