

A regular meeting of the Charleston County School District Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, May 27, 2014, in the Board Room at 75 Calhoun Street. The following members of the Board were present: Mrs. Cindy Bohn Coats,- Chair, Mr. Craig Ascue, Rev. Chris Collins, Mr. Chris Fraser, Mr. Todd Garrett, Mr. Michael Miller, Mr. Emerson Tripp Wiles. Board members Mr. Tom Ducker – Vice Chair and Mrs. Elizabeth Moffly were absent. Dr. Nancy J. McGinley, Superintendent and Executive Secretary was also absent.

Staff members Mr. Michael Bobby, Mr. Bill Briggman, Dr. Charles D'Alfonso, Mr. John Emerson, Mrs. Michele English-Watson, Dr. Lisa Herring, Mrs. Audrey Lane, Mr. Louis Martin, Mr. John McCarron, Dr. Brenda Nelson, Mrs. Terri Nichols, Mr. Paul Padron, Mrs. Erica Taylor, Mrs. Latisha Vaughan-Brandon, and Dr. James Winbush were also in attendance.

The news media was duly notified of the meeting. Media representatives were present.

**I. EXECUTIVE SESSION  
4:15 p.m.**

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to go into Executive Session at 4:30 p.m. to discuss the Executive Session items listed below. The motion was approved unanimously.

**1.1: Student Transfer Appeals – March 24 – May 19<sup>th</sup>**

**1.2: Appointment – West Ashley HS Principal**

**1.3: Appointment – Executive Director of Leadership Effectiveness, Achievement & Accountability- Dr. Nancy McGinley, Superintendent**

**1.4: Upgrades for 3 Positions in the Office of Teacher Effectiveness**

**1.5: Legal Matters – Mr. John Emerson, General Counsel**

**OPEN SESSION  
5:15 p.m.**

**II. CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE, & PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE**

Mrs. Coats called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Then she called for a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Rev. Collins moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, to adopt the May 27, 2014 agenda with one revision. The motion was approved 4-3 (Coats, Fraser and Garrett opposed).

- Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Rev. Collins, to pull agenda 1.2 – Appointment of the Principal at West Ashley High School to allow the board time to request additional information from the Superintendent.

**IV. SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS (15 minutes) – Mrs. Erica Taylor, Executive Director of Strategy & Communications**

Mrs. Coats read the following statement for the record.

**Academic Magnet High School and Wando High School Soccer Team(s)**

*“Members of the Board of Trustees, as Chairman, I want to officially acknowledge the achievement of four student athlete teams, who won the State Championships on Saturday, May 24, 2014.*

*The Academic Magnet High School Girls and Boys Team won the AA (2-A), State Championship in Soccer. Likewise, the Wando High School Girls and Boys Team won the AAAA (4-A) State Championship. I want to acknowledge their coaches.*

- Anna Marriman – AMHS Girls
- Jason Hamil – AMHS Boys
- Shannon Champ – Wando Girls
- Shilo Tisdale – Wando Boys

*Also, I want to acknowledge their principals, Mrs. Judith Peterson, Academic Magnet High School and Mrs. Lucy Beckham, Wando High School.*

*As always, we want to thank these students, their teachers, coaches, and most especially their parents. Charleston County School District is proud of their accomplishments, and wishes them much luck and success.*

*Members of the Board, I respectfully submit this statement, and acknowledgement of our student athletes for the record. Thank you."*

**V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Dr. Nancy J. McGinley, Superintendent of Schools**

On behalf of Dr. Nancy McGinley, Dr. Lisa Herring, Chief Academic Officer, reported the following:

- Dr. Herring said since Memorial Day is a day of remembrance for those individuals who have died in service to the United States of America, those who have made the ultimate sacrifice to defend liberty should be saluted and honored.
- Moody's Investor Services has upgraded the district's obligation debt rating saving tax payers thousands of dollars on future payments that would have been used to pay interest on debt. This upgrade is because of CCSD's stellar financial management practices. The district's academic progress and track record of good financial stewardship was acknowledged. Mr. Michael Bobby and staff were commended for the rating upgrade. This is a win-win for the Charleston community.
- School Climate survey results were provided.
- Dr. Herring noted the accomplishments of both the Wando Boys Soccer team and the Academic Magnet Girls Soccer team for taking home state titles this past weekend.
- Graduation ceremonies begin next week. On Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, students, staff and administrators are asked to wear their college gear in honor of college signing day.
- A moment of silence was requested in memory of the three students that died within the last month. Ty'Quan President, a 16 year old Garrett HS student was killed while riding his bike in his neighborhood, Ethen Richardson, an 8 year old Pinckney ES student died after a year-long battle with brain cancer a few weeks ago and this past weekend, Hugh Buyck died of a boating accident. Hugh was a rising senior at Wando HS. She reminded everyone of how precious life is.

**VI. VISITORS, PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Ascue acknowledged Mr. Bobby and staff for improved bond rating.

1. Ms. Robin Berlinsky with Engaging Creative Minds at C. E. Williams extended an invitation to board members to visit one of the fourteen schools to observe the program.
2. Mr. Kevin Smith, Principal at CE Williams, addressed the board in support of the Engaging Creative Minds curriculum. He thanked the Board for their support of the program and spoke of the impact the program has had on his students and staff.
3. Ms. Rachel Donelson, a parent of a student at Oakland Elementary, distributed information to board members. Then she expressed concerns about the bullying of her children at school or on the school bus. She requested a zero policy on bullying, counseling for victims, etc. She also said the school's Principal and the Board should be held accountable for the incident.
4. Ms. Bailey Brown addressed the Board about the student that was bullied at Oakland Elementary. She shared her personal experience of being bullied 20 years ago at Oakland Elementary. She asked the Board to be more supportive of the Donelson family and others that are bullied.
5. Mr. Anthony Blake, a Durham driver, expressed diversity concerns as it relates to Durham employees at the Azalea bus lot. He said upon his arrival, some employees at the Azalea Avenue lot were African Americans. However, all of the African American employees have since been replaced with individuals of a different race. Also, he said none of the supervisors were qualified because they are not certified drivers.
6. Mr. Leonard Riley addressed the Board about Marquetta Cooper's dismissal from Durham Transportation Services. He asked if the dismissal was investigated. Mr. Ascue said the committee is investigating at this time. Mr. Miller said the next meeting is Thursday and its more of a fact finding investigation. The Ad Hoc Committee will bring a recommendation to the Board.
7. Ms. Tyneshia Russ thanked the board for its investigative efforts to resolve the issues with Durham buses. She asked the committee to include them in the decision-making. She said Durham is bound by the contract with the district. She asked the Board to hold Durham accountable.

**VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/EXECUTIVE SESSION AGENDA ITEMS**

**7.1: A. Open Session Minutes of May 12, 2014, 2014**

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to approve the open session minutes of May 12, 2014. The vote was 7-0.

Mrs. Coats inquired about agenda item 1.4 questioning why only seven members voted on that item.

Mr. Garrett said he was out of the room. Therefore, he did not vote.

Also, Mr. Garrett confirmed that he did not vote on the agenda item regarding Hill Construction.

**7.2: Executive Session Action Items of May 27, 2014**

The Board voted on the following executive session action items of May 27, 2014.

**1.1: Student Transfer Appeals – March 24 – May 19<sup>th</sup>**

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ascue, to approve student transfer appeals received May 24 – May 19, 2014 that follows. The vote was 7-0.

- Approve Section A: #4, #13, #20, #21, and #25; pull #2 & #19 for further inquiry; and refer all others to the lottery in accordance to policy JFABC.

**1.2: Appointment – West Ashley HS Principal - Pulled**

The Board did not vote on the appointment of a principal for West Ashley HS since this item was pulled earlier from the agenda during the approval of the agenda.

**1.3: Appointment – Executive Director of Leadership Effectiveness, Achievement & Accountability- Dr. Nancy McGinley, Superintendent**

Mr. Ascue moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to approve the recommendation to appoint Mr. Charles D'Alfonso to the position of Executive Director of Leadership Effectiveness. The vote was 5-2 (Collins and Miller opposed).

Rev. Collins said the position title listed on the website was different. Dr. Herring said the information on the website is incorrect. Mr. Briggman said it was previously the position held by Melissa Matarazzo. However, the revised title included responsibilities over the Office of Student Assessment.

**1.4: Upgrades for 3 Positions in the Office of Teacher Effectiveness**

Mr. Ascue moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to approve the request to upgrade 3 positions in the Office of Teacher Effectiveness. The vote was 5-2 (Coats and Miller opposed).

**1.5: Legal Matters – Mr. John Emerson, General Counsel**

The Board discussed legal matters in Executive Session. However, no action was taken.

