

Minutes of Meeting
Abbeville County School District Board of Trustees
April 23, 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, Ms. Roni Scott, Ms. Wanda Thomasson, Mr. Matt Kimsey

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. A motion was made to amend the agenda to include a personnel action item to be presented by Dr. Randolph by Dr. Crenshaw and was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

4. Sign Claims

Claims were signed.

5. Approve Minutes

Mr. Rhodes asked if there were any changes or additions to the minutes that had been sent in their board packets (March 26 {regularly scheduled}, March 21 and March 25, 2013 and April 1, 2013 {special meetings}). Mr. Taylor made a motion to accept the minutes as received; this motion was properly seconded and carried with a vote of 8 to 1 (Dr. Crenshaw abstained).

6. Gold Star Highlights

Ms. Hall reminded everyone and invited them to attend the receptions for the three superintendent finalists, starting on Wednesday. Ms. Hall asked Mr. Rhodes and Dr. Randolph to join her in recognition of Regional Spelling Bee participants; Diamond Hill Elementary – Billy Mann and Cherokee Trail Elementary - Ethan Angel.

Also recognized were the eighth grade Junior Scholars for outstanding intellectual achievement: Wright Middle School – Sterlin Agnew, Corentez Cannady, Ethan Cuttill, Danny Griffin, Austin Hall, Cody Hayes, Jordan Hughes, Steven McDade, Justin McMahan, Lauren Mentis, Evan Slentz, and from Dixie High School – Burton Dana Spearin, Daniel Wiles.

Mr. David Whitmire was recognized for being selected as the Piedmont Reading Council's Reading Teacher of the Year for the Elementary Level for our region.

Ms. Jessica Brown from Westwood Elementary was recognized for being awarded grants totaling \$1,376.95.

Ms. Devada Kimsey from John C. Calhoun was recognized for being awarded grants totaling \$568.10.

Ms. Jennifer Smith from Westwood Elementary was recognized for being awarded grants totaling \$977.00. Ms. Hall also said that Ms. Smith was recently elected as one of five state teachers on the Palmetto States Teacher's Association's Board of Directors.

7. Administrative Section

A. Maintenance/Construction Update – Dr. Randolph

Dr. Randolph gave the maintenance update in Mr. Jones' stead. He also reminded the Board members of the May 2nd meeting when they would be meeting concerning the superintendent; there will be one item added to the agenda to discuss contracts on the current capital projects plan.

B. Ms. Betty Jo Hall - Final Reading of BEDH, Public Participation at Meetings

Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve final reading of policy BEDH. This motion was properly seconded. Mr. Rhodes asked the Board's help in keeping the people who would be speaking on task. After some discussion concerning the policy **a vote was taken and carried with a vote of 7 to 2 (Mr. Burton and Dr. Crenshaw voted against).**

Ms. Hall also told the Board that they had asked in the last meeting for some discussion on the hiring of retirees; this information was sent in their packets. There was some discussion on this matter. Dr. Kolb asked the administration if there was a recommendation to change the current practice and Dr. Randolph said there was not.

Hiring of Retirees – Ms. Hall

Based on the anticipated cost savings to the District in the amount of approximately (a very conservative estimate) \$125,000.00, the administration recommends the employment for the 2013-14 school year, all of the working retirees who are presently employed by the District on a letter of agreement and, further, that those employees be paid at the same negotiated reduced salary rate of 25% reduction and no local supplement, pending legislation. She continued that should our retirees accept our offer the savings would go up to over \$245,000. After some discussion, Ms. Hall explained that the retirees were not given a contract but a letter of agreement; only continuing, annual and induction contracts come before the Board for approval. At will, retirees and classified employees are normally hired by the Superintendent but because of budget issues and implications with this we felt we needed to bring this before the Board this time. At this time out of approximately 445 employees there are only 16 persons involved as retirees. **Dr. Kolb made a motion to approve the administration's recommendation; this motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.**

Ms. Hall continued that the administration recommends issuing 20 days of employment to mission critical classified and agricultural positions. **Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the administration's recommendation; this motion was properly seconded.** Ms. Hall told the Board that the cost for this would be approximately \$116,00.00. After some discussion, a **vote was taken and carried unanimously.**

C. Curriculum Update – Ms. Jean Smith

Ms. Smith told the Board that they had received in their packets a report to the community from each of the schools; these reports will be sent out on April 30. She continued that this past week during HSAP testing, there was an unannounced visit from the State Department to the two high schools and the verbal report was that we passed with flying colors.

D. Financial Update – Ms. Roni Scott

Ms. Scott told the Board that in their packet they had received the financial update and the expenditure report and asked if there were any questions. She continued with the budget update advising that we are receiving new information. There was discussion on the Affordable Care Act which could affect the district; we will be required to pay insurance for a whole year for anyone (even temporary) that works 30 hours a week. There was much discussion on the Affordable Care Act and what it means to our district.

E. Mr. Sherwin Johnson – First Reading of Revised Policy JLCD – Assisting Students with Medications

Mr. Johnson said that administration recommends approval of final reading of revised policy JLCD – Assisting Students with Medications. **Dr. Kolb made a motion to approve the final reading of this policy, which was properly seconded and carried unanimously.**

F. Dr. Randolph

Dr. Randolph informed the Board that Mr. Rick Pressley with The Lion's Club had met with the principals and the Lion's Club has offered free Mobile Health Screenings which includes hearing, vision, hypertension, BMI and Cataract Screenings for our students beginning next year. Dr. Randolph told the Board that even though this does not require Board action, he wanted to make sure the Board was okay with this being done.

Dr. Randolph informed the Board that summer hours will begin on June 10, 2013 and be from 7:30 to 4:15 Monday through Thursday.

He also told the Board that the Superintendent Search final interview would be April 25, April 30 and May 2 beginning at 6:30 and on May 2 at 7:30 there will be one item (maintenance contracts) added to the agenda.

Action items: Dr. Randolph told the Board that he had received a request from the City of Abbeville Police Department for use of a bus and driver for the week of June 10, 2013 for the annual youth camp sponsored by the Police Department. The administration recommends this request. **Dr. Crenshaw made a motion to approve the administration's recommendation which was properly seconded and carried unanimously.**

Dr. Randolph also informed the Board that Piedmont Technical College has agreed to work with us in offering an Auto Mechanics course at no cost to the district and students can receive college credit for the course. Dr. Randolph said the administration recommends that, for the

2013-2014 school year only, the Board reinstate a part-time Agricultural Mechanics course at the Career Center and a part-time Spanish course at the High Schools. Further, that, for the 2013-2014 school year only, the District enter into an agreement with Piedmont Technical College to provide an instructor for the Auto Mechanics course at the Abbeville County Career Center. **Dr. Crenshaw made a motion to approve the administration's recommendation which was properly seconded and carried unanimously.**

8. Miscellaneous from the Board

Mr. Taylor congratulated the administrators, principals, staff and teachers for the great scores we have had.

Mr. Tisdale also congratulated all involved in the great test scores.

Dr. Crenshaw informed the Board that he had commitments on two of the superintendent interview dates and asked permission to interview over the phone. The Board had no problem with this.

Dr. Kolb concurred with the other Board members on the congratulations. He also commended Dr. Randolph for the job he has done over the past years and the direction he has taken the district.

Mr. Burton said he was very proud of the schools with all the awards they had received and congratulated all that were involved, that they had made a lot out of a little.

Mr. Mitchell said he was proud of everyone from the top down that had made this happen.

Mr. Brooks concurred with all.

Mr. Rhodes also concurred. Asked that all Board members to be at the final interviews if possible and to attend the community receptions.

9. Adjourn

At 7:46 p.m. Dr. