

**Williamsburg County School Board of Trustees**  
**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, March 27, 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, Mr. Joseph Lee, Mrs. Barbara McKenzie, and Dr. Kerry Singleton

**Member Absent:** Rev. William C. Henryhand, Sr.

**Others Present:** Ms. Carrie C. Brock, Ms. Roberta Cumbee, Dr. Kenneth Burgess, Ms. Cynthia Brown, Mr. James Carraway, Mr. Brandon Cisco, Mr. Marion Curtis, Mrs. Wendy Fulton, Hemingway High School Boys' Basketball Team and Coaches, Dr. Jennifer Gardner, Attorney Frannie Heizer, Ms. Vanessa Hood, Mr. Glen Kennedy, Ms. Bonnie King, Mrs. Berlinda Mack, Dr. Brian McKnight, Ms. Jacqueline Simmons, Attorney Vernie Williams, Ms. Lorraine Wilson, Ms. Ernestine Young, 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 in the death of a first grade student from W. M. Anderson Primary School, and the death of Mr. Nate Myers, a retired educator from the Williamsburg and Georgetown County Schools.

**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 Mrs. Gladys Dorsey to adopt the agenda. The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0).

**Public Comment**

Mr. Brandon Cisco, a Williamsburg County School District parent, expressed concerns about the quality of teachers in the Hemingway area schools; and he asked the Board to allow the community to provide input when selecting a principal for Hemingway High School. Mr. Cisco also raised concerns regarding funds for infrastructure in that area of the school district.

Ms. Vanessa Hood, a Williamsburg County School District parent, addressed the Board with concerns about the Virtual School Program, which was instated in January 2017. She said that she and other parents have several concerns about honor students receiving instruction, in major classes, i.e. Spanish, English 1, and Algebra, through the Virtual School program. Ms. Hood stated that she would forward a list of questions for Board Members at a later date.

Team captains of the Hemingway High School Boys' Basketball Team thanked the Board for the support provided to the team, and presented each Board Member and the superintendent with a Hemingway High School State Championship t-shirt.

### **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Mrs. Barbara McKenzie and seconded by Mrs. Gladys Dorsey to approve the minutes from the February 27, 2017, Board's Budget Committee and Regular Board Meetings. The motion was carried unanimously, (6-0).

### **Hemingway High School Boys' Basketball Team Wins State Championship**

Board Members congratulated the Hemingway High School Boys' Basketball Team for winning the State 1A Championship game on Friday, March 3, 2017, at the Colonial Life Arena in Columbia, SC. Board members and the superintendent presented each team member and coaches with a certificate and a framed team/coach picture.

### **Curriculum and Instruction**

Ms. Roberta Cumbee, Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction, asked for question and/or concerns from Board Members relevant to that department. There were none.

### **Student Services**

Dr. Brian McKnight, Director of Student Services and Transportation, addressed concerns from Board Members regarding the school district's transportation department, to include:

- Method by which school buses are issued to drivers, which is based on the age of buses, mileage on buses, and the distance buses travel to schools.
- Double routes rarely occur; generally students arrive and depart school on schedule.

### **Finance**

#### **Expenditures and Revenues Statements**

Mrs. Wendy Fulton presented the Expenditures and Revenues Statements which were attached to the agenda. There were no questions from Board Members. Rev. Darby commended the finance department on their hard work and dedication.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **SCAGO Educational Facilities Corporation Trust Resolution**

Attorney Frannie Heizer of McNair Law Firm stated that the SCAGO Resolution will be used to pay the district's annual debt service on the revenue bonds, i.e. QSAB. She recommended that part of the bond be issued in the spring and part in the summer. Attorney Heizer shared that the bond also provides new money in the amount of \$800,000, to fund ongoing capital building projects.

Ms. Carrie Brock, Superintendent, stated that the district has an opportunity to receive SCAGO funds early, so that repairs to schools may be made during the summer when students are out of school. She said capital improvements include paving and adding a parking lot at Kingstree Middle Magnet School, and repairing the roof at C. E. Murray High School. Superintendent Brock informed Board Members that each school principal has submitted a list of needed repairs to the maintenance supervisor, and that the lists would be prioritized. She also explained that the monies would be reimbursed to the SCAGO funds when the insurance proceed, from Hurricane Matthew, are received by the district.

A motion was made by Mr. Joseph Lee and seconded by Dr. Kerry Singleton to accept the administration's recommendation to approve a resolution authorizing not exceeding \$4,000,000 general obligation bonds through the fall 2017 SCAGO GO Program, and to receive funds in the spring and summer of 2017. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0).

### **Hemingway Elementary School's Field Trip Request**

The Chair asked for objections to approving Items B-D, Field Trip Requests, collectively. There were no objections.

A motion was made by Mrs. Gladys Dorsey and seconded by Dr. Kerry Singleton to approve Items B-D, Field Trip Requests. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0). The following field trips were approved:

Hemingway Elementary School's Jr. Beta Club students will travel to Lake Buena Vista, FL, to participate in the Jr. Beta Club Convention on June 23-29, 2017.

C. E. Murray High School's Senior Class will travel to Savannah, GA, to tour the city on April 14-15, 2017.

Kingstree Senior High School's Career and Technology Education (CATE) students will travel to Pittsburg, PA, to participate in the National LifeSmart Championship 2017 on April 21-24, 2017.

### **Board's Budget Committee Meeting**

A motion was made by Rev. Alfred Darby and seconded by Dr. Kerry Singleton that the Committee and the Board continue with the 2017-2018 budget process. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0).

### **Request to Amend the 2106-2017 School Calendar**

A motion was made by Dr. Kerry Singleton and seconded by Dr. Linwood Cooper to approve the administration's request to amend the 2016-2017 School Calendar to reinstate April 14, 2017, as No School – Good Friday holiday. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0).

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Dr. Linwood Cooper 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, (5-0). The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:34 p.m.

### **OPEN SESSION**

A motion was made by Mr. Joseph Lee 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, (5-0). The Board convened in Open Session at 7:34 p.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. Gladys Dorsey and seconded by Dr. Kerry Singleton to conditionally accept the superintendent's recommendation that the employment agreement of continuing contract teachers, Employees A, B, and C, not be renewed for the 2017-2018 school year, subject to the Board's duty to review the matter on the merits pursuant to state law should the individuals request a hearing. The motion was carried unanimously (5-0).

A motion was made by Mrs. Gladys Dorsey and seconded by Dr. Kerry Singleton to accept the superintendent's recommendation that the contract for an annual contract teacher, Employee E, not be renewed subject to the employee's right to appeal pursuant to section 59-56-40 of the South Carolina Code of Laws. The motion was carried, unanimously (5-0).

A motion was made by Mrs. Gladys Dorsey and seconded by Dr. Kerry Singleton to accept the superintendent's recommendation that the contract of induction contract teachers, Employees F and G, not be renewed for the 2017-18. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0).

A motion was made by Mrs. Gladys Dorsey and seconded by Dr. Kerry Singleton to conditionally accept the superintendent's recommendation for the termination of continuing contract teachers, Employees H, I, and J, subject to the Board's duty to review the matter, on the merits, should the individuals request a hearing. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0).

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Dr. Linwood Cooper and seconded by Dr. Kerry Singleton to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried unanimously, (5-0). The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Note: There is a difference in votes because Mrs. Barbara McKenzie left the meeting early.

Submitted by: Bonnie Grimsley

Date: April 24, 2017

Board Secretary: Gladys G. Dorsey

Date: April 24, 2017