

Minutes of Meeting  
Abbeville County School District Board of Trustees  
January 22, 2013, 2012  
7:00 p.m.  
Cherokee Trail Elementary  
Donalds, South Carolina

In accordance with the Code of Laws 1976, Section 30-4-80 (d) as amended, The Press and Banner, The Index Journal, The Anderson Independent, and The Greenville News were notified of the time and place and were given an agenda of the meeting.

Trustees Present: Mr. David Brooks, Dr. Bill Crenshaw, Dr. Allen Kolb, Mr. Stacy Mitchell, Mr. Joseph Reynolds, Mr. Tim Rhodes, Mr. Buster Taylor, and Mr. James B. Tisdale, Jr.

Administrative Personnel Present: Dr. Ivan Randolph, Ms. Julie Williams, Ms. Joyce Cunningham, Ms. Jean Smith, Ms. Betty Jo Hall, Mr. Sherwin Johnson, Mr. Sam Jones, Ms. Roni Scott, Ms. Wanda Thomasson, Mr. Chester King

**1. Call to Order**

Mr. Rhodes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Rhodes led the pledge of allegiance.

**3. Approve Agenda – Mr. Tim Rhodes**

**Mr. Rhodes asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda. He said hearing no objections he would accept the agenda as approved.**

**4. Sign Claims**

**Claims were signed.**

**5. Approve Minutes**

**Mr. Rhodes asked if there were any changes or additions to the November 27, 2012 and January 10, 2013 minutes, hearing none he said the minutes would be accepted as approved.**

**6. Gold Star Highlights**

Ms. Hall asked Mr. Rhodes and Dr. Randolph to join her in recognition of Mr. Mark Horne, teacher at Diamond Hill Elementary School for completion of the Science Plus Institute, which is a program offered at Roper Mountain Science Center to teachers showing them the best way to encourage hands-on active learning in public school science classrooms.

Ms. Hall said that the month of January was School Board Appreciation Month; then recognized Ms. Gail Hawthorne, Abbeville County Education Association, who acknowledged and thanked the Board of Trustees for their hard work and support for the children of Abbeville County School District.

Ms. Hall told the Board that Abbeville County School District would like to say thank you for their service with a very small token of appreciation for their unending dedication to Abbeville County School District. Dr. Randolph also thanked the Board.

#### **7. Superintendent Search Update – Dr. Henry Hunt and Dr. Paul Krohne**

Dr. Krohne and Dr. Hunt gave a presentation to the Board of the services they would provide for the superintendent search, if Abbeville County School District decided to use the South Carolina School Boards Association.

Dr. Krohne stated the following: The South Carolina School Boards Association (SCSBA) is pleased to have this opportunity to present the Abbeville County School Board with a proposal for superintendent search services. The SCSBA staff is prepared to conduct your search in the most individualized and professional manner possible. Because our work involves providing comprehensive administrative services to boards and superintendents in this state, we have a vested interest in the success of your search. We want to be certain that you and your new superintendent are an excellent match. The children of this community have the right to expect as much from all of us. The taxpayers of this community have the right to demand it.

The SCSBA has designed the search service to offer maximum flexibility to the board and to assure that the board has total control of the decision-making process. We will do the necessary foundation work to make certain the board is free to concentrate on the most important elements in a search—interviewing the most qualified candidates and selecting the next superintendent to lead the school district.

He continued with the proposal summary which included the following: Preliminary Meeting and Service Determination; Assessing District Priorities in Relation to Needs of the District and the Qualities Desired in a Superintendent through a series of focus groups; Advertising, Recruitment, and Application Procedures; Screening of Candidates and Reference Checks; Interviewing of semi-finalists and finalists candidates; Contract Development and Arrangements; Superintendent Evaluation Planning. Dr. Hunt also gave the proposed dates for activities surrounding the superintendent search including holding focus group meetings.

**Mr. Taylor made a motion to further discuss entering into a contract for the superintendent search with the South Carolina School Boards Association in executive session. This motion was properly seconded and carried with a vote of 7 to 1 (Dr. Crenshaw voted against).**

#### **8. 2011-2012 Audit Presentation**

Mr. Tim Rhodes recognized Mr. Kevin Madden with Greene, Finney and Horton. A copy of Abbeville County School District's Financial Audit Report for the year ending June 30, 2011 was given to each trustee. Mr. Madden, using a PowerPoint presentation, discussed the 2011-2012 school year audit. Mr. Madden informed the Board that the District had received an unqualified opinion which is the best opinion the school district can receive. There was discussion and questions asked during this presentation from Board members with the questions being answered by Mr. Madden.

#### **9. Administrative Section**

##### **A. Maintenance/Construction Update**

Mr. Jones gave a report on the following topics:

Wright Middle School grounds, John C Calhoun Elementary School Server Room Air, School closing for Winter Break, Westwood Elementary School Kitchen Freezer, and Westwood Elementary School Camera System.

