

MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2004, 6:30 P.M.

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Muscogee County School District was held on Monday, March 15, 2004, 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, 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, James E. Humes, II, Legal Counsel, Del Parker, Treasurer, Brenda F. Dozier, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Robin Pennock, Chief Academic Officer, Don A. Cooper, Jr., Chief Human Resources Officer, Billy Kendall, Administrative Assistant to Superintendent of Education, Myles Caggins, Assistant Superintendent for Business Affairs, 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 Reese Road Elementary. The Character Education word was introduced by a student from Reese Road Elementary - patience. Dr. Polleys recognized visitors in the audience.

Dr. Polleys called on Mrs. Dozier and Dr. Pennock for the following special recognitions: Muscogee County Medical Alliance Donation, National Professional Social Workers, Girls Basketball winners, Columbus, Carver, Kendrick and Shaw, National Education Association recipient, Kendrick High, Georgia State Track & Field State winner for 2003, Georgia Academic Team Pre-season All State Offense, Shaw High, Eagle Scout Award, NASA Student Involvement Program, Georgia Reading Association Hall of Fame recipient, and Georgia Reading Association State winner.

Upon motion of Mr. Ebron, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously approved official actions taken at the regular Board of Education meeting held on Tuesday, February 17, 2004.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously voted to amend the agenda to hear an addendum item.

BOARD MINUTES – MARCH 15, 2004 – PAGE 2

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Ditchfield, the Board unanimously approved high school attendance zone changes.

Upon motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Ditchfield, the Board unanimously approved the re-election of professional employees for the 2004-2005 school year with the exception of those employees who have relatives on the Board of Education. A separate vote was taken on these four (4) professional employees.

Upon motion of Mr. Ebron, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board re-elected Philip T. Schley for the 2004-2005 school year. The vote was (8) affirming and (1) abstaining, (Dr. Schley).

Upon motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board re-elected Jean Ebron for the 2004-2005 school year. The vote was (8) affirming and (1) abstaining, (Mr. Ebron).

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board re-elected Emily Whiteside for the 2004-2005 school year. The vote was (8) affirming and (1) abstaining, (Mr. Whiteside).

Upon motion of Mr. Ebron, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board re-elected Cherry Gaye Wells for the 2004-2005 school year. The vote was (8) affirming and (1) abstaining, (Mr. Wells).

Upon motion of Mr. Ditchfield, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Mrs. Mary Beth Adams to the position of Assistant Principal at Hannan Elementary Magnet Academy.

Upon motion of Mr. Ebron, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved Holley Construction as Construction Manager to begin renovation of the old gym (Phase I) proceed with the Construction Academy and Culinary Arts renovation (Phase II) and approve a tentative project budget as presented. Mr. Wells recommended, along with the consensus of the Board that a balance of the critical needs budget be provided to Board members after funds are expended from this budget.

After some discussion, Dr. Polleys called for a motion to amend the original recommendation in order to clarify the funding source for the Muscogee renovation/construction project. Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously voted that the revenue line and budget will come out of the 2005 general fund budget and not this year's general fund budget. Dr. Polleys called for a vote on the main motion. Upon motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board approved the use of an additional \$300,000 from the critical needs of a time sensitive basis fund in the 2003 SPLOST budget for construction/renovations at Muscogee Elementary and a tentative budget. The vote was (8) affirming and (1) opposing, (Ms. Buckner).

For clarification, Mr. Wells noted that funding for this project would come from the 2005 critical needs budget. Dr. Polleys called for a motion to amend the original recommendation to clarify the funding source. Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously amended the motion to approve the funding source for the Shaw High School renovation/modification project from the 2005 critical needs budget. Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board unanimously approved the Construction Guaranteed Maximum Price of \$5,384,131.00 from Freeman & Associates for the Shaw High School renovation/modification project and a tentative budget.

Mr. Wells made the motion, seconded by Mr. Whiteside to modify the recommendation to approve a confirmation purchase order in the total amount of \$75,000 for this project. The vote was (8) affirming and (1) opposing, Mr. Whiteside. Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board approved the original motion to purchase 20,000 cubic yards of earth from Alexander Contracting Company in the total amount of \$75,000 for the new road system on the property of the north site project, new elementary school #5 and new middle school #5. The vote was (8) affirming and (1) opposing, Mr. Whiteside.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Ebron, the Board approved a confirmation purchase order to French & Associates, Landscape Architects in the total amount of \$75,000 to design, supervise, prepare topographic surveys, environmental assessments and geotechnical work for the extension of the road system access at the north site project. The vote was (8) affirming and (1) opposing, Mr. Whiteside. Dr. Schley asked that the Board be involved prior to any decisions being made regarding the road system at the north site project.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved declaring the old Midland Elementary School as surplus property and advertise it for sale to the highest bidder.

Upon motion of Mr. Ditchfield, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously approved the purchase of routers in the total amount of \$42,588.00.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Dr. Schley, the Board unanimously approved financial statements for seven months ending January 31, 2004.

Dr. Polleys called on Dr. Phillips for an addendum item. Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Dr. Schley, the Board unanimously approved a proposal from the City Government of Columbus to alter a Board Resolution of October, 1998 regarding the old Fox Elementary School site, and pay the City of Columbus \$89,600.00 to complete the transition of the property.

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

- Personnel Report (Appendix A).
- Release \$12,000 funds to Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education.
- Contract, \$26,671.32 to Dynix for Horizon System at Bradley Library.
- Donation from Baptist Ministers Association, \$500 Arts & Humanities.
- Donation from Wynnton School Auditorium Group, \$15,000 and Wynnton School Alumni Society, \$10,000 for Wynnton Elementary Auditorium renovations.
- Budget adjustment, Title I, over \$25,000 NCLB Choice Transfer Transportation.
- Budget adjustment, Title I, over \$25,000 computers at South Columbus.
- Budget adjustment, FY03 Capacity Building carry-over for GLRS, \$25,030.
- Budget adjustment, FY03 Title VI-B carry-over for GLRS, \$4,512.00.
- New budget, Blanchard Elementary, Pay for Performance, \$64,526.99.
- New budget, Edgewood, Pay for Performance, \$47,693.86.
- New budget, Forrest Road, Pay for Performance, \$46,291.10.

BOARD MINUTES – MARCH 15, 2004 – PAGE 5

- New budget, Johnson, Pay for Performance, \$50,499.38.
- New budget, Marshall Middle, School Wide Discipline Grant, \$5,000.00.
- New budget, Title I, Distinguished School, Downtown Elementary, \$59,300.00.
- Sales Tax Construction Program Report as of January 31, 2004.

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

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

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

James E. Humes, II
Legal Counsel