

Williamsburg County School Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 22, 2013 – 6:00 P. M.
Board/Staff Development Meeting Room
423 School Street - Kingstree, South Carolina

Members Present: Mrs. Barbara McKenzie, Rev. W. C. Henryhand, Rev. Alfred Darby, Ms. Norma Bartelle, Dr. Linwood Cooper, Rev. Norman Gamble, and Mr. Joseph Lee

Others Present: Dr. Yvonne Jefferson-Barnes, Dr. Bernice Davis-Cooper, Ms. S. Christine Green, Mr. Glen Kennedy, Mrs. Claire Murdoch, Ms. Erica Barcus, Ms. Valeria Brown, Mrs. Tara Cantey, Mr. Willie Frazier, Dr. Jennifer Gardner, Dr. Janice Gamble, Ms. Bonnie King, Ms. Debra Sabb-Keels, Attorney Vernie Williams, Ms. Michael Duke, Mr. Chris McKegan, and Mrs. Joann Fulton

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Barbara McKenzie, Board Chair.

Moment of Silence

The Chair asked for a Moment of Silence. All persons were asked to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by Rev. Norman Gamble and seconded by Mr. Joseph Lee to adopt the agenda.

Question

Rev. Darby asked if Board Member Input could be placed on the agenda. The Chair said the School Boards Association suggested taking it off. Attorney Williams informed board members that it is legal, but is discouraged.

Rev. Darby asked why Instruction was not on the agenda. Dr. Jefferson-Barnes said because the recognitions are all instructional and the department is preparing students for testing, and that why it was not included on the agenda.

Rev. Darby asked if persons were allowed to yield their Public Comment time of speaking to another person. The attorney said it depended on the Board majority.

Rev. Darby asked if meetings could be televised. Attorney Williams informed him that legally meetings could be televised.

Rev. Darby asked to move Board Meetings up 30 minutes, to 5:30 p. m. Some Board Members informed him that the meeting time was set for 6:00 p. m. to allow working parents an opportunity to attend.

Five members voted in favor of the motion to adopt the agenda: Ms. Norma Bartelle, Dr. Linwood Cooper, Rev. Norman Gamble, Rev. W. C. Henryhand, and Mr. Joseph Lee. One member opposed: Rev. Alfred Darby. The motion was carried (5-1). The Chair did not vote.

Public Comment: There were none.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Norma Bartelle and seconded by Dr. Linwood Cooper to approve the minutes from the March 25, 2013, Regular Board Meeting and the April 15, 2013, Called Board Meeting. The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Chair did not vote.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Board's Policy Committee Meeting

Mrs. McKenzie stated that the first draft of the 2013-2014 Budget was presented to the Board and the public.

B-E. C. E. Murray High School's Field Trip Requests

The Chair asked for objections to taking Items B-E, Field Trip Requests, collectively. There were none.

A motion was made by Ms. Norma Bartelle and seconded by Rev. W. C. Henryhand to approve Items B-E, Field Trip Requests.

Question

Rev. Alfred Darby asked if students are responsible for writing essays, etc. after field trips: Dr. Jefferson-Barnes said it was up to the school administration. Rev. Darby asked if school administrators explained to parents and students the consequences of getting into trouble while on field trips. Dr. Jefferson-Barnes responded yes, and said parents sign permission slips.

The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Chair did not vote. The following field trips were approved:

B. C. E. Murray High School's JROTC Field Trip Request to Orlando, FL, May 2-5, 2013.

C. C. E. Murray High School's Academic Challenge Team Field Trip Request to Myrtle Beach, SC, May 10-11, 2013.

D. C. E. Murray High School State Golf Tournament Team Field Trip to Bluffton, SC, May 6 – 7, 2013.

E. Hemingway M. B. Lee Middle School Business Education Field Trip to Charlotte/Concord, N. C., May 31 – Jun 2, 2013

F. Williamsburg County Recreation Department's Request for Use of District School

A motion was made by Rev. W. C. Henryhand and seconded by Mr. Joseph Lee to approve Williamsburg County Recreation Department's request to use the Kingstree Senior High School Cafeteria to prepare lunches for its Summer Food Program, June 10, 2013, through August 2, 2013. The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Chair did not vote.

INFORMATION ITEMS

A. C. E. Murray High School Students Receive Business Achievement Awards (BAA) from Future Business Leadership of America (FBLA)

Congratulations were extended to James Montgomery, a C. E. Murray High School student, who was one of only forty-four (44) South Carolina students to complete the FBLA Business Achievement Award program. The Board presented a Certificate of Recognition to him.

2013 FBLA Middle Level Achievement Program (MAP) Awards South Carolina

Congratulations were extended to the following C. E. Murray Middle School students for attaining Level 1 – Entrepreneur: Morgan Greene, Kayla McBride, Devin Paulin, Darrius Rush, and Emily Washington. The Board presented a Certificate of Recognition to each student.

B. Hemingway M. B. Lee Middle School Student Named 2012 – 2013 Junior Scholar

Tristan Kinard was congratulated on being named a Junior Scholar for the 2012-2013 school year. Board Members presented a Certificate of Recognition to him.

C. Kingstree Middle School Student Named to 2012-2013 Duke Talent Identification Program (TIP)

The Board congratulated and presented a Certificate of Recognition to Lindsay Gardner, a 7th grader from Kingstree Middle School, for making the required scores on the SAT Critical Reading, Math and Writing to qualify for the 2012-2013 Duke Talent Identification Program (TIP).

D. Kingstree Middle School Student Named 2012 – 2013 Junior Scholar

Demarious Smith was congratulated by the Board and presented Certificate of Recognition for being named a Junior Scholar for the 2012-2013 school year.