Facilities Projects – Capital Projects Plan General

- Westwood building footing
- Capital Projects Plan

Mr. Jones also gave the Board a 2011-2012 Electrical Energy Consumption Report and answered questions from the Board concerning this report.

**B. Financial Update – Ms. Roni Scott**

Ms. Scott told the Board that in their packet they had received two different reports; one is a summary report and the other a more detailed report; she asked if there were any questions about the accounts report. Ms. Scott answered questions from Board members. She asked if the format of the report was ok and the Board had no objection to the way the report is being run.

Ms. Scott told the Board that we had started looking at the 2013-2014 budget and the main objective is to protect the classroom and then she listed some of the other objectives of the budget; to reinstating the twenty days that were taken from the 240 day employees several years ago, to divide the food service director and the account payable clerk back into two positions. She spoke of several concerns of the upcoming budget and asked Board members if they had more questions.

**C. Ms. Betty Jo Hall – Public Participation Policy Information**

Ms. Hall told the Board that included in their packets was information concerning the public participation policy; the current policy and four policies from four different school districts. She told the Board that we are looking for guidance from the Board so we can format our policy to bring back to the Board for a first and second reading. Mr. Rhodes said that he felt it would be a good idea for the Board to look at the policies and discuss it next month at the Board meeting. Ms. Hall gave a summary of the current policy and answered questions from the Board.

**D. Mr. Tim Rhodes – SCSBA Delegate Assembly Report**

Mr. Rhodes gave a report on the delegate assembly that he had attended at Hilton Head in December.

**E. Dr. Randolph**

Dr. Randolph told the Board that on January 20, a meeting was held with the local sheriff and police departments, highway patrol, emergency preparedness director, local officials from the county, media and principals along with district personnel to discuss a plan to best use the resources available to insure the safety of our children in our schools. All of our schools now have a police officer that will be on each campus at some time during the day. We are trying to increase the police officer presence in the schools.

Dr. Randolph informed the Board that the meeting in February will be back at the district office, in March the meeting will be at John C. Calhoun Elementary School and in April the meeting will be at the district office. The meetings will continue to be at the district

office until the start of the new school year when the Board will decide on the locations for the meetings.

Dr. Randolph reminded the Board members that the Statement of Economic Interest was due by April 15 and it is only completed online.

#### **10. Miscellaneous from the Board**

Mr. Brooks thanked Cherokee Trail for hosting the Board meeting this month. He also asked that a couple of items be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. The first item he would like placed on the agenda is how the administration determines at the Career Center, when to add a program, when to maintain a program, when to stop a program. The second item he would like placed on the agenda is the same only concerning the Alternative school, the qualifications and how it operates.

Mr. Mitchell said he was extremely excited to be at Cherokee Trail. Also appreciated Dr. Randolph and the meeting they held concerning school safety. He also asked for a little more lead way concerning meetings, so arrangements can be made to attend.

Dr. Kolb also thanked Cherokee Trail for hosting the meeting. He said he hoped that some of the exchange that went on is not what the audience goes away thinking of the Board. He said "Putting Children First" should be the purpose for serving on the Board and for those in education also.

Dr. Crenshaw encouraged the audience to come to Board meetings. He also said that he thought that executive sessions should be used very sparingly and that most items should be discussed in open session.

Mr. Tisdale thanked Cherokee Trail for hosting the meeting. He also asked if when the work was finished upstairs at the District Office did we notify anyone and let them know that it had been completed.

Mr. Taylor thanked Cherokee Trail for hosting the meeting. He also discussed the EIA Act of 1974 concerning the one cent sales tax and that we need to make sure that that money is going to education. Mr. Taylor asked all taxpayers to get in touch with their representatives asking them if we are getting our one cent.

Mr. Rhodes thanked Cherokee Trail for hosting the meeting.

#### **11. Executive Session**

At 9:02 P.M., Dr. Crenshaw made a motion to go into executive session. This motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

#### **12. Return to Open Session**

At 9:40 P.M. there was a motion made to return to open session.

Ms. Hall said that the administration recommends the approval of two administrative positions of assistant principals at Abbeville High School. **Dr. Crenshaw made a motion to approve the administration's recommendation. This motion was properly seconded and carried**

with a vote of 7 to 1. (Mr. Mitchell abstained; he stated he was a relative of one of the candidates)

**Dr. Randolph recognized the two new assistant principals for the 2013-2014 school year; Ms. Tina Walls, business teacher at AHS and Mr. Skip Hopkins, interim assistant principal at AHS.**

**Dr. Randolph said the administration recommends using the South Carolina School Board Association for the superintendent search for Abbeville County School District. Mr. Tisdale made a motion to approve the administration's recommendation. This motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.**

**Mr. Taylor made a motion to send out an RFP search for accounting services which was properly seconded and carried unanimously.**

### **13. Adjourn**

At 9:45 P. M. Dr. Crenshaw made a motion to adjourn the meeting, this was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie Williams". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned in the lower-left quadrant of the page.