

WILLIAMSBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 24, 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, Mr. John Thames, Mr. Lee Roy Campbell, Dr. Bernice D. Cooper, Mr. Mark Easterling, Ms. Ida Fulton, Ms. Anita James, Mr. Ray James, Ms. Bonnie King, Mrs. Berlinda Mack, Ms. Angela McClary-Rush, Dr. Brian McKnight, Mr. Javonne Montgomery, Ms. Jacqueline Simmons, Ms. Lorraine Wilson, Attorney Vernie Williams, Mr. Ernest Young, Ms. Ernestine Young, Ms. Michael Duke, 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 Rev. W. C. Henryhand, Sr. to adopt the agenda. The motion was carried unanimously, (7-0).

Public Comment:

Ms. Anita James, a Williamsburg County Citizen, thanked the Board Clerk for assisting her in securing some pertinent paperwork.

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 Budget and Regular Board Meetings, the July 22, 2015, and August 4, 2015, Called Board Meetings; the July 28, 2015, and August 4, 2015, Board Policy Committee Meetings, and the August 4, 2015, Property Committee Meeting. The motion was carried unanimously, (7-0).

INFORMATION ITEMS

Curriculum and Instruction

Ms. Roberta Cumbee informed Board Members that the district had a smooth school opening. She then outlined plans for increasing test scores. Ms. Cumbee said teacher observations would begin on August 31, 2015.

Student Services

Dr. Brian McKnight said that he and Dr. Kenneth Burgess visited all schools in the district, and that everything was in order. He reported a total enrollment of 19 students at the HOPE Academy. There was a discussion on the shortage of bus drivers; their pay as compared to surrounding districts; and pay rate for driving after regular school hours.

Grab 'n' Go Breakfast

In the absence of the Food Services Director, Ms. Carrie Brock explained that the Grab 'n' Go Breakfast initiative is a convenient way for high school students to obtain breakfast as they leave the buses. The al carte style breakfast encourages high school students to eat breakfast while on the way to class.

Finance

Mr. Harry Lash introduced the new Maintenance Supervisor, Mr. Javonne Omar Montgomery. Mr. Lash recapped the summer maintenance activities to include, 1) assistance from inmates of the Federal Correction Center; 2) signage work on various campuses; and 3) beautification efforts on all school campuses.

The Expenditures and Revenues Statements for July 2015 were included in the Board Agenda Packet.

Technology

Mr. Ernest Young stated that he hoped to roll laptops out to teachers and students at Hemingway M. B. Lee Middle and Hemingway High Schools within the next two months. He said that Hemingway Elementary School should have their devices before the December holiday break.

Hemingway Elementary School's 21st Century Community Learning Grant

Ms. Brock stated that Hemingway Elementary School has been awarded a 21st Century Community Learning Grant in the amount of \$200,000. She said the grant is a continuation grant which could be refunded for the next three years. Dr. Bernice Cooper, Principal of HES, said the grant was written under Ms. Cynthia Brown, former HES Principal and Mrs. La-Dine' Gamble, Grants Writer for the district. Dr. Cooper said the grant would be used to provide ELA and Math instruction afterschool, on Monday through Thursday.

ACTION ITEMS

Board's Budget Committee Meeting

A recommendation was made by Rev. W. C. Henryhand, Sr., Chair of the Board's Budget Committee, to approve a resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of not exceeding \$3,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, in one or more series, with appropriate series designations, including a tax-exempt series and a taxable series, of the School District of Williamsburg County, South Carolina; authorizing the South Carolina Association of Governmental Organizations to facilitate the sale of the bonds under its General Obligation Debt Program; prescribing the terms and conditions under which the bonds may be issued; authorizing the Chair of the Board of Trustees or the Superintendent (including an Interim or Acting Superintendent) of the school district to determine certain matters relating to the bonds; providing for the payment of the bonds and the disposition of the proceeds thereof; and other matters relating thereto.

A motion was made by Rev. Alfred Darby and seconded by Dr. Kerry Singleton to approve the Sale of General Obligation Bond Resolution. Five members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Linwood Cooper, Rev. Alfred Darby, Mrs. Gladys Dorsey, Rev. W. C. Henryhand, Sr., and Dr. Kerry Singleton. Two members opposed: Mr. Joseph Lee and Mrs. Barbara McKenzie. The motion was carried (5-2).

Hemingway Career and Technology Education Center's Request to Offer Adult Courses

A motion was made by Mr. Joseph Lee and seconded by Dr. Linwood Cooper to accept the administration's recommendation to approve HCTEC's request to offer adult education courses with the following stipulations: 1) Execute a Memorandum of Agreement with Williamsburg Technical College, and 2) Eight to ten (8-10) participants must be maintained to operate the program. Six members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Linwood Cooper, Rev. Alfred Darby, Mrs. Gladys Dorsey, Rev. W. C. Henryhand, Sr., Mr. Joseph Lee and Dr. Kerry Singleton. One member abstained: Mrs. Barbara McKenzie. The motion was carried (6-0-1).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Dr. Kerry Singleton and seconded by Rev. W. C. Henryhand to convene in Executive Session to discuss items listed on the agenda.

A. Discussion of Election, Transfer, Termination, Retirement, Reorganization and/or Resignation of Staff, and Employee Appeal

B. Legal Updates

1. Receipt of legal advice regarding litigation, employment matters, and facilities updates, including Cades-Hebron property.

The motion was carried unanimously, (7-0). The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:45 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Mrs. Barbara McKenzie and seconded by Mr. Joseph Lee 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 8:06 p.m.

A motion was made by Rev. Alfred Darby and seconded by Dr. Kerry Singleton to accept the administration's recommendation to employ the following personnel for the 2015-2016 school year: Ms. Crystal M. Blake, Ms. Kimala Hudson, Ms. Angelia S. Jackson, Ms. Muriel McCray, and Ms. Anitra Williams. Five members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Linwood Cooper, Rev. Alfred Darby, Ms. Gladys Dorsey, Rev. W. C. Henryhand, Sr., and Dr. Kerry Singleton. Two members opposed: Mr. Joseph Lee and Mrs. Barbara McKenzie. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-2).

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 administrator for the 2015-2016: Ms. Tamekia Morant as CCEL District Project Director. The motion was carried unanimously, (7-0).

A motion was made by Dr. Linwood Cooper and seconded by Dr. Kerry Singleton to accept the administration's recommendation to transfer an employee to an administrative position for the 2015-2016 school year: Mr. Javonne Montgomery to Supervisor of Facilities Management. The motion was carried unanimously, (7-0).

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Barbara McKenzie and seconded by Mr. Joseph Lee to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried unanimously, (7-0). The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Submitted by: Joann M. Fulton Date: 9-28-15

Board Secretary: A. [Signature] Date: 9-28-15