E. C. E. Murray High School Students Participate in S. C. Mock Trial Competition

Board Members presented the following students Certificates of Recognition for participating in the S. C. Mock Trial Competition held on February 23, 2013, in Conway, South Carolina:

Team members: Arlana Allen, Cheynera Canty, Marisa Covington, Amber Floyd, Cambridge Gamble, Peter Horsford, Jamayel Huges, Darius Mazyck, Darien McCray, Jameson Montgomery, Mecca Murphy, Kerrie Singleton, and Makeda Thomas. The following students received certificates: Makeda Thomas - Most Effective Witness by the Scoring Judges; Marisa Covington - Most Effective Attorney by the Scoring Judges. Team Advisor, Mr. Allen Keels was also presented a Certificates of Recognition by the Board.

F. Special Services Department receives All Clear Status from the South Carolina State Department of Education (SCDE)

Mrs. Tara Cantey and members of the Special Services Department were recognized and applauded for having received an All Clear status on their audit, conducted by staff members of the SCDE.

G. SC Department of Education Awards Palmetto Gold and Silver Awards to District Schools

Congratulations were extended to Kingstree Senior High School for being awarded the 2012-2013 Palmetto Silver, for General Performance/Solid Growth, by the South Carolina State Department of Education.

Congratulations were extended to C. E. Murray High School for being awarded the 2012-2013 Palmetto Gold, for General Performance/Excellent Report Card Rating, by the South Carolina State Department of Education.

Board Members presented to each school, a Certificate of Recognition.

H. District Coach Named Region 7A Athletic Director of the Year

Board Members presented a Certificate of Recognition to Ms. Debra Sabb-Keels, media specialist and athletic director at C. E. Murray High School, being named the 2012-2013 Region 7A Athletic Director of the Year, by the South Carolina Athletic Administrators Association.

I. Update from Student Services

Updates from the Office of Student Services were provided. Some concerns raised by Board Members were student awards day, proper student attire, expulsion and write-up rates, and drug dogs. Concerns were addressed by Mr. Glen Kennedy.

J. Update from Administrative Services

Mr. Glen Kennedy provided Board Members with information on activities within the department for the month of April. The WIA program was highlighted as part of Administrative Services' presentation. There were discussions on Willoglen, parental concerns, WIA students' qualifications and end of school year monitoring.

Rev. Darby informed Board Members of the date and time of the funeral for Rev. Dennis Brock, and stated that he would be attending. Rev. Henryhand to Rev. Darby: "You are on the order of service to bring condolences for the district." Rev. Darby: "Yes, because he contributed so much to the district and his wife. It would be wrong if we did not mention the Brock family, because some may not know that." Rev. Darby asked that the record stated what he'd said.

Rev. Henryhand: "Madam Chair, that doesn't need Board approval, does it; that Rev. Darby represents the district?" Rev. Henryhand: "I just wanted to make sure."

K. Finance

Ms. Christine Green presented the Expenditures and Revenues Statements. There were discussions on the budgets, retiree salaries, fund balance, Millage increase, and increase in sales tax.

Rev. Henryhand spoke of a letter received at his business. He said that he gave a copy to each Board Member and the media, regarding issues of parents and the community. Rev. Henryhand said the letter was signed, and should be read and the media asked to publish it.

Rev. Darby expressed gratitude to Mrs. Singleton for presenting the scholarship for a C. E. Murray student. He also thanked person who contributed to the sign for C. E. Murray High School.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mr. Joseph Lee and seconded by Rev. Norman Gamble that the Board convene in Executive Session to discuss items listed on the agenda.

- A. Discussion of Election, Transfer, Termination, Retirement and/or Resignation of Staff**
- B. Personnel Matters**
- C. Legal Matters**

The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Chair did not vote. The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:47 p. m.

OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Mr. Joseph Lee and seconded by Ms. Norma Bartelle that the Board convenes in Open Session to vote on any matters per Executive Session discussion. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0). The Chair did not vote. The Board convened in Open Session at 7:18 p. m.

A motion was made by Rev. Alfred Darby and seconded by Mr. Joseph Lee to accept the administration's recommendation to employ Mr. Brian P. Smith for the 2012-2013 school year. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0). The Chair did not vote.

A motion was made by Rev. Alfred Darby and seconded by Ms. Norma Bartelle to grant the employee's grievance request subject to the qualification that he be assigned to a coaching position as selected by the superintendent or her designee. Three Members voted in favor of the motion: Ms. Norma Bartelle, Rev. Alfred Darby, and Mr. Joseph Lee. Two members abstained: Dr. Linwood Cooper and Rev. W. C. Henryhand. The motion was carried unanimously, (3-0). The Chair did not vote.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Dr. Linwood Cooper and seconded by Mr. Joseph Lee to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0). The Chair did not vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p. m.

Note: There is a difference in votes, because Rev. Norman Gamble left prior to Open Session.

Submitted by: Joanna M. Fulton Date: May 21, 2013

Board Secretary: Alfred Darby Date: May 21, 2013

Board Reminders:

A. School Board Conferences for 2012-2013

- 1. Regular Board Meeting – April 22, 2013, Board/Staff Development Meeting Room, 6:00 pm
- 2. Budget Committee/Public Meeting – April 22, 2013, Board/Staff Development Meeting Room, 5:30 pm
- 3. 2013 NSBA Annual Conference – April 13-15, 2013 – San Diego, CA
- 4. NSBA Southern Region Conference – July 7-10, 2013 – Destin, FL