

**Williamsburg County School Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 22, 2016 – 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, Mr. Joseph Lee, Mrs. Barbara McKenzie, and Dr. Kerry Singleton

Member Absent: Rev. W. C. Henryhand, Sr.

Others Present: Ms. Carrie C. Brock, Ms. Roberta Cumbee, Dr. Kenneth Burgess, Mr. Harry Lash, Ms. Cynthia Brown, Mr. Mark Easterling, Ms. Bonnie King, Dr. Brian McKnight, Ms. Angela McClary-Rush, Mr. Javonne Montgomery, Mrs. Claire Murdoch, Attorney Vernie Williams, Ms. Lorraine Wilson, Mr. Ernest Young, Ms. Ernestine Young, Ms. Diane Owens, and Mrs. Joann Fulton

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

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 Mr. Joseph Lee to adopt the agenda. The motion was carried unanimously (6-0).

Public Comment:

There were none.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mrs. Barbara McKenzie and seconded by Dr. Linwood Cooper to approve the minutes from the November 16, 2015, Property Committee Meetings, January 22, 2016, Called Board Meeting, January 25, 2015, Board Budget Committee and Regular Board Meetings, and the February 8, 2016, Board Budget Workshop. The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0).

INFORMATION ITEMS

Curriculum and Instruction

Ms. Robert Cumbee provided information/updates on the services being provided to the school district by the Southern Regional Education Board.

Student Services

Dr. Brian McKnight informed Board Members that in collaboration with the Kingstree Police Department and area attorneys, the Student Services Department is facilitating workshops at district schools during the month of February 2016 to proactively address the issue of student bullying.

Transportation: Dr. McKnight thanked the Board for their approval on the purchasing of activity buses for the school district. He stated that the first two buses are expected to arrive in late April, and the others by June 2016.

Finance

Expenditures and Revenues

Mr. Harry Lash, Chief Financial Officer, presented the Expenditures and Revenues Statements to Board Members.

Mr. Lash provided an update on the Budget procedures, changes, and student enrollment projection for the 2016-2017 school year. Board questions and concerns were addressed.

There were additional discussions on:

1. The School District's drop-out rate
2. Strategies to increase enrollment
3. Replacing bell systems at KMMS and HMBLMS
4. Security Cameras at GES
5. KSH's football field repairs

ACTION ITEMS

Board's Budget Committee Meeting

A motion was made by Dr. Linwood Cooper and seconded by Mrs. Gladys Dorsey to approve the Budget procedures, changes, and student enrollment projection for the 2016-2017 school year. Five members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Linwood Cooper, Rev. Alfred Darby, Mrs. Gladys Dorsey, Mr. Joseph Lee, and Mrs. Barbara McKenzie. One member abstained: Dr. Kerry Singleton. The motion was carried, (5-0-1).

Hemingway High School's Field Trip Request

Chair Darby asked for objections to approving Action Items B-F together. There were no objections. A motion was made by Dr. Linwood Cooper and seconded by Dr. Kerry Singleton to approve Items B-F, Field Trip Requests. The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The following field trips were approved:

- Hemingway High School's Business students request to travel to N. Charleston, SC, March 10-13, 2016, to compete in the Future Business Leaders of America conference.
- Hemingway Career and Technology Center's Health Science students request to travel to North Charleston, SC, March 16-18, 2016, to compete in areas Health Science for HOSA.
- Kingstree Senior High School's CATE students request to travel to N. Charleston, SC, March 16-18, 2016, to compete in areas Health Science for HOSA.
- Hemingway High School's Senior Class request to travel to Orlando, FL, April 21-24, 2016, to participate in the GradNite/Disney Bash.
- C. E. Murray High School's Business students request to travel to Charlotte, NC, March 4, 2016, to the Time Warner Cable Arena to participate in a conference highlighting career opportunities that are available in the sports and entertainment industries.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Dr. Kerry Singleton and seconded by Dr. Linwood Cooper 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
 - 2. Employment/ Contractual Matter regarding Superintendent

The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:33 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Dr. Kerry Singleton 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, (6-0). The Board convened in Open Session at 7:10 p.m.

A motion was made by Ms. Gladys Dorsey and seconded by Dr. Kerry Singleton to authorize the Board Chair to execute an employment contract with Mrs. Carrie Brock as Superintendent of Williamsburg County School District, effective March 1, 2016, said contract having been prepared by the district's attorney and reviewed by the Board and providing for a term of employment through June 30, 2019, at an annual salary of \$127,500.00 The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0).

The Chair, Rev. Alfred Darby made the following public statement:

PUBLIC STATEMENT

In November of 2014, Mrs. Carrie Brock was appointed as Interim Superintendent of Williamsburg County School District. In her time as Interim Superintendent, Mrs. Brock has demonstrated outstanding leadership and the Board has been extremely pleased with the contribution she has made to the District and the community. The Board of Trustees has considered its options for selecting the District's next Superintendent, including the possibility of conducting a superintendent search with the assistance of a search firm. The Board has made a decision that, in our opinion, will result in an outstanding, experienced administrator leading the Williamsburg County School District.

After much consideration, Board Members realized that Interim Superintendent Brock, who has worked successfully in the District in her time as Interim Superintendent, and is a long time educator who has held several positions in the District in her career, is the best choice to continue to lead the District as we seek to continue making progress for the benefit of the students we serve.

Following a discussion in executive session at our meeting this evening, the Board voted during public session to authorize the Chairperson, to execute an employment contract with Mrs. Brock, naming her Superintendent of the District, effective, March 1, 2016, for a term to extend to June 30, 2019, at an annual salary of \$127,500.00, such contract having been prepared by the District's legal counsel and reviewed with the Board.

The Board believes by selecting Mrs. Brock that our District has secured an outstanding administrator, who will continue to demonstrate the leadership she has shown in her time as Interim Superintendent, who is completely familiar with our District's operations and its staff, and who is highly regarded in our community.

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 7:20 p.m.

Submitted by: Joanna M. Fulton Date: 3-21-2016

Board Secretary: Gladys G. Dorsey Date: 3/21/16