

February 8, 2010

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charleston County School District was held on Monday, February 8, 2010 with the following members of the Board present: Chair – Mrs. Ruth Jordan, Vice Chair - Mr. Ray Toler, Rev. Chris Collins, Mr. Chris Fraser, Mrs. Toya Hampton-Green, Mrs. Elizabeth Kandrac, Mr. Gregg Meyers, Mrs. Ann Oplinger, Mr. Arthur Ravenel and Dr. Nancy J. McGinley – Superintendent of Schools and Executive Secretary. Staff members Mr. Michael Bobby, Dr. Doug Gepford, Mrs. Audrey Lane, Mr. Bill Lewis, Dr. Brenda Nelson, Mr. John Emerson, and Mr. Elliott Smalley were also in attendance.

The news media was duly notified of the meeting and representatives were present.

Board Chair – Mrs. Ruth Jordan called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mr. Fraser to convene into Executive Session to discuss agenda items listed below. The motion was unanimously approved.

Executive Session Agenda Items

- 1.1: Legal Matters
- 1.2: Personnel Matters

II. CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 5:15 p.m. Chairperson – Mrs. Jordan called the meeting to order. Rev. Joseph Darby, Pastor at Morris Brown A.M.E. Church led the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. SPECIAL RECOGNITION

3.1: Proclamation – Career and Technology Education Month

Ms. Suzie Raiford from the Chamber of Commerce read the following Proclamation in recognition of Career and Technology Education Month:

***Whereas,** February 1-28, 2010 has been designated Career and Technology Education Month by the Association for Career and Technical Education; and*

***Whereas,** profound economic and technological changes in our society are rapidly reflected in the structure and nature of work, thereby placing new and additional responsibilities on our educational system; and*

***Whereas,** career and technology education provides Americans with a school-to-careers connection and is the backbone of strong, well-educated workforce, which fosters productivity in business and industry and contributes to America's leadership in the international marketplace; and*

***Whereas,** career and technology education gives high school students experience in practical, meaningful applications of basic skills such as reading, writing and mathematics, thus improving the quality of their education, motivating potential dropouts and giving all students leadership opportunities in their fields and in their communities; and*

***Whereas,** career and technology education offers individuals lifelong opportunities to learn new skills, which provide them with career choices and potential satisfaction; and*

***Whereas,** the ever-increasing cooperative efforts of career and technology educators, business and industry stimulate the growth and vitality of our local economy and that of the entire nation by preparing graduates for career fields forecast to experience the largest and fastest growth in the next decade;*

***Now Therefore, We,** Charleston County Board of Trustees, do hereby proclaim February 1,-28, 2010, as **Career and Technology Education Month** in Charleston County and urge all citizens to become familiar with the services and benefits offered by the career and technology education programs in this*

community and to support and participate in these programs to enhance their individual work skills and productivity.

3.2: Proclamation – National School Counseling Week

Ms. Candy Bates-Quinn, Coordinator of School Counseling and Home Schooling, read the following Proclamation in recognition of National School Counseling Week:

***Whereas,** School counselors in Pre-K through Grade 12 are employed to help students reach their full potential; and*

***Whereas,** School counselors are child advocates who are actively committed to helping students explore their abilities, strengths, interests, and talents as these traits relate to career awareness and development, and*

***Whereas,** School counselors help parents focus on ways to further the educational, personal, and social growth of their children; and*

***Whereas,** School counselors assist teachers and other educators to help students explore their potential and set realistic goals for themselves; and*

***Whereas,** School counselors seek to identify and utilize community resources that can enhance and complement comprehensive school counseling programs and help students become productive members of society; and*

***Whereas,** The CCSD Comprehensive Development School Counseling Program is an essential component of the educational process that enables all students to achieve success in school; and*

***Whereas,** Charleston County school counselors are accountable and committed to each student's total development, which includes learning to live (knowledge of self and others); learning to learn (education and academic knowledge); and learning to work (career planning and knowledge); and*

***Whereas,** Charleston County school counselors are accountable and committed to helping students make a difference....one at a time;*

***Therefore,** We do hereby proclaim February, as Charleston County School Counseling month in accordance with National School Counseling Week February 1-5, 2010.*

3.3: State Board of Education Volunteer Award

The Board recognized Dr. Charlie Smith, a volunteer at Frierson Elementary for receiving the State Board of Education Volunteer Award.

3.4: National Board Certified Teachers

This item was pulled from the agenda. The National Board Certified Teachers will be recognized at a future meeting.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

4.1: Superintendent's Report

[Dr. McGinley shared the following:](#)

Last week, the state PASS report was released. Last year, the PASS replaced the PACT as the state's elementary and middle school assessment. CCSD students' performance on the PASS mirrored the gains seen on the PACT. In the last year of the PACT, the district had its highest Proficiency rates in the ten-year history of the test, and CCSD students earned higher rates of Proficiency than their state peers in every subject and grade level.