**7.3: Financial Minutes of May 12, 2014**

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the financial minutes of May 12, 2014. The vote was 7-0.

**VIII. CAE UPDATE**

**IX. MANAGEMENT REPORT(S)**

**9.1: 1st Reading of the 2014-15 Budget**

The Board received information on the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of the 2014-15 Budget. However, since no additional information was required, staff did not make a presentation on the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of the 2014-2-15 Budget.

**X. COMMITTEE REPORT(S)**

**10.1: Audit & Finance Committee – Mr. Todd Garrett**

**A. Audit & Finance Committee Update**

*The Committee will provide information and receive input from Board members on the following:*  
*-Items that are currently before the committee that have not been brought forward to the Board;*  
*-Future topics the committee plans to bring forward; and*  
*-What is needed to move the item forward?*

**11.1: 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of the 2014-2015 Budget**

Rev. Collins moved to approve the 1st reading of the 2014-2015 budget, subject to necessary modifications. Mr. Garrett seconded the motion and offered an amendment to approve the 2014-2015 budget, subject to no tax increases. Mr. Collins accepted the amendment. The vote was 7-0.

Mrs. Coats asked board members to submit their recommendations for budget modifications to Mr. Bobby prior to the next board meeting.

**10.2: Policy & Personnel Committee – Mr. Tripp Wiles**

**A. Policy Committee Update**

*The Committee will provide information and receive input from Board members on the following:*  
*-Items that are currently before the committee that have not been brought forward to the Board;*

*-Future topics the committee plans to bring forward; and  
-What is needed to move the item forward?*

**B. EF - Food Services - First Reading**

Mr. Wiles moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, to approve the first reading of policy EF – Food Services. The vote was 7-0.

Rev. Collins asked if each student had an equal opportunity to eat lunch at school. Mr. Campbell told Rev. Collins that was the language that was removed from the previous policy.

Mr. Miller said parents inquired about the breakfast served. He asked Mr. Campbell to ensure that students at all levels are receiving a nourishing meal. Mr. Campbell said meals are different for each level. However, next year all levels will require serving of a fruit to all students. Mr. Miller requested Mr. Campbell bring a sample menu to the Board for their review.

**C. XXXX- Donation of Leave Policy & Regulation - First Reading**

Mr. Wiles moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to approve the first reading of policy XXXX - Donation of Leave Policy and regulation. If approved, this policy will simultaneously rescind the Sick Leave Bank Policy & Regulation – GCCCAA. The vote was 7-0.

Mr. Wiles also said further revision will be made prior to the second reading of the policy to address the rationale.

**D. XXXX - Bereavement of Leave - First Reading**

Mr. Wiles moved, seconded by Mr. Ascue, to approve the first reading of policy XXXX – Bereavement of Leave. The vote was 7-0.

**10.3: Strategic Education Committee – Mr. Michael Miller**

**A. Strategic Education Committee Update**

*The Committee will provide information and receive input from Board members on the following:  
-Items that are currently before the committee that have not been brought forward to the Board;  
-Future topics the committee plans to bring forward; and  
-What is needed to move the item forward?*

**B. Expanded Learning Time**

The Board received information on expanded learning time in Charleston Promise Neighborhood School Sanders Clyde ES/MS. The student achievement data on MAP and PASS supports the need for additional learning time for students.

Mrs. Latisha Vaughan Brandon, Assistant Associate Superintendent, Charleston Promise Neighborhood Learning Community, said the power point was provided to the Board earlier. Dr. Teri Peterson (College of Charleston) and Mrs. Vaughn-Brandon presented the information to the Strategic Education Committee earlier. A pilot was suggested for only Sanders Clyde next year. The Superintendent requested this information be provided to the Board. The number of hours per day would be increased. The new school hours would be 7:30am – 5:30pm. Saturday school was initially proposed, however, since there were concerns from staff and others, the extended day option was considered.

Mrs. Vaughn-Brandon said the summer is important for student learning. Once findings are available, data will be shared with the Board. Summer enrichment is proposed in addition to extended days. Also, she referred Rev. Collins to the -power-point presentation that was included in the Board packet.

Rev. Collins asked Mrs. Vaughn-Brandon to bring proof that it is well worth the effort.

Mr. Fraser inquired about the cost. Mrs. Vaughn-Brandon said the cost at this time is none. Transportation hours will be adjusted. Charleston Promise Neighborhood (CPN) will pay cost for expanded learning time.

