

WILLIAMSBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 28, 2015 – 6:00 P.M.
Board/Staff Development Meeting Room
423 School Street – Kingstree, South Carolina

Members Present: Rev. Alfred Darby, Rev. W. C. Henryhand, Sr., Dr. Linwood Cooper, Mrs. Gladys Dorsey, Mr. Joseph Lee, Mrs. Barbara McKenzie, and Dr. Kerry Singleton

Others Present: Ms. Carrie C. Brock, Ms. Roberta Cumbee, Dr. Kenneth Burgess, Mr. Harry Lash, Mrs. Wendy Fulton, Ms. Claire Murdoch, Mr. Lee Roy Campbell, Mrs. Maggie Fulton, Mrs. La-Dine' W. Gamble, Mrs. Nicole Giles, Mr. Ray James, Ms. Bonnie King, Mrs. Berlinda Mack, Dr. Brian McKnight, Mr. Omar Montgomery, Ms. Tamekia Morant, Mrs. Claire Murdoch, Ms. Nancy White, Mr. Ernest Young, Attorney Vernie Williams, and Mrs. Joann Fulton

The meeting was called to order by the Chair Rev. Alfred Darby.

Moment of Silence

All persons were asked to observe a Moment of Silence; and to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by Mrs. Barbara McKenzie and seconded by Dr. Linwood Cooper to adopt the agenda. The motion was carried unanimously, (7-0).

Public Comment:

There were none.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mrs. Barbara McKenzie and seconded by Mrs. Gladys Dorsey to approve the minutes from the June 29, 2015, Board's Budget and Regular Board Meetings, July 22, 2015, Called Board Meeting, July 28, 2015, Policy Meeting, the August 4, 2015, Policy and Called Meeting, August 24, 2015, Board Budget and Regular Board Meetings. The motion was carried unanimously, (7-0).

INFORMATION ITEMS

WCSD Schools Receive 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) Grant Awards

Mrs. La-Dine' Gamble, Grants Writer for the school district, explained the 21st Century Learning Centers grants, and answered questions from Board Members.

South Carolina State Department of Education Awards Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Grants to District Schools

Mrs. Nicole Giles, the district's Food Services Director, shared with Board Members that students receive fresh fruits and vegetables in the mornings, and in the afternoons before going home, through the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable grants.

Curriculum and Instruction

Ms. Roberta Cumbee, Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction, gave an update on current activities and initiatives of the Curriculum and Instruction department. Ms. Cumbee said the School District is partnering with the Bill/Melinda Gates Foundation, through the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB). The district will be receiving \$350,000 for professional development to improve student achievement by implementing curriculum and instructional practices that make higher achievement possible.

Student Services

Dr. Brian McKnight, Director of Student Services and Technology, reported a total enrollment of 18 students at the HOPE Academy (Alternative School).

As a follow-up on a question from last month's Board Meeting about loss of bus drivers to other districts, Dr. McKnight provided a chart to Board Members that showed the pay rates of WCSD's school bus drivers and salaries of bus drivers in surrounding districts. Dr. McKnight said the district is currently using all available substitute drivers (including persons with dual jobs).

Finance

Mr. Harry Lash noted that the Expenditures and Revenues Statements for August 2015 were included in the Board Agenda Packet. He provided updates on the following:

- The administration is still considering options on vacant properties in the district.
- A company has been secured to repair the gymnasium floor at Hemingway High School. The floor will be ready for 2015-2016 basketball season.

ACTION ITEMS

Hemingway Elementary School's Field Trip Request

A motion was made by Mr. Joseph Lee and seconded by Mrs. Barbara McKenzie to accept the administration's recommendation to approve HES's field trip request to Myrtle Beach, SC on January 14-15, 2015, to participate in the National Beta Club Society workshops. The motion was carried unanimously, (7-0).

WCSD's Office of School Food Services Request to Purchase Equipment

A motion was made by Rev. W. C. Henryhand, Sr. and seconded by Ms. Gladys Dorsey to accept the administration's recommendation to approve the Office of School Food Services' request to purchase cafeteria and kitchen equipment. Five members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Linwood Cooper, Rev. Alfred Darby, Ms. Gladys Dorsey, Rev. W. C. Henryhand, Sr., and Mr. Joseph Lee. Two members abstained: Mrs. Barbara McKenzie and Dr. Kerry Singleton. The motion was carried (5-0-2).

Delegate Selection for South Carolina School Boards Association's Annual Business Meeting

Dr. Kerry Singleton and Mrs. Gladys Dorsey volunteered to be the delegate and alternate, respectively, for SCSBA's Annual Business Meeting on December 5, 2015, 2 p.m., at the Hilton Head/Sonesta Resort. There were no objections from Board Members.

Williamsburg County School District's 2015-2016 Organizational Chart

Ms. Brock stated that the organizational chart only included positions, but that she had a chart that included names of personnel. Board Members agreed to discuss the Organizational Chart during Executive Session, before voting on the matter.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mrs. Barbara McKenzie and seconded by Dr. Linwood Cooper to convene in Executive Session to discuss items listed on the agenda.

A. Discussion of Hiring, Discipline, Transfer, Termination, Retirement, Reorganization and/or Resignation of Staff

B. Receipt of legal advice regarding litigation, employment matters, and facilities updates.

The motion was carried unanimously, (7-0). The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:49 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Mrs. Barbara McKenzie and seconded by Rev. W. C. Henryhand, Sr. to convene in Open Session to vote on any matters per Executive Session discussion. The motion was carried unanimously, (7-0). The Board convened in Open Session at 7:54 p.m.

Mrs. Maggie Fulton, a Williamsburg County School District School Bus Driver, spoke on behalf of the district's drivers, requesting that the Board provide a salary increase for all drivers.

A motion was made by Dr. Linwood Cooper and seconded by Rev. W. C. Henryhand, Sr. to accept the resignations of the following personnel pending the finding of a suitable replacement: Mr. Johnny Callaway, Ms. Jennifer Murray, Ms. Alicia Oliver, and Ms. Nancy White. The motion was carried unanimously, (7-0).

A motion was made by Dr. Linwood Cooper and seconded by Mr. Joseph Lee to accept the administration's recommendation to employ the following personnel for the 2015-2016 school year: Ms. Marie Girolamo, Ms. Lakasha Rogers, and Mr. Garth Williams. The motion was carried unanimously, (7-0).

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Barbara McKenzie and seconded by Dr. Kerry Singleton to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried unanimously, (7-0). The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Submitted by:  Date: 10/26/2015

Board Secretary:  Date: 10/26/2015