

**Williamsburg County School Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 22, 2012 – 6:00 P. M.
Board/Staff Development Meeting Room
423 School Street - Kingstree, South Carolina**

Members Present: Mrs. Barbara McKenzie, Rev. W. C. Henryhand, Mr. Joseph Lee, Ms. Norma Bartelle, Mr. James Darby, Rev. Norman Gamble, and Mr. Charles Garner

Others Present: Dr. Yvonne Jefferson-Barnes, Dr. Bernice Davis-Cooper, Ms. S. Christine Green, Mrs. Claire Murdoch, Mrs. Sarah Boyd, Mr. Del Brown, Mr. Lee Roy Campbell, Mr. Alfred Darby, Mr. Mark Easterling, Attorney Frannie Heizer, Mrs. La-Dine' Gamble, Ms. Bonnie King, Mrs. Berlinda Mack, Mrs. Hattie Pendergrass, Ms. Angela McClary-Rush, Dr. Shannon Robinson, Attorney Vernie Williams, Ms. Ernestine Young, Mr. LaKarr Cooper, Ms. Michael Duke, Mr. Chris McKegan, and Mrs. Joann Fulton

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Barbara McKenzie, Board Chair.

Mr. Charles Garner provided the Meditative Thought. All persons were asked to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by Rev. Norman Gamble and seconded by Mr. James Darby to adopt the agenda. The motion was carried unanimously, (4-0). The Chair did not vote.

Public Comment There were none.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Rev. Norman Gamble and seconded by Mr. James Darby to approve the minutes from the September 24, 2012, Board's Policy Committee and Regular Board Meetings. The motion to approve the minutes was carried unanimously, (4-0). The Chair did not vote.

Action Items

A. Board's Policy Committee Meeting

A motion was made by Rev. Norman Gamble and seconded by Mr. James Darby to approve Policy GBEBDA (Criminal Record Check) for third and final reading. The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Committee Chair did not vote.

Mr. Charles Garner asked for consensus on the approval of Policy IFBGA-R (Technology Resources) for third and final reading. Board Members consented.

Mr. Charles Garner asked for consensus on the approval of Policy ADB (Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace and Schools) for second reading.

Board Members were concerned with whether the policy covered school trips, etc. Attorney Williams advised Members to make sure the policy was broad enough to cover on and off of school grounds, so that if there is a potential disruption, the district would have jurisdiction.

Board Members consented to approval of the policy for second reading.

B. Refunding Resolution

Attorney Frannie Heizer explained that interest rates are very low, and if the bonds were refinanced, the district could realize possible savings of \$75,000 to \$90,000.

A motion was made by Mr. James Darby and seconded by Mr. Joseph Lee to approve the Refunding Resolution. The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Chair did not vote.

C. Kingstree Senior High School's Field Trip Request

A motion was made by Ms. Norma Bartelle and seconded by Rev. Norman Gamble to approve Kingstree Senior High School Football Team's field trip request to Atlanta, GA, November 17-18, 2012. The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Chair did not vote.

D. Charter School

A motion was made by Mr. James Darby and seconded by Rev. W. C. Henryhand to approve a charter school at D. P. Cooper Elementary School.

When asked to speak on the request, the superintendent stated she had not received an application, and therefore, could not speak on the Charter School. She then asked for comments from Attorney Vernie Williams.

Attorney Williams explained that there is a process that should be driven by the school principal. The process requires a 2/3 vote of staff members; 2/3 vote of community members, and 2/3 vote of parents of students attending the school.

A motion was made by Rev. Norman Gamble and seconded by Rev. W. C. Henryhand to table the motion on a Charter School for more information. Five members voted in favor of tabling the motion: Ms. Norma Bartelle, Rev. Norman Gamble, and Mr. Charles Garner, Rev. W. C. Henryhand, and Mr. Joseph Lee. One member opposed: Mr. James Darby. The motion to table was carried, (5-1). The Chair did not vote.

Information Items

A. Race to the Top

Dr. Bernice Cooper told Board Members the district is submitting a \$10,000,000 Race to the Top grant application packet. She explained the components of the application, and the process.

B. Finance

Ms. Green provided the district's Expenditures and Revenues statements to Board Members. Revenues for September totaled \$1,484,086.91, and expenditures totaled \$2,466,172.08. She pointed out the importance of maintaining a fund balance.

Ms. Bartelle asked about early pay dates for Thanksgiving and Christmas payroll checks. Rev. Gamble asked that it be noted, in bold letters, so employees would understand that early pay in November and December would mean a longer wait in January. Ms. Green said the finance department would comply with the Board's wishes.

Mr. Del Brown, the district's auditor, said the June 30th audit report is due into the State Department of Education on December 1st; and that he will provide a copy to Board members at the November Board Meeting, before submitting it to the State Department.

He said where there were five (5) journal entries made last year, he did not anticipate any for this year. Mr. Brown indicated the only items left to audit are compliance issues; that there may be one deficiency, but hopefully none.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Rev. Norman Gamble and seconded by Rev. W. C. Henryhand that the Board convene in Executive Session to discuss items listed on the agenda.

- A. Discussion of Election, Transfer, Termination, Retirement and/or Resignation of Staff**
- B. Salary Committee**

The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0). The Chair did not vote. The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:40 p. m.

Open Session

A motion was made by Rev. Norman Gamble and seconded by Mr. Charles Garner that the Board convene in Open Session to vote on any matters per Executive Session discussion. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0). The Vice-Chair did not vote. The Board convened in Open Session at 7:20 p. m.

A motion was made by Mr. Joseph Lee and seconded by Mr. James Darby to approve the administration's recommendation on the Rehabilitative Behavioral Health Services (RBHS) salary schedule.

A motion was made by Rev. Norman Gamble and seconded by Ms. Norma Bartelle to postpone the Salary Schedule motion until secretaries and others could be added to that particular concern. Four members voted in favor of the motion: Ms. Norma Bartelle, Rev. Norman Gamble, Mr. Charles Garner, and Rev. W. C. Henryhand. Two members opposed: Mr. James Darby and Mr. Joseph Lee. The motion was carried (4-2).

A motion was made by Mr. Joseph Lee and seconded by Ms. Norma Bartelle to accept the resignations of Ms. Tamela Jaeger and Ms. Suzanne (Holly) Williamson. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0). The Vice-Chair did not vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Joseph Lee and seconded by Ms. Norma Bartelle to accept the administration's recommendation to employ the following personnel for the 2012-2013 school year: Ms. Jennifer Abbott. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0). The Vice-Chair did not vote.

The administration informed Board Members that information regarding the RBHS salary schedule would be available in one month.

Mr. James Darby was recognized for past years of service as a member of the Williamsburg County School Board of Trustees.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Rev. Norman Gamble and seconded by Ms. Norma Bartelle that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0). The Vice-Chair did not vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p. m.

Note: There is a difference in votes, because Ms. Norma Bartelle and Mr. Joseph Lee arrived at the meeting late; and Mrs. Barbara McKenzie left prior to Open Session.

Submitted by James M. Fulton Date 11/26/2012

Board Secretary [Signature] Date 11/26/12

Board Reminders:

A. School Board Meetings and Conferences for 2012

1. Regular Board Meeting – November 26, 2012, Board/Staff Development Meeting Room
2. Risky Business Seminar – October 24-26 – Myrtle Beach Marriott @ Grande Dune
3. Legislative Advocacy Conference – November 30, – December 2, 2012 - Hilton Head
4. 2013 Annual Convention – February 21-24, 2013 – Myrtle Beach (Hotel block opens 11/16/12)