

Williamsburg County School Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 24, 2011 – 6:00 P. M.
Board/Staff Development Meeting Room
423 School Street - Kingstree, South Carolina

Members Present: Mrs. Barbara McKenzie, Ms. Norma Bartelle, Mr. Charles Garner, Mr. James Darby, Rev. Norman Gamble, Rev. W. C. Henryhand, and Mr. Joseph Lee

Others Present: Dr. Yvonne Jefferson-Barnes, Dr. Bernice Cooper, Mr. Glen Kennedy, Ms. Christine Green, Mr. Marshall Allen, Mr. Ray James, Ms. Bonnie King, Dr. Paul Krohne, Mr. Boykin Parson, Mrs. LaShanda Smith, Attorney Vernie Williams, Ms. Ernestine Young, Ms. Michaele Dukes, Mr. Matt McColl, and Mrs. Joann Fulton

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

Rev. W. C. Henryhand led the group in prayer. The group was then 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. The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Chair did not vote.

Public Comment

There were none.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mrs. Norma Bartelle and seconded by Mr. Charles Garner to approve the minutes from the September 26, 2011, Regular Board Meeting. The motion to approve the minutes was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Chair did not vote.

Action Items

A. A motion was made by Rev. Norman Gamble and seconded by Ms. Norma Bartelle to approve the Kingstree Middle School BETA Club field trip request. The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Chair did not vote.

B. A motion was made by Mr. Charles Garner and seconded by Rev. Norman Gamble to approve the request of the St. Mark Community Men's Club for the use of St. Mark Elementary School gym to provide activities for children in that community and surrounding communities.

Board Member James Darby asked the superintendent about liability on the gym. Dr. Jefferson-Barnes stated that the attorneys were working on a contractual agreement to ensure that the school district will not be liable, and that the St. Mark Men's Club would assume liability for the gym.

An amended motion was made by Rev. Norman Gamble and seconded by Ms. Norma Bartelle to approve the request pending completion of the contractual agreement by the attorneys. The amended motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Chair did not vote.

C. A question was asked regarding the law on setting the amount of school board per diem. Dr. Jefferson-Barnes indicated that there is a local law, and that the Board Policy Committee needed to look at the law to make sure everything is appropriate.

Mrs. McKenzie appointed the following persons to the Policy Committee: Mr. Charles Garner, Chairperson, and Mr. Joseph Lee and Mrs. Barbara McKenzie, Members.

A motion was made by Mr. Joseph Lee and seconded by Mr. James Darby to refer Policy BID – Board member Compensation and Expenses to the Policy Committee for review. The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Chair did not vote.

D. Nursing Supervisor Jennifer Lamb provided information to the Board on the Telemed pilot program, which is a program that extends and enhances health care to children at school. She stated that Telemed is designed so that students without a doctor will be able to receive medical care and prescriptions, free of charge. Mrs. Lamb said the program is scheduled to begin in January; once students have been identified, and consents forms secured from parents. Mrs. Lamb informed Board Members that she and MUSC selected the Magnet School as the pilot site, because they looked at the students being bused in, and because this is a new school, with a new slate.

A motion was made by Ms. Norma Bartelle and seconded by Rev. Norman Gamble to accept the administration's recommendation to approve the Medical University of South Carolina's request to conduct a pilot program (Telemed) in the Williamsburg County School District. the motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Chair did not vote.

Information Items

A. WCSD Teachers of the Year Recognized by Phi Delta Kappa

Phi Delta Kappa recognized the Williamsburg County School District Teachers of the Year at a banquet on October 6, 2011, with Certificates of Accomplishment. These Certificates, along with Certificates of Recognition from the Williamsburg County School Board of Trustees, were presented to teachers by Board Members and the Superintendent. School Principals accepted certificates for persons who were not in attendance at the meeting. Chairperson McKenzie congratulated all Teachers of the Year, on behalf of the School Board of Trustees.

B. Financial Update

Ms. Christine Green provided the Revenue and Expenditure Statements for the month of October. She then provided a handout for Board members to clarify items within the initial report.

