

MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 16, 2005, 6:30 P.M.
BRADLEY LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Muscogee County School District was held on Monday, May 16, 2005, 6:30 p.m. in the conference room at the former Bradley Library.

The following Board Members were present: Mary Sue Polleys, James Walker, Brenda P. Storey, Philip T. Schley, Pat Hugley Green, Fife M. Whiteside, John Wells, Naomi Buckner and Joseph Roberson.

Others present: John A. Phillips, Jr., Superintendent of Education, James E. Humes, II, Legal Counsel, Del Parker, Treasurer, Robin Pennock, Deputy Superintendent of Education, Brenda F. Dozier, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Don Cooper, Chief Human Resources Officer, Myles Caggins, Assistant Superintendent for Business Affairs, Billy Kendall, Administrative Assistant and representatives from the media.

Dr. Polleys called the meeting to order with an invocation and pledge of allegiance led by students from Dimon Elementary Magnet. The Character Education word for May was Tolerance. Students from Hardaway High presented a musical performance.

Dr. Polleys recognized visitors in the audience; Mr. and Mrs. Halouska representing the League of Women Voters and Friends of the Libraries; Owen Ditchfield, representing Concerned Citizens of Southeast Columbus.

The following recognitions were presented: MCSD Teacher of the Year; MCSD First Year Teacher; National Homebuilders Associate Teacher of the Year; Georgia Title I Distinguished School; PAGE I ; PTSA Reflections; State PTA Vice President; Governors Honors; State VICA; Columbus High State Robotics; Columbus High State Golf; ABCD Award.

Dr. Polleys recognized Bill Madison, President of NAACP and Mr. Coronado, President of Spencer High School PTSA.

Dr. Phillips called on Ms. Bishop who spoke with the Board regarding a recommendation from the Transportation Task Force Committee. Ms. Bishop stated, "The Committee recommends the purchase of (15) new busses; (15) new driver positions and recommend the purchase of an additional (20) busses; without a change in school start times." The Board thanked the Task Force Committee for their time and effort. Dr. Phillips stated that he would be making a recommendation at the next Board meeting and school times would remain the same for the next school year.

Dr. Polleys called on Ms. Sabrina Shealy who wanted to speak on the public forum regarding the GHSGT. It was the consensus of the Board that the Administration ask the State Department of Education if the grading of the GHSGT could be done prior to the summer graduation ceremony so that those students meeting the requirements could participate.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved official actions taken at the regular Board of Education meeting held on Monday, April 25, 2005.

Upon motion of Dr. Schley, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously voted to modify the agenda to add an addendum item for an emergency purchase order. Dr. Phillips also asked that action item F removed from the agenda regarding policies DJEH - Change Orders and DJED – Bids and Quotations.

The Board held the third public hearing on this year's growth in the tax digest. There were no speakers from those in the audience.

Dr. Phillips noted that Dr. Schley has an update on his proposal regarding the Midtown development plan and Tom Walsh of the TSW firm is in attendance with suggested changes for the master plan.

Dr. Schley made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wells, that the Board approve the concept of the coordinated, multi-use development of the property, proceed with discussions and negotiations with the City, hold a series of public meetings to present the plan and seek further input. Mrs. Green made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Roberson to add the preservation of the legacy of the recreation center and pay attention to the flooding. The vote on the original motion as amended was unanimous.

Upon motion of Mrs. Green, seconded by Ms. Buckner, the Board unanimously voted to move to action item Q of the agenda regarding a new Rigdon Road Elementary School. Dr. Phillips noted that the Board has been given financial options regarding a proposed new school. Mr. Wells made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Green, to commit to building a new Rigdon Road Elementary School and start the planning process as soon as appropriate. Mr. Roberson offered an amended motion, seconded by Mrs. Green to commit a tentative construction start date of June, 2006 for a new Rigdon Road School. The vote on the amended motion was (4) affirming, (Mr. Roberson, Mrs. Green, Ms. Buckner, Mr. Walker) and (5) opposing. The vote on the original motion was unanimous.

Dr. Schley made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wells to approve the restructuring of the Central Administration as recommended by the Superintendent of Education. Mrs. Green offered a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Roberson to delay the restructuring of the Central Administration. The vote on the substitute motion was (7) affirming and (2) opposing, (Mrs. Green, Mr. Roberson). The vote on the main motion was (7) affirming, (1) opposing, (Mrs. Green) and (1) abstaining, (Mr. Roberson). Mr. Whiteside asked that the Superintendent highly consider the positions of future Communications Specialist and future Athletic Director during the budget process. Dr. Phillips commented that he will propose these positions during that time.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously approved the System Improvement Plan. Mrs. Buckner noted that she has questions concerning the plan. Dr. Polleys asked that the Administration prepare for discussions of the plan at the next work session. Dr. Polleys thanked those teachers who worked on the plan.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously approved the removal of the Interim Principal status for Mr. Chris Cox, at Rothschild Middle School.