As a sign of continued improvement, this year, more CCSD students earned the highest score on the PASS Test -"Exemplary"-than students across the state in every subject and grade tested. The PASS

results also give this district a road map for continued improvement. Now it's necessary to close achievement gaps and increase overall percentages of students hitting "Met" and "Exemplary" targets, and the district's literacy plan and other efforts will be focused on these goals.

Also last week, the district launched a "Help for Haiti" campaign designed to organize school and central office relief donations. John Emerson is spearheading this campaign. Many schools are taking their own initiative to help folks in Haiti.

Dr. McGinley briefed everyone on last Friday's shooting in the Murray Hill neighborhood near Daniel Jenkins Academy. Sometime after dismissal, a CCSD student was shot and killed by another student in the neighborhood. According to the police, this shooting stemmed from an earlier altercation in an entirely different neighborhood-it was not a conflict that originated in the school itself, and the two students involved were in entirely different classes and programs.

Shortly after the incident, Burns Elementary went into lockdown as a safety precaution, and the district communicated with parents and schools to ensure that no students entered the Murray Hill neighborhood while the police were still searching for the suspect. As a further precaution, school was postponed for Daniel Jenkins students today so that the faculty could meet and plan to ensure that the school is prepared for a safe and smooth transition for students tomorrow and give a faculty a chance to process the grief that they are experiencing, as many teachers and counselors were close to the students involved.

Youth violence is a social, community, and school issue that we must address collaboratively. Over the weekend, Dr. McGinley met with Chief Zumalt and representatives from Daniel Jenkins, CCSD, and the North Charleston Police Department to talk about the immediate needs of the faculty, parents and students, but also discussed longer-term possibilities about how we can partner to stem juvenile violence in our neighborhoods. This will be an ongoing conversation, and one that will involve local Mayors, DJJ, the police, and community and faith-based leaders.

Dr. McGinley commended the faculty at Daniel Jenkins Academy and district security officers Kevin Wren and Jeff Scott-for their work on Friday and every day.

V. VISITORS, PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

5.1: Visitors, Public Communications

No visitors addressed the Board at this meeting.

XI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/EXECUTIVE SESSION AGENDA ITEM

Mr. Toler motioned, seconded by Rev. Collins approval of the Open and Executive Session minutes of January 25, 2010. The motion was approved 9-0.

6.2: Motions of Executive Session of February 8, 2010

The Board approved the following motions that were made in Executive Session:

1.1: Legal Matters - The Board discussed several legal matters in Executive Session. The following actions were taken.

A. P.E. Exemption Request – The Board approved a P.E. Exemption Request. The vote was 9-0.

B. Settlement Offer – The Board approved a settlement offer. The vote was 9-0.

C. Gregg Mathis Charter – The Board voted on two motions as follows:

- The motion to approve the request from Gregg Mathis Charter for facility and bus transportation failed 3-6 (Kandrac, Ravenel and Toler voted in favor of the motion).
- The motion to deny the request from Gregg Mathis for facility and bus transportation was approved 6-3 (Kandrac, Ravenel and Toler opposed the motion).

1.2: Personnel Matter – The Board discussed Personnel Matters in Executive Session. No action was taken.

6.3: Financial Minutes of January 25, 2010

Mr. Toler motioned, seconded by Rev. Collins approval of the financial minutes of January 25, 2010. The motion was approved 9-0.

VII: MANAGEMENT REPORT

VIII: CHARLESTON ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE UPDATE

8.1: Buist Academy Programme of Inquiry

Principal Sallie Ballard presented information on Buist Academy's Programme of Inquiry.

8.2: Promise Neighborhood

Mr. Bill Hewitt, a local community and business leader presented an update on Charleston Promise Neighborhood.

IX. POTENTIAL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

9.1: Facility Use Agreement (Charlestowne Academy) – *A recommendation to approve a Facility Use Agreement for Charlestowne Academy.* - Mr. Fraser motioned, Mr. Meyers seconded approval of the recommendation to approve the Facility Use Agreement for Charlestowne Academy. The motion was approved 7-2 (Green and Oplinger opposed).

9.2: *This item was pulled after the agenda was distributed to the Board.*

9.3: Home School Application - *A request to approve a Home Instruction Application.* Mr. Fraser motioned, seconded by Mr. Meyers approval of the recommendation to approve a Home School Application. The motion was approved 9-0.

9.4: Implementation of Career Majors at the Rivers Campus – *The Board received information on implementation of Career Majors at the Rivers Campus. **No action was taken.***

9.5: Implementation of Literacy Program (Collins, Fraser, Jordan and Kandrac) – *The Board will discuss implementation of the Literacy Program.* Rev. Collins began the discussion on implementation of the Literacy Program by asking how students are performing academically the Sixth Grade Academy. Dr. Gepford said he would have MAP scores for the next Board meeting. Rev. Collins said he would like to have Literacy in all schools beginning at the second grade level. Dr. McGinley said recent approval of the Literacy Policy addresses Literacy at as early as first grade.

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 6:15 p.m. Mr. Meyers motioned, seconded by Mrs. Oplinger to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by consensus.

Approved:

Nancy J. McGinley, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools