

**I. EXECUTIVE SESSION - 4:00 p.m.**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charleston County School District was held on Monday, July 22, 2013, in the Board Room at 75 Calhoun Street with the following members of the Board present: Mrs. Cindy Bohn Coats – Chair, Mr. Craig Ascue - Vice Chair, Mr. John Barter, Rev. Chris Collins, Mr. Tom Ducker, Mr. Chris Fraser, Mrs. Elizabeth Moffly, and Dr. Nancy J. McGinley, Superintendent and Executive Secretary. Mr. Todd Garrett participated telephonically for a portion of the Open Session meeting. Mr. Michael Miller was absent. Staff members Mr. Michael Bobby, Mr. Bill Lewis, Dr. Lisa Herring, Mrs. Audrey Lane, Dr. Brenda Nelson, and Mr. Paul Padron were also in attendance.

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

At 3:45 p.m., Mrs. Coats called the meeting to order and asked the board to suspend policy BEDA to add a student transfer received after noon Monday. Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Barter to suspend policy BEDA. Then, Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Barter, to go in Executive Session to discuss the following agenda items. The motion was approved by consensus.

**1.1: Student Transfer Appeals**

**A. Out of County Student Transfer Appeal Requests**

**B. In County Transfer Appeal to Drayton Hall ES**

**1.2: Carolina Voyager Charter School Application – Mr. Emerson, General Counsel**

**1.3: Seeking Authority to Settle the Workers Compensation Claim – Mr. Michael Bobby, Chief Financial & Operations Officer**

**1.4: Springfield Elementary School & Montessori/Springfield – Support Facility – Mr. Michael Bobby, Chief Financial & Operations Officer**

**1.5: Appointment - Principal - Laing MS – Dr. Nancy McGinley, Superintendent**

**1.6: Legal Update – Mr. Emerson, General Counsel**

- Proposed settlement agreement

- Charleston Charter School of Math & Science lease

**1.7: Student Transfer Request from a CCSD Employee**

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

Mrs. Coats called the meeting to order at 5:18 p.m. Then Mrs. Coats called for a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Charleston Progressive Academy students Jada Brown, Jalen Brown, and Samiya Brown.

**III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to adopt the August 12, 2013 agenda. The vote was 7-1 (Collins opposed).

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

**A. Behind the Scenes Hero Award** - CCSD's John Miller was recognized for his Reach Sailing Program work with students in summer camp. Mr. Miller thanked the sponsors and volunteers.

**B. Charleston Progressive Academy Musical Tribute** - Shemar Snipes, Charleston Progressive Academy performed for the Board.

**C. First Day Proclamation** – Mrs. Erica Taylor read the First Day Festival Proclamation and introduced City representatives Mr. Dudley Gregory, Mindy Sturm and Jacque Kennedy. Mayor Pro Tem, Mr. Gregory applauded the students that performed and the board's efforts for a world class educational system. He also thanked the businesses that made donations for the First Day Festival.

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

- The first day of school is nine days away. The district is about to welcome a new cohort of kindergarten students. In nine days hundreds of CCSD teachers across the district will roll up their sleeves and do the hard work of changing hearts and minds. Veteran principals and new principals will take an active leadership role in their school to ensure that everyone is on the same page--focusing on the children. The district is focused on making the first day of school, Wednesday August 21<sup>st</sup> the best first day of school on record. Every CCSD student needs to be in school that day. The first day is really important and students should not be allowed to stay home on that day because they will miss

so much.

- District staff has spent the summer cleaning, organizing, recruiting, and in some cases building a new school.
- Three new downtown schools and one West Ashley school will open next Wednesday. The Operations and Capital Projects staff members are extremely tired and working hard to meet the deadline. Mr. Bill Lewis and his dedicated facilities staff were thanked for their efforts as they move school staff into their new buildings.
- The district's goal is to have zero teacher vacancies when school opens. As of today, there are only fifteen unfilled positions out of 3,700 teaching positions. Staff is committed to getting that number down as low as possible with the intention of hiring highly qualified teachers for every classroom.
- Five new Early Childhood classes will open this August—one at Chicora ES and two at Burns ES, one at Pepperhill ES and one at Lambs ES. The district will bring on ten additional classes in January 2014. The district believed the expansion and investment of Early Childhood classes will help move the achievement gap and accelerate progress.
- Test scores were released this week. The district is optimistic that progress is being made in CCSD. The district is also aware that the two report cards—the Federal ESEA and State Report Card can send mixed signals on how well a school is doing. The district also has its own goals under Vision 2016. Staff will address the board later to explain what all the different data means and to give parents and community members a clear signal on other progress being made and what can be done to further accelerate progress to reach the 2016 goals.
- Dr. McGinley concluded her report by stating at this point the district is focusing on a great school opening and thanking principals and teachers who have been working hard all summer to make 2013-14 a spectacular school year.

## **VI. VISITORS, PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Mr. Jonathan Lubecky asked to defer his comments until after the appeal is done. Mrs. Coats said there would not be an opportunity to make comments later during the meeting. However, she said he could address the board at a future meeting.
2. Ms. Jennifer Metts addressed the board on behalf of the Carolina Voyager Charter School application. She shared the background of her school which was the result of a downtown forum to address issues related to parents transferring students out of schools on the peninsula. The school is committed to maintaining diversity. She urged the board to support the application.
3. Mr. Charles Pearson addressed the board in support of the Voyager Charter application. He urged the board to approve the charter request to give parents more schools to choose from.
4. Mr. Tony Lewis addressed the board in support of Voyager Charter School. He urged the board to support the charter application.
5. Ms. Phyllis Ruckers and Mr. John Ruckers addressed the board about their son who took an equivalent science course at a second location that Wando refuses to recognize. Mr. Rucker said earlier their daughter was forced to enroll in a class she had already taken at a second location.

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

### **7.1: Open Session Minutes of July 22, 2013 & August 2, 2013**

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Rev. Collins, to approve the open session minutes of July 22, 2013 & August 2, 2013. The vote was 8-0.

### **7.2: Executive Session Action Items of August 12, 2013**

The Board voted on the following executive session action items of August 12, 2013.

#### **1.1: Student Transfer Appeal Requests**

##### **A. Out of County Transfer Request**

Mr. Ascue moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, to deny out-of-county student transfer appeal requests A, B, D and approve C, pending proof of residency for item C. The vote was 8-0.

##### **B. Drayton Hall Transfer Request**

Mr. Barter moved, seconded by Mr. Ascue, to uphold the Durham Bus Service decision and deny the transfer request because no space is available at Drayton Hall.

Mrs. Moffly stated for the record that the employee is employed by Durham; not CCSD. Mr. Barter modified the motion to not approach Durham Transportation to ask them to change their decision. At this point, Mr. Barter moved, seconded by Mr. Ascue to amend motion to not approach Durham bus service to ask them to change their decision. However, Mr. Ducker agreed with Mrs. Moffly that

the Board take a “hands off” approach with Durham and only include a recommendation to deny the request to transfer to Drayton Hall.

At this point, Mr. Barter moved, seconded by Mr. Ascue to amend motion to deny the request to transfer to Drayton Hall Elementary, due to lack of space. The vote was 8-0.

**1.2: Carolina Voyager Charter School Application – Mr. Emerson, General Counsel**

Mr. Ducker moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to approve the charter application for Carolina Voyager Charter School. The first year funding amount amounts – Year 1 - \$1,127,570; Year 2 - \$1,502,050; Year 3 - \$1,715,988; Year 4 - \$2,034,136; Year 5 - \$2,429,563. The funding source is the state funding per statutory charter school funding formula; private donations and additional federal support. The vote was 7-1 (Collins opposed).

Since Mr. Miller, the chair of the Strategic Education Committee was absent, Mr. Ducker reported out on the Strategic Education Committee’s meeting regarding the application for Carolina Voyager Charter School Application.

Rev. Collins asked what could be done to avoid having another school similar Buist Academy downtown where the majority of students lived out of district. Mr. Ducker said the charter school has a statement in their charter that says they will specifically serve downtown students. Mr. Ascue said the specifics are already in place. However, the charter could be reviewed on an annual basis to confirm the attendance.

Mrs. Coats asked Mr. Emerson to respond to the statement about the charter renewal. Mr. Emerson confirmed that the charter is for 10 years. Mrs. Coats asked if state laws were violated by restricting to only one geographic area. Mr. Emerson said charter schools accept students from the entire district.

**1.3: Seeking Authority to Settle the Workers Compensation Claim – Mr. Michael Bobby, Chief Financial & Operations Officer**

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Barter, to approve the districts recommendation on a Workers’ Compensation Claim. The vote was 8-0.

**1.4: Springfield Elementary School & Montessori/Springfield – Support Facility – Mr. Michael Bobby, Chief Financial & Operations Officer**

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to approve a recommendation to approve a reallocation request in the Springfield ES (Project #5151), in the amount of \$4,300,000.00 to & Montessori/Springfield Support Facility (Project #5144) to award a contract to construct the Montessori/Springfield – Support Facility (Commons Building). The funding source is the one (1) cent sales tax revenues. The vote was 8-0.

**1.5: Appointment - Principal - Laing MS – Dr. Nancy McGinley, Superintendent**

Mrs. Moffly moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to approve a recommendation to appoint Mr. James Whitehair to the position of principal at Laing MS. The vote was 8-0.

**1.6: Legal Update – Mr. Emerson, General Counsel**

**A.** Mrs. Coats announced that she did not participate in the discussion in Executive Session where the Board discussed a proposed settlement agreement. After Mrs. Coats recused herself, Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker to approve the proposed settlement agreement. Mr. Ascue called for the vote which was 6-1-1 (Coats abstained and Collins opposed).

After the vote, Mr. Ascue turned the meeting back over to Mrs. Coats.

**B. Charleston Charter School of Math & Science Lease** - The Board discussed the Charleston Charter School of Math & Science lease in Executive Session. However, no action was taken.

### **1.7: Student Transfer Request from a CCSD Employee**

First, Mr. Ascue moved, seconded by Rev. Collins to approve the student transfer request from a CCSD Employee. Then, Mrs. Moffly moved, seconded by Rev. Collins, to approve an out-of-county student transfer appeal request from a CCSD Employee. The vote failed 3-5 (Coats, Collins, CA, Coats supported the motion).

The board discussed the possibility of an alternative motion. However, Mr. Fraser suggested the parent be advised of schools where space is available.

### **7.3: Financial Minutes of July 22, 2013 & August 2, 2013**

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Barter, to approve the financial minutes of July 22, 2013 & August 2, 2013. The vote was 8-0.

## **VIII. CAE UPDATE**

### **8.1: Renaissance Project – Dr. Lisa Herring, Chief Academic Officer**

Dr. Lisa Herring presented an update on the Renaissance Project initiative.

- The definition of Renaissance is to reflect, invest, and reward.
- Teacher effectiveness is an important component.
- Renaissance Schools - Sanders Clyde, Burns, Memminger and NCES.
- Professional Growth efforts were highlighted.
- There are no teacher vacancies in the Renaissance Schools.
- Title II funds will be used for Professional Growth of classroom teachers and classified staff members.
- Teacher selection process – a rigorous teacher selection process was used to select teachers for Renaissance schools. Ten teachers fell into the category of Substitute teachers
- Because of the 20 additional professional development opportunity afforded to teachers at Renaissance Schools, teachers returned to work on July 29<sup>th</sup>.
- In addition to school based professional development, teachers participated in the Renaissance Institute and other trainings. The feedback that was received from these sessions was positive.
- Dr. Herring shared a brief video presentation from the Renaissance Institute.
- Research and Data Analysis – longitudinal data has been compiled by the consultant for each school and scores will show how teachers are teaching to the students.
- CCSD staff is accountable for measures. All Professional activities will be surveyed. Best practices, to include the report card unpacking by Ms. Christine Powers will also be presented to the County Board at an upcoming meeting.

#### **Board Questions**

- Mr. Ducker asked Dr. Herring to also unpack the data for the Strategic Committee.
- Mr. Barter said because it's a big investment for the district and its important to measure effectiveness and compare it with a baseline to show how much has been accomplished.
- Mr. Ascue said he was glad to see literacy and numeracy on the list. He also said parental involvement is critical to successful teachers.
- Mrs. Moffly said some services were duplicated. She requested information on the cost of the institute for the four schools and if these schools are involved in the Race to the Top, Renaissance, Teacher Incentive Fund, and Charleston Promise Neighborhood schools. Dr. Herring said there was no duplication in training. The timeline protects the fidelity. Also, Dr. Herring said she would provide information on the cost. Dr. McGinley said she would bring information on RTT, CPN, Renaissance, and TIF schools to the board in the near future. Only one CPN school is in the Renaissance Program. Deliberate planning was done to avoid an overlap of services. Dr. McGinley commended Dr. Herring for working with the principals who collaborated to plan the training model. She added that intense work is needed with teachers to make them the best teachers.
- Mrs. Coats asked about schools affiliated with more than one initiative. Dr. Herring provided answers. Mrs. Coats asked if the teachers are getting delivery execution training. Dr. Herring confirmed. She referred to the Strategic Professional slide she shared earlier. The initial three day training was a launching. Other trainings took place after that time. Dr. Herring said more information could be unpacked at the end of the first semester.
- Mrs. Moffly said effective teachers are needed in the classrooms. She thought teachers were

