

Minutes of Meeting  
Abbeville County School District Board of Trustees  
February 26, 2013  
7:00 p.m.  
400 Greenville Street  
Abbeville, 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, Mr. Mark Burton, 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, Ms. Dorinda Bell-Dunlap

**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 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. Tim Hall, Automotive Technology instructor for the Abbeville Career Center. Chief Warrant Officer Hall's role is now with the South Carolina Army National Guard, who will be leaving for Fort Bliss Texas, then overseas for his tour of duty. Ms. Hall presented him with a small token of our appreciation and pride for his service.

**7. Superintendent Search Update – Dr. Henry Hunt**

Dr. Hunt told the Board that they had had about 26 applications submitted so far. Dr. Hunt presented to the Board the findings of the focus group meetings that were held on February 12 and 13. He gave the Board a summary of the comments that had been made by the different groups on what they would like to see happen in the hiring of a new superintendent and what traits they would like to see in the new superintendent. Dr. Hunt also went over the timeline from the SCSBA. He asked if these dates were

acceptable. After some discussion it was decided that Dr. Hunt would get back in touch with them on the initial date for the meeting to review applications turned in to SCSBA and to lock in on some other dates for meetings to interview candidates.

## **8. Administrative Section**

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

Mr. Jones gave a report on the following topics:

Dixie High School SRO office, Cherokee Trail Elementary and Dixie High School electrical service

Facilities Projects – Capital Projects Plan

- John C. Calhoun lighting and roof, Dixie High main entrance, Cherokee Trail Diamond Hill and Long Cane Elementary media center shelving, Cherokee Trail, Long Cane and Career Center communication systems, John C. Calhoun, Westwood, Dixie and the Career Center building locks, Abbeville and Dixie High, and John C. Calhoun fire alarm systems

The administration received a request from the Board to investigate installing a dedication plaque for the renovation of the second floor at the district office to relocate the Adult Education Center. Mr. Jones provided the Board with a computer generated image of a possible layout for a bronze dedication plaque. The cost of the plaque by the design submitted was \$1130.00. After discussion, **Mr. Tisdale made a motion to approve the purchase of the plaque as submitted. This motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.**

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

Ms. Scott told the Board that in their packet they had received the financial update and asked if there were any questions. She also informed the Board of some possible changes in the base student cost. She also gave information concerning the federal sequestration and teacher step increases.

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

Ms. Hall told the Board that included in their packets was a draft copy of public participation in meetings (BEDH); she told the Board also that at their places was a corrected copy of the policy. Ms. Hall answered questions from the Board. Dr. Kolb and other members shared their concerns on the new public participation policy versus our current policy. After discussion, **Dr. Crenshaw made a motion to continue using the current policy and drop trying to add a forum to the policy. This motion was properly seconded and failed with a vote of 3 to 5 (Crenshaw, Burton and Kolb in favor; Brooks, Mitchell, Reynolds, Tisdale and Taylor in opposition, Mr. Rhodes did not vote).**

**Ms. Hall is to rewrite the policy to include adding 15 minutes to the beginning of Board meetings for public speaking on agenda items only; maintain our current operations of policy BEDH and cards to sign up for someone to speak in the public forum will be placed in the hall at 6:30 and be taken up at 6:50. This is to be brought back before the Board at the next regularly scheduled meeting for first reading.**

Ms. Hall said that the Board had received a calendar for the 2013-2014 school calendar for first reading. **Mr. Taylor made a motion to pass first reading of the 2013-2014 school calendar. This motion was properly seconded and carried with a vote of 8 – 0 (Dr. Crenshaw abstained.)**

**D. Mr. Sherwin Johnson – Cultural Exchange Program**

Mr. Johnson told the members of the Board that Mr. Kenny Young had approached the district concerning placing foreign exchange students in Abbeville County to attend Abbeville County Schools for the upcoming school year. After discussion, **Mr. Brooks made a motion to accept the cultural exchange student program. This motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.**

**E. Dr. Randolph**

Dr. Randolph told the Board that the next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held at John C. Calhoun Elementary School on March 26.

Dr. Randolph informed the Board that there had been tragedies this past month at Diamond Hill Elementary where a student had died and the secretary's son had been killed in a car wreck.

He told the Board that there will be an "Intruder Workshop" on March 14, funded by a grant through the emergency preparedness people. The first meeting will be focused on Long Cane Primary.

**9. Miscellaneous from the Board**

Mr. Taylor said he went to the School Board's convention and was really impressed and learned a lot of things that he would like to share.

Mr. Tisdale said he found the same at the convention.

Mr. Mitchell said he enjoyed the state conference, a lot was learned.

Mr. Brooks was excited and impressed with the School Board Association's conference. Mr. Brooks brought back information on a dental program that will be researched.

Mr. Rhodes said prayers were with Chief Hall on his deployment.

**10. Executive Session**

At 8:50 P.M., Dr. Kolb made a motion to go into executive session. This motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

**11. Return to Open Session**

At 9:15 P.M. there was a motion made to return to open session.

**Dr. Crenshaw made a motion to approve the administration's recommendation to hire two teachers for Abbeville High School. This motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.**

**13. Adjourn**

At 9:16 P. M. Mr. Tisdale made a motion to adjourn the meeting, this was properly seconded and carried unanimously.