

**Williamsburg County School Board of Trustees**  
**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, October 27, 2014 – 6:00 P. M.**  
**Board/Staff Development Meeting Room**  
**423 School Street - Kingstree, South Carolina**

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

**Others Present:** Dr. Yvonne Jefferson-Barnes, Dr. Bernice D. Cooper, Mr. Glen Kennedy, Mr. Stanley Brunson, Mrs. Claire Murdoch, Ms. Erica Barcus, Mrs. Sara Boyd, Ms. Cynthia Brown, Ms. Valeria Brown, Mr. Lee Roy Campbell, Ms. Roberta Cumbee, Mr. Mark Easterling, Mrs. Delaney Frierson, Mrs. Hester Gadsden, Dr. Janice Gamble, Dr. Jennifer Gardner, Mr. Alex Gordon, Ms. Jennifer Holliday, Mr. Ray James, Mr. Levi Keith, Ms. Crystal Lottig, Ms. Angela McClary-Rush, Ms. Berlinda Mack, Miss Desaphine Nesmith, Ms. Martha Rhodes, Dr. Teresa Wright, Attorney Vernie Williams, Ms. Ella Wilson, Ms. Ernestine Young, Ms. Michaelae Dukes, and Mrs. Joann Fulton

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Mr. Joseph Lee.

**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 Rev. Norman Gamble and seconded by Ms. Norma Bartelle to adopt the agenda. The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Chair did not vote.

**Public Comment**

Miss Kinandah Williams, on behalf of C. E. Murray students present and past, thanked Rev. Norman Gamble, for his years of service to the school and school district.

Mr. Willie McKnight, a Williamsburg County parent, addressed the Board regarding his request that funds that were allocated by the state for his two children, be given to him, because both children have been homeschooled for the past two years.

Mr. Ray James, National Education Association Director for South Carolina and KSH Special Education Teacher, spoke to Board Members regarding the ESEA waiver. He stated that KSH has a "C" rating, but that the school is much more than a "C". Mr. James said that teachers work very hard, and that children should not be labeled, by a test score. He asked for the School Board's support and encouragement of district teachers.

Ms. Martha Rhodes, a WCMSA ELA teacher, stated that "Racing to the Top" takes time; students are currently in the middle of the race; so we need to wait till the end of the race. Ms. Rhodes asked for Board support.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Rev. Alfred Darby and seconded by Rev. W. C. Henryhand, Sr. to approve minutes from the September 22, 2014, Policy Committee and Regular Board Meetings. The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Chair did not vote.



### **Williamsburg County School District Students Qualify as Duke TIP Participants**

Board Members presented Certificates of Achievement to two Hemingway Elementary School students, Joshua Cante (Math SCPASS) and Dailyn Mincey (ELA SCPASS) for scoring in the 95th percentile on standardized tests, and being identified with the Duke University Talent Identification Program.

### **Williamsburg County School District Student Earns Perfect Scores on 2014 PASS Assessments**

Board Members presented a Certificate of Achievement to Brooks Mixon, a fourth grade student at Williamsburg County Magnet School of the Arts, for earning a perfect score on the 2014 Math PASS Assessment.

### **WCSD Student Selected One of Top 5 A Senior Players in South Carolina**

Phillip Williams, a senior at Hemingway High School, was presented a Certificate of Recognition for being selected as one of the Top 5 A Senior Players in South Carolina, by the South Carolina Basketball Coaches Association.

Mr. Joseph Lee expressed his pleasure and appreciation for having served on the Williamsburg County School Board of Trustees with Rev. Norman Gamble. He also thanked him for his many years of service, and wished him well. Mr. Lee read and presented a document from Congressman James E. Clyburn to Rev. Gamble, congratulating him on his retirement from the School Board of Trustees.

Rev. Gamble thanked Mr. Lee and Miss Kinandah Williams for their remarks, and stated that he has been blessed as a member of the Williamsburg County School Board of Trustees; having gone many places and met many people, he called it "*an interesting journey*". Rev. Gamble said he always did what was in the best interest of the students. He left a scripture with Board Members, Micah 6:8 which states, "*He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.*"

### **Instruction**

Ms. Crystal Lottig presented a PowerPoint overview of the ESEA Waiver data, which she extracted directly from the SC State Department of Education's website. She stated that an "F" does not define a school or a district.

- The ESEA overall points increased from 47.8 to 53.9, which is significant growth.
- 80.3% of students are graduating on time, which is better than Horry, Florence, Georgetown and Beaufort counties.
- Middle schools as a group recognized a gained of 19.6.
- ACT and SAT scores increased.
- No schools are Focus or Priority schools this year.
- High School ESEA grades are: CEM and HHS, "B" and KSH "C".

The following principals presented information and responded to questions and concerns from the Board: Dr. Teresa Wright, Mr. Levi Keith, Ms. Cynthia Brown, Ms. Roberta Cumbee, Dr. Janice Gamble, Dr. Jennifer Gardner, Ms. Erica Barcus, and Mr. Alex Gordon.

Dr. Jefferson-Barnes asked Board Members to contact legislators with regards to the unfairness of the ESEA Waiver assessment process.

### **Student Services**

The Student Services report was included in the agenda.



## **Administrative Services**

The Administrative Services report was included in the agenda.

## **Finance**

Mr. Brunson presented the Expenditures and Revenues Reports.

## **Board Policy Committee Meeting**

A recommendation was made by Dr. Linwood Cooper, Chair of the Policy Committee, that the Board approve the following policies for second reading; and to hold policies recommended for first reading until the Superintendent provided a date for a workshop with all Board Members regarding all policies. **Policies AA-School District Legal Status; AC-NonDiscrimination/Equal Opportunity; ADA-R-School District Goals and Objectives; ADB-Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace and Schools; ADF-School Wellness; BA-School Board Operational Goals; BB-School Board Legal Status; BBA-Board Powers and Duties; BBAA-Board Member Authority and Responsibilities; BBB-Board Membership Elections; BBBA-Board Members Qualifications; BBBC-Board Member Resignation; BBBE-Unexpired Term Fullfillment/Vacancies; BC-Board Member Conduct; BCA-Board member Code of Ethics; and BCB-Board Member Conflict of Interest.**

## **First Reading**

**BD-Organization of the School Board; BD-R-Organization of the School Board; BDD-Board-Superintendent Relationship; BDE-Board Committees; BDF-Advisory Committees; BDF-R- Advisory Committees; BDG-Board Attorney/Legal Services; BDG-R-School Attorney/Legal Services; BDH-Board Consultants/Staff Assistants; BE-Board Meetings; BEC-Executive Sessions/Open Meetings; BEDA-Board Meeting Notification; BEDB-Board Agenda; BEDF-Voting Method at Board Meetings; BEDG-Minutes of Board Meetings; BEDH-Public Participation At Meetings; and BEDI-News Media Services At Board Meetings; BEE-Public Hearings; BG/BGD-Board Policy Process/Board Review of Administrative Rules; BIA/BIB-New member Orientation/Board Member Development Opportunities; BIE-Board Member Insurance/Liability; BJ-Board Legislative Program; BJ-R-Board Legislative Program; BK-Board Membership in Professional Associations; and KG Public Use of School Facilities.**

The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Chair did not vote.

There was a discussion on having a new policy developed by the Superintendent and School District's Attorney regarding Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace and Schools, to include drug and alcohol testing of employees.

## **ACT155 Diploma Petitions**

A motion was made by Ms. Norma Bartelle and seconded by Rev. Alfred Darby to accept the administration's recommendation to approve ACT 155 Diploma Petitions presented to the district. The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Chair did not vote.

## **Hemingway High and Hemingway M. B. Lee Schools' Field Trip Request**

A motion was made by Rev. Alfred Darby and seconded by Rev. W. C. Henryhand, Sr. to accept the administration's recommendation to approve Hemingway High and Hemingway M. B. Lee Middle Schools' field trip requested to Charlotte, NC, to attend the AVID Program for students. Students will leave Hemingway at 8:00 a. m. on November 21, 2014, and return at 6:00 p. m. on November 21, 2014. The Motion was carried, (6-0). The Chair did not vote.



## EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Ms. Norma Bartelle and seconded by Rev. Norman Gamble to 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
  - 1. Personnel Matter
  - 2. Facilities/Furniture/Appliance Requests
  - 3. Superintendent's Evaluation Summary

The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Chair did not vote. The Board convened in Executive Session at 7:57 p. m.

## OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Rev. Alfred Darby and seconded by Ms. Norma Bartelle to 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 8:51 p. m.

A motion was made by Dr. Linwood Cooper and seconded by Rev. W. C. Henryhand, Sr. to accept the administration's recommendation on the administrative transfer of the following personnel for the 2014-2015 school year: Mr. Marion Curtis to Assistant Principal of Hemingway High School. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0). The Chair did not vote.

A motion was made by Dr. Linwood Cooper and seconded by Rev. W. C. Henryhand, Sr. to accept the resignation of the following personnel for the 2014-2015 school year: Mr. Omar Hilton and Ms. Amelia Jeffers. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0). The Chair did not vote.

A motion was made by Dr. Linwood Cooper and seconded by Rev. W. C. Henryhand, Sr. to accept the administration's recommendation to employ the following personnel for the 2014-2015 school year: Mrs. Tabatha Powell. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0). The Chair did not vote.

The Chair stated, "Members of the board identified continuing to work on improving student performance as a goal for the 2014-15 school year for the Superintendent."

## ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Rev. Norman Gamble and seconded by Ms. Norma Bartelle to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0). The Chair did not vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p. m.

Note: There is a difference in votes, because Mrs. Barbara McKenzie left during Executive Session.

Submitted by: 

Date: November 17, 2014

Board Secretary: 

Date: November 17, 2014