being interviewed to ensure the most effective teachers are hired and that they would be compensated. She did not remember hearing anything about the institute.

- Mr. Fraser asked about the data on the 180 teachers in the Renaissance Schools. Dr. Herring said she would bring that information in the future. Mr. Barter asked about Memminger. Dr. Turner said 50% of her teachers are new and only one new teacher was hired.

**IX. MANAGEMENT REPORT(S)**

**X. COMMITTEE REPORT(S)**

**10.1: Audit & Finance Committee – Mr. John Barter**

**A. Discussion of Committee Charter**

Mr. Barter said the charter was last modified in 2007 and the word finance was added. He said the charter would be updated to show what the committee actually does for board approval. He said Audit & Finance will assign some things that could be done better by other committees in the future. Also, he will review to see if there are things that could be delegated to management for approval to reduce committee time.

**10.2: Policy Committee – Mr. Chris Fraser**

**A. Discussion of Committee Charter**

Mr. Fraser said the Policy Committee will meet on Wednesday and have a draft for the next meeting.

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

**A. Discussion of Committee Charter**

Mr. Ducker said the committee has met but has not done anything about the charter. He said he would bring it to the board in October.

Mrs. Coats said committee chairs should discuss and bring to board in October 2013.

**XI. POTENTIAL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**11.1: A. School/Community Task Force**

The Board received information from the following School/Community Task Forces:

- District 1 – Lincoln HS – Mr. John Lowe
- District 9 – Angel Oak ES and Frierson ES – Mr. Lou Martin/Dr. Nelson
- District 10 – St. Andrews MS & West Ashley MS – Dr. Winbush
- District 23 – Early Childhood Center – Mrs. Michele English Watson

Dr. Nelson said the updates are included in the board packet. Mrs. Coats said the board initiated the effort.

Mr. Barter inquired about information for Jane Edwards. Dr. Winbush said a community meeting would be held to discuss Jane Edwards after every two task force meetings.

Rev. Collins requested the minutes from the School Community Task Force meetings. Dr. Nelson said she would provide it.

Mrs. Coats asked if all task force are fully staffed. Dr. Nelson said they are working to fill the few sets that have not been filled.

Mr. Ducker asked about the Friends of Frierson and their involvement. Dr. Nelson said the school principal identified the parent, staff member and community member. She said all members of the Friends of Frierson are not included. However, one member is included.

Mr. Ascue asked about the bandwidth in district one and what is being done. Mr. Lowe said efforts are underway and he felt it would be addressed soon.

Mrs. Coats asked for another report from the School/Community Task Force in the near future.

**B. Municipal Solid Waste Management Bid Award & Contract Structure – Mr. Michael**

**Bobby, Chief Financial & Operations Officer**

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Rev. Collins, to approve a recommendation for a municipal solid waste management bid award and contract structure. The 2013 amount is \$734,629; the 2013 amount is \$627,017; the 2014 amount is \$486,942. The funding source is \$FY14 Plant Operation, Grounds and Services, Solid Waste Budget. The vote was 8-0.

**C. Montessori/Springfield – Support Facility**

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Rev. Collins, to approve a recommendation to award a contract for Montessori/Springfield Support Facility (Commons Building) (Solicitation #13-CMG-B-006) to TQ Constructors, Inc. for the Base Bid in the amount of \$6,834,812.00. The vote was 8-0.

**D. District Procurement Review Panel – Mr. John Emerson, General Counsel**

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to appoint Mr. Ducker to serve as the Board representative to the District Procurement Review Panel. The vote was 8-0.

**E. 2012-2013 Board Expenditures**

The Board's annual expenditure report for the 2012-13 school year is provided as information in accordance to CCSD Board Policy.

Mrs. Moffly said the amount translates to the number of meetings a board member attends. Mr. Ascue also said mileage is also included.

**XII. NEW BUSINESS**

**12.1 A. Ad Hoc Committee**

Mr. Ducker led the discussion sharing recommendations from the Ad Hoc Committee that met Friday, August 2, 2013.

- There should be two meetings per month.
- Board agenda items should be routed to appropriate committee to vet items beforehand.
- One board meeting a month should focus on action items and the other should be focused on workshop issues.

NOTE: The Board did not determine which date would be for workshop or which would be for the board meeting.

- All Board agenda items should be vetted through committee meetings. That should reduce the amount of time for meetings.
- Board agendas should be delivered on Wednesday before a scheduled meeting.
- The agenda format should be adjusted to accommodate workshop topics.
- An annual workshop should be held in addition to the monthly workshops.
- Half day workshops are preferred.
- Friday Updates should be informational and could be given to the board at any time in a folder if they are not tied to agenda items.
- The committee will look at other ways to do special recognitions. I.e., it could be more appropriate to do at schools.
- An annual awards banquet should be considered to recognize individuals who do good work for schools versus recognition at Board meetings.
- It would be beneficial to have section of the agenda for members to share ideas, initiatives or requests for data (prioritized). More discussion would take place in the future.

Mr. Fraser said this would allow board to get to the business of the board. He didn't want board agenda information that is scheduled to be on the board agenda included with the Board Update.

Mr. Barter added that Wednesday is the final day for agenda items. Mr. Fraser said there shouldn't be any new information. While there may be some emergencies, if agenda items go through the committee, there should not be any updates. The board is becoming more effective because of the work done through committees. The freed up time should be used for big issues that the board wants to talk about.

Mr. Ducker inquired about the four member rule asking if the board would continue to allow four members to add a topic or issue on the agenda without going to committee. Mr. Fraser said if board members had questions they should attend the committee meeting. The intent is to streamline meetings.

Rev. Collins suggested the board turn the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation into action. He also

said there should be an annual workshop calendar. At the beginning of the school year, management should identify key subjects. Rev. Collins suggested the board could come up with that is executable that would allow board members to request information in the proper way.

Mr. Ascue said he preferred having workshops in the afternoon and he favors the idea of a business meeting.

Rev. Collins said he would like to have another discussion to provide input. Most action items require discussion, some don't. The board could potentially have a very long meeting and there is a need to consider a balance.

Mr. Ascue said he would like to make a motion to make this a policy to move forward with the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation.

Mr. Barter said the heart of this is that either the Board is going to trust the committees to do a really good job or not. The board needs to take care of the actions items more expeditiously so that we can take care of the other issues.

Mr. Ducker said the committee has to find a way to prioritize workshop items. He suggested Mrs. Coats, Mr. Ascue and Dr. McGinley prioritize important issues.

Mrs. Moffly requested information on every legal action for the past three years. CCSD policy says that the board should receive information. She also requested the approved the 2005-2009 master plan and asked about the building plan that was removed for the District website.

Dr. McGinley said staff appreciates having the ability to prioritize items. If the Friday update is not helpful staff could reconsider and bring a recommendation. If the board brought information up a Board meeting, it allows staff to share publically versus an update that just goes to the Board. A quarterly update would work. Staff is willing to work with the board to make the changes recommended by the board.

Mrs. Coats reiterated that the district would like to schedule a workshop to unpack TIF, Cash Flow one cent sales tax and other topics on August 27<sup>th</sup>. These topics are important because they are items the Board would be asked to make decisions on. Mr. Garrett requested the information be provided to the Board before the day of the meeting. Mrs. Coats said the time would be 1 to 5 or 2 to 5.

Mrs. Coats asked about the possibility of scheduling a telephonic meeting on Friday afternoon to discuss student transfers. Also, she asked about getting a quorum to hear Teacher Appeals... possibly on August 20. One appeal would be at 9am and another at 2pm.

Mrs. Moffly suggested the need to address student achievement. Mr. Ducker said it would be discussed at the education committee.

**B. Progress on the Evaluation Work by Studer – Mrs. Coats**

The Board did not discuss this topic.

Since there was no other business to come before the CCSD Board of Trustees, Mr. Ascue moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to adjourn at 7:45 p.m.