

MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2003, 6:30 P.M.

MINUTES

Regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Muscogee County School District was held on Monday, September 15, 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, David E. Ebron, Fife M. Whiteside, John Wells, Naomi Buckner and Owen Ditchfield.

Others present: John A. Phillips, Jr., Superintendent of Education, James E. Humes, II, and Charles T. Staples, Legal Counsel, Legal Counsel, Del Parker, Treasurer, Brenda F. Dozier, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Don A. Cooper, Jr., Chief Human Resources Officer, 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 was led by students from Wynnton Elementary School students. Dr. Polleys recognized visitors in the audience, Mr. and Mrs. Halouska, representing the League of Women Voters and Friends of the Libraries, Mr. John Lincoln representing the St. Elmo Gifted Program and a teacher cadet from Shaw High School. Dr. Phillips recognized Board members for their certification with Georgia School Boards Association. Dr. Polleys recognized the family of Dr. A.C. Hobbs, Jr., for their contribution to Wynnton Elementary School in the renovation of the auditorium at Wynnton transforming it into a state of the art Performing Arts Center. Dr. Polleys said that at a celebration held September 9th the auditorium at Wynnton was re-named the Dr. A. C. Hobbs, Jr, Center for Performing Arts. In attendance at the board meeting were Nancy Johnson, the Principal of Wynnton Elementary School, Ms. Gayle Yarborough, niece of Dr. Hobbs and Mr. Nolan Murrah, friend of the family. Dr. Pennock introduced Ms. Judy Nail who was named the Georgia Representative to the Kennedy Center Alliance for the Arts and also recognized was Downtown Elementary School who has been named a Distinguished School because of making AYP for three consecutive years.

Upon motion of Mr. Ditchfield, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved official actions taken at the regular Board of Education meeting held on August 18, 2003.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Ms. Kathy Tessin as Director of Personnel Services.

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Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved the revision of Policy BCAC as it pertains to Special Board Meetings.

Upon motion of Mr. Ebron, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously approved the revision of policy JBC as it pertains to homeless students.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ditchfield, the Board unanimously approved the revision of policy JR as it pertains to Student Records.

Upon motion of Mr. Ebron, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the concept for four elementary schools to participate in an on-line assessment program offered by Lightspan and Edutest Assessment.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Ditchfield, the Board unanimously approved a pilot program by Voyager Expanded Learning for grades K-3 at Eastway Elementary School.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved a plan to improve mathematics test scores at Eddy Middle School by implementing the PLATO software pilot program which targets the reinforcement of mathematics instruction. Dr. Phillips clarified that the cost of the program will be \$35,900.00.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved financial statements for June 30, 2003.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved financial statements for July 31, 2003.

Upon motion of Dr. Schley, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously awarded a Construction Management at Risk contract to Holley Construction Company and Associates for construction at Jordan High School. The total estimated construction budget is \$2,800,000.00

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved the continuance of the Employee Assistance Program provided by the Pastoral Institute. The total cost of the program is \$75,000 and will be taken from Trust Funds.

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

- Personnel Report. (Appendix A)
- Use of Kinnett Stadium by Chattahoochee Valley Down Syndrome.
- Section 529 College Savings as part of employee benefit plan.
- Audit of financial statement for SPLOST Projects Fund.
- Capital Outlay Application and Facility Plan Priority List.
- Local School Council Appointments.
- Contract Chamber of Commerce to operate Youth Apprenticeship Program.
- Callaway Gardens REA Best Practices Institute.
- Budget adjustment contingency reserve \$15,769 for funding of increased enrollment at Northside High School.
- Budget adjustment for Twenty-First Century Community Learning Grant.
- Purchase of Reading Program by Title I, \$29,900 at Baker Middle School.
- Funding for Health Literacy, \$15,700.
- Contract renewal for Parent Involvement Communication Software license at Baker Middle School, \$12,000.
- Contract with Class.com online curriculum provider and blackboard.com as ASP platform to continue online learning for credit recovery.
- Donation from Chamber of Commerce for CVRLS Valley Reads, \$1,475.
- Donation from CB&T for CVRLS Valley Reads, \$5,000.
- Confirmation purchase order to Creative Fence Designs, \$10,830.00 for a fence at Key Elementary.

- Purchase order to Georgia Vocational Staff Development Consortium, \$16,832 for annual membership.
- New budget, Georgia's Choice School Improvement Grants, \$300,000.
- New budget, Title I FY04 Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration grant, \$57,100.
- New budget, GLRS, FY04, Title VI-B, QBE \$96,894 Special Projects, \$116,739 and Capacity Building Funds, \$45,000.
- New budget, Technology and Career Education, State \$12,461 and Local Matching, \$6,435.
- New budget, Homeless, FY04, \$67,000.
- Title I FY04 Regular Budget, \$9,752,272.
- Title II-D Formula Grant; Title II LEP Grant; Title III-A Immigrant Grant; Title IV-A Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Program.
- Georgia Council for the Arts Touring Grant, \$5,681 and Challenge Grant, \$30,000.
- Financial assistance grant of, \$2,092.14.

As a matter of information for the public, Mr. Ebron reiterated that the Board will complete all of the 97 SPLOST projects.

Dr. Polleys reminded everyone of the "Snacks and Facts" with teachers starting September 16, Baker Middle School, September 17, Arnold Middle School and September 18 at Bradley Library.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the regular September board meeting.

James E. Humes, II
Legal Counsel