Chairperson McKenzie asked what happens when a department runs out of money. Ms. Green said that the overage would be taken from the general fund balance.

E. Curriculum and Instruction

Dr. Bernice Cooper stated that Mr. Boykin Parson, Ms. Bonnie King, and Ms. Ernestine Young would present AdvancEd Standards 5, 6, and 7, respectively.

Mr. Parson stated that he and Mrs. Claire Murdoch co-chaired the team that addressed Standard 5. He said the team asked if the needs of personnel, finance/resources, and facilities were being met, and the findings were as follows:

- Yes, because 91% of teachers are highly qualified, and that 9% are trying to become certified in other areas, i.e. special education.
- Yes, with some creativity there are enough resources to be successful.
- Yes, the district is committed to maintaining a safe facility and equipment. On-site monitoring is performed on a regular basis, and a comprehensive emergency management plan is in place at all schools.

Ms. King stated that she and Mrs. La-Dine' Gamble co-chaired the team that addressed Standard 6, Stakeholder Communication and Relations. She stated that there are various avenues that stakeholders may use to communicate with the school district, i.e. Public Comment during School Board Meetings, School Improvement Councils meetings, PTO/PTA meetings, newsletters from individual schools to parents, parent/teacher conferences, WCSD's website, the Superintendent's Teacher Advisory Council, Parent, & Teacher forums, and the weekly newsletter from the district's Office of Public Relations.

Ms. Ernestine Young co-chaired with Ms. Patricia Burch the team that addressed Standard 7, Commitment to Continuous Improvement. The objective is to close the achievement gap. She stated that:

- The Improvement Plan looked at strengths and weaknesses; Leadership, Instructional Review, and Ongoing Assessment.
- Student test data is being assessed to identify gaps.
- Elements for school improvement were analyzed, i.e. leadership plans and community involvement.
- Ongoing assessment is being done as a part of continued improvement.

Board Member Input

- Mr. Darby recognized the veterans and thanked them for serving.
- Ms. Bartelle stated that Ms. Geraldine Shaw asked for mentoring resources.
- Rev. Henryhand asked about inmates assisting with repairs and the safety of students. Dr. Jefferson-Barnes explained that inmates came, during the weekends when no students were present, to assist in getting the facilities ready for the opening of schools. She also said that they were monitored by personnel from the corrections facility, and administrators from the school district.
- Mr. Garner thanked the instructional staff for their presentation.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Rev. W. C. Henryhand and seconded by Mr. Joseph Lee 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. Legal Update**

The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Chair did not vote. The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:58 p. m.

Open Session

A motion was made by Mr. Joseph Lee and seconded by Rev. Norman Gamble that the Board convene 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 7:25 p. m.

Resignations

A motion was made by Mr. Charles Garner and seconded by Mr. Joseph Lee to accept the resignation of the following personnel: Ms. Amanda P. Bryant and Mr. Willie C. White. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0). The Chair did not vote.

Election of Personnel

A motion was made by Mr. Charles Garner and seconded by Mr. Joseph Lee to accept the administration's recommendation to employ the following personnel for the 2011-2012 school year: Ms. Reveendar Dasarapu and Ms. Nagina Shivana. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0). The Chair did not vote.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Rev. Norman Gamble and seconded by Mr. Joseph Lee that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0). The Chair did not vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p. m.

There is a difference in votes, because Rev. W. C. Henryhand left prior to Open Session.

Submitted by Joann M. Fulton

Date November 21, 2011

Board Secretary Charles F. Garner

Date 11/21/11

Board Reminders:

A. School Board Conferences for 2011

1. Regular Board Meeting – November 28, 2011 – Board/Staff Development Meeting Room
2. Legislative Advocacy Conference – December 2-4, 2011 – Hilton Head
3. SCSBA Annual Meeting – February 23-26, 2012 – Myrtle Beach
4. NSBA Annual Meeting – April 21-23, 2012 – Boston, MA