Mr. Garrett asked if the same personnel will provide services. Mrs. Vaughn-Brandon said teachers do not want a longer day. So there will be a second shift with teachers that want to work and a second group of folks would be hired to do the work.

Mr. Miller asked if there would be three additional hours of instruction. Mrs. Vaughn-Brandon said

details were presented to the Strategic Committee. Each school would have differentiated options based on their school theme. This option would allow Sanders Clyde time for arts infusion, personalized learning time, and physical activities. Staff will review the student's data to determine what is needed during the enrichment block. Sports, yoga, and other activities would also be provided by partners in addition to homework help and dinner.

Since Chicora's theme is Communications, other options would be considered when the extended day option is considered for Chicora.

Mr. Miller asked if there is an issue with students that are behind academically when they start school. Mrs. Vaughn-Brandon said there is an achievement gap and more time is needed to bring students up to par. Mr. Miller suggested a policy for students that are below level when they come to school. He said extended days may help but it may just be a band aid. He said if a child is not ready for first grade, the district should address the issue. Mr. Miller said students that aren't able to do the work should not be promoted because it makes the data harder to achieve. Dr. Herring was asked to bring data for grades K-3 to the Board.

Mr. Ascue suggested that CPN partners should look at addressing issues related to students that are unprepared for schools. Mrs. Vaughn-Brandon said she would share that information with Mrs. Sherry Snipes-Williams since updating the strategies is being considered. She said they already know parenting is a key strategy. Housing and employment are also on the list of strategies. A new person will be hired to begin that work.

Mrs. Coats referred Mr. Miller to the district's policy. Then she asked if additional teachers were needed. Mrs. Vaughn-Brandon said the same number of teachers would be needed with additional partners. They are just reconfiguring efforts of reading partners and others. Mrs. Coats inquired about the lower number of teachers that are scheduled to come in during the morning hours. Mrs. Vaughn-Brandon said core teachers would come in early and non-core partners would come in later. Mrs. Coats said the Board and parents need details because this will change how instruction is done. She said logistics had to be considered since some kids would not want to remain in school until 5pm when others are released at 2:30pm. Mrs. Vaughn-Brandon said parent surveys were done. Mrs. Coats asked about IZLC extended learning time and the cost for CPN to do the same. Mrs. Vaughn-Brandon said Mrs. Sherry Snipes-Williams handles CPN's fund raising efforts. She could address the Board about that at a later time. Also, she said some money is already available for the program for the upcoming school year. Mrs. Coats said sustainability is the key. She requested staff look to see which is best--summer learning or extended day. Also, she said she did not know it could be done without board approval. Vaughn-Brandon said no teacher is forced to extend their contracts.

Rev. Collins said he wants to see exactly what staff wanted to accomplish. Also, he asked staff to look at the cost. Mrs. Coats said specific information would be brought to the Board. Rev. Collins asked if Sanders-Clyde had more need than other schools. Vaughn-Brandon said Dr. McGinley identified the school. Also, the achievement levels of students were reviewed and expanded learning time has proven to close the achievement gap. Also, the ground-work has already begun with Mr. Dixon and many students are already staying late for additional help. Rev. Collins said a certified teacher was needed for both the morning and afternoon programs.

Mr. Miller spoke about the multiple of program layers and asked about measuring program effectiveness. Mrs. Coats said Dr. Herring and Mrs. Vaughn-Brandon could develop a spreadsheet to illustrate the various layers of the program.

## **XI. POTENTIAL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

### **11.1: Acquisition of Naviance (Ascue, Collins, Ducker & Miller)**

Per policy BEDB, the four Board members above request that this item be revisited. The Board voted on a recommendation to approve the acquisition of Naviance for all CCSD middle and high schools.

Mr. Ascue moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the Acquisition of Naviance. The funding source is General Operating Funds. The amount is \$147,628.27. The vote was 4-3 (Coats, Fraser and Garrett opposed).

However, after discussion, Mr. Fraser changed his vote to support the Naviance recommendation since the Board voted earlier for staff to bring a balanced budget to the Board with no tax increases. He said the Board wants Mr. Bobby to look at how it could be done within the district's balance budget. Dr. Herring said its EIA not GOF funds. She said if GOF is listed, it's an error. Therefore the vote was 5-2 (Coats and Garrett opposed).

Mrs. Coats said the approval of this item increases the district's budget.

## **XII. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Rev. Collins, to adjourn at 6:40 p.m. since there was no other business to come before the Board.