Upon motion of Mrs. Buckner, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously approved the revision of policy JCDAF – Use of Electronic Devices by Students.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved a student attendance protocol.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously approved the textbook adoption for High School Language Arts and Middle and High School Foreign Language.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved Financial Statements for nine months ending March 31, 2005.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously approved the payroll deduction of summer school tuition for school district employees not in a financial position to pay summer school tuition in two payments.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Roberson, the Board Unanimously approved the renewal of the warranty and support services agreement with Tier Technologies.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Ms. Buckner, the Board unanimously approved the following action items:

- Computer lab for Britt David Elementary Training Center, \$42,737.12.
- Contract to Strategic/Medley, \$115,614.00 for Professional Foods Program at Jordan High School.
- Contract to Armstrong Medical Industries, Inc., \$4,553.00; Moore Medical, LLC, \$6,919.13 for Healthcare Science Technology Lab at Jordan High School.
- Contract to Bladerunnertool & Hardware, \$23,425.00; Wm. J. Redmond & Son Machinery, \$26,531.00 for Construction Academy at Jordan High School.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Ms. Buckner, the Board unanimously awarded a contract to M. Jordan Enterprises Roofing, LLC, low bidder, \$417,594.00 and approved a total budget of \$546,823.00 for re-roofing at Carver High School.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board awarded a contract to Holbrook Services Company, responsive bidder, in the amount of \$283,000.00 for the replacement/upgrade of the HVAC system at the former Bradley Library. The vote was (7) affirming and (2) opposing, (Dr. Polleys, Mr. Whiteside). Mr. Whiteside noted that this project is proceeding without a budget and funds are being spent that have not been appropriated.

Upon motion of Mr. Roberson, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board unanimously approved the following action items:

- Change order No. 3, \$21,065.38 for construction at Jordan High School
- Easement for Bell South Communications at East Columbus Magnet Academy.
- Easement for Georgia Power at Shaw High School property.
- Data Cabling, Summit Systems, \$17,509.00 at former Bradley Library.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Ms. Buckner, the Board approved an emergency purchase order to Adams Equipment Company, in the amount of \$34,000.00 for a re-conditioned sewer pumper truck. The vote was (8) affirming and (1) opposing, (Mr. Whiteside).

Upon motion of Ms. Buckner, seconded by Mr. Roberson, the Board unanimously approved the following consent agenda items:

- Human Resources Report. (Appendix A)
- Use of Kinnett stadium by Kidney Foundation, September 17, 2005.
- Library Board vacancy filled by Dr. Price Walker.
- Software maintenance, Columbus Public Library, \$37,724.92.
- Two grants for School Nutrition Program, \$17,000.00.
- New budget for 21st Century Program, \$4,300.00.
- Budget adjustment Reading First Grant, GLRS, \$26,060.00.
- Budget adjustment Capacity Building Grant, GLRS, \$26,893.00 (FY04 carryover); \$20,000.00, (Additional) FY04.
- Budget adjustment State FY05 amended budget, Woodall Program.
- Budget adjustment Federal FY05 amended budget, Woodall Program.

- Budget adjustment Statewide K-3 Reading and Math Program by Destiny/Follett.
- Audit of Financial Statement, 1997 SPLOST Capital Projects Fund.
- Donation for Summer Reading from David Rothschild, \$7,500.00.
- Donation for Academic Success Center from civil action lawsuit, \$20,000.00.
- Sales Tax Construction Program Report.
- Report on Transfer from FY03 SPLOST Critical Needs.
- FY97 Sales Tax Construction Program Report.
- Transfers Capital Projects and Debt to SPLOST Fund to cover scope changes.
- Change orders/changes in Project Contingencies.
- Status Report for projects under construction.
- Report on System-wide Technology Plan.
- Report on Forecasted Revenue Collections.
- Report on Transfers from Capital Projects Fund.

Mr. Whiteside asked that the policy regarding change orders come back to the work session next month and include a discussion of how purchase orders are processed, and how the \$10,000 per purchase order limit is applied.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously voted to go into executive session for (5) student discipline appeals and personnel matters.

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

Upon motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Dr. Polleys, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board.

James E. Humes, II
Legal Counsel