

Williamsburg County School Board of Trustees
Monday, January 23, 2017 – 6:00 P.M.
Board/Staff Development Meeting Room
423 School Street - Kingstree, South Carolina

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

Others Present: Ms. Carrie C. Brock, Ms. Roberta Cumbee, Dr. Kenneth Burgess, Ms. Cynthia Brown, Mr. Marion Curtis, Ms. Nicole Dixon, Mrs. Wendy Fulton, Mr. Ray James, Ms. Bonnie King, Mrs. Berlinda Mack, Mrs. Priscilla McClary, Ms. Vermelle McCrea, Dr. Brian McKnight, Mr. Javonne Montgomery, Mrs. Claire Murdoch, Ms. Quinn Rahaham, Ms. Jacqueline Simmons, Ms. LaShanda Smith, Attorney Vernie Williams, Ms. Lorraine Wilson, Ms. Rebecca Wright, Ms. Michael Duke, and Mrs. Bonnie Grimsley

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.

Pledge of Allegiance

All persons were asked 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, (6-0).

Public Comment

Ms. Felecia Wagner, a Williamsburg County School District parent, addressed the Board with concerns about the Virtual School program. She stated that her son enrolled in a class, and she is concerned that the class is behind by 5 assignments, the Wi-Fi is not working properly at KSH, and that parents did not have enough information about the Virtual School program.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mrs. Barbara McKenzie and seconded by Rev. William C. Henryhand, Sr. to approve the minutes from the November 28, 2016, Regular Board Meeting and the December 16, 2016, Called Board Meeting. The motion was carried unanimously, (7-0).

Board Member Appreciation Month

State of South Carolina Governor's Proclamation

Rev. Darby read the State of South Carolina Governor's Proclamation designating January 2017 as School Board Recognition Month throughout the state, and to encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the contributions of local school boards to the academic success of public school students across the Palmetto State.

Williamsburg County School District Recognizes School Board Members

January 2017 being designated School Board Appreciation Month, Williamsburg County School District paused to honor its School Board of Trustees for the commendable role they play as representatives of the local community's voice and vision for public education.

Ms. Carrie Brock, Superintendent, expressed gratitude to Board Members on behalf of the administration, faculty and staff, students, and parents of Williamsburg County School District, and presented them with gifts from the Superintendent's Office. Board Members were also presented gifts from the Principals, and the Williamsburg County Education Association.

South Carolina School Boards Association Recognizes Board Member

South Carolina School Boards Association (SCSBA) extended congratulations to Mrs. Barbara McKenzie on achieving 15 years of school board service for Williamsburg County School District. As part of this recognition, the school district's Board Chair presented her with a lapel pin, from SCSBA, to wear at school board and SCSBA events. Mrs. McKenzie's name and years of service will also appear in the SCSBA Annual Convention program.

Curriculum and Instruction

Ms. Roberta Cumbee, Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction, presented a PowerPoint overview of the district's Virtual School, OWL Online (Opportunities Without Limits). Ms. Cumbee listed several benefits of the Online OWL which are 1) OWL Online permits a more robust course catalog and pushes HS-level courses to the middle schools; 2) OWL Online allows the district to fill secondary and middle level vacancies; and 3) Students who are placed on Homebound instruction will be able to register for OWL Online courses taught by certified teachers. She also explained how the program works, to include the assistance of Teachers and Lab Assistants. Mrs. Cumbee also explained what was expected of students enrolled in the courses. Currently, there are students enrolled in the following courses: English (261), Algebra 1 (141), Geometry (29), World Geography (32), and Psychology (39), a total of 502 students.

Student Services

Dr. Brian McKnight, Director of Student Services and Transportation, informed the Board that Student Services information was included in the agenda book. He stated that student discipline is going very well in the district. Dr. McKnight also informed Board Members that the school district received 5 new school buses from the State Department of Education.

Finance

Audit Report (Sheheen, Hancock and Godwin)

Mr. Mark Woods, Auditor, present an Executive Summary of the 2015-2016 Audit to Board Members, and allowed for questions and concerns from the Board. He commended the Finance Department staff members for receiving an "Unqualified Audit" which is a complete audit that analyzes both the internal system of control, as well as all of the details in the finance department's books.

Expenditures and Revenues Statements

Ms. Nicole Dixon, Accountant/Office Manager, asked for questions regarding the Expenditures and Revenues Statements. There were no questions from the Board.

WCSD Proposed Calendar for the 2017-2018 School Year

Ms. Brock provided a copy of the Draft B Calendar to all Board Members. She explained that the administration recommended adopting Draft B, and that the major differences between Draft A and Draft B were 1) Teachers' asked that the school year end in May; and 2) The Thanksgiving Holidays would be Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, instead of the entire week. Ms. Brock said that since the State was granting three disaster days, there was not a need to build the two extra days (Monday and Tuesday) into the calendar at Thanksgiving. She continued that the information from the State was received after the Board Agenda books had been distributed. Ms. Brock stated that the administration recommended the adoption of Draft B of the 2017-2018 School Calendar (190-day) for students and employees.

A motion was made by Mrs. Barbara McKenzie and seconded by Rev. William C. Henryhand, Sr. to accept the administration's recommendation to adopt Draft B of the 2017-2018 School Calendar (190-day) for students and employees. Six members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Linwood Cooper, Rev. Alfred Darby, Mrs. Gladys Dorsey, Rev. William C. Henryhand, Sr., Mr. Joseph Lee, and Mrs. Barbara McKenzie. One member opposed: Dr. Kerry Singleton. The motion was carried (6-1).

Board's Budget Workshop

A motion was made by Dr. Linwood Cooper and seconded by Dr. Kerry Singleton to approve the Budget and the Budget Formulation and Adoption Schedule for 2017-2018. The motion was carried unanimously, (7-0).

ACT 207 of 2016 Diploma Petition

A motion was made by Rev. W. C. Henryhand, Sr. and seconded by Mrs. Barbara McKenzie to accept the administration's recommendation to approve ACT 207 of 2016 student diploma petitions received from C. E. Murray High School, Hemingway High School, and Kingtree Senior High School. The motion was carried unanimously, (7-0).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

- A. Discussion of Election, Transfer, Termination, Reorganization, Retirement and/or Resignation of Staff**
- B. Receipt of Legal Advice**
 - 1. Facilities Requests**

The motion was carried unanimously, (7-0). The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:53 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Mrs. Gladys Dorsey and seconded by Dr. Kerry Singleton 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 7:25 p.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. Gladys Dorsey and seconded by Dr. Linwood Cooper to accept the administration's recommendation not to release the following certified personnel from her contract for the

2016-2017 school year: Mrs. Jennifer Hunter. Four members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Linwood Cooper, Rev. Alfred Darby, Mrs. Gladys Dorsey, and Mrs. Barbara McKenzie. Two members opposed: Mr. Joseph Lee and Dr. Kerry Singleton. The motion was carried (4-2). Mrs. Hunter was not released from her contract.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Barbara McKenzie and seconded by Dr. Kerry Singleton to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Note: There is a difference in votes because Rev. William C. Henryhand, Sr. left the meeting just prior to adjournment.

Submitted by: Bonnie Brimsley Date: 2/27/17

Board Secretary: Gladys Dorsey Date: 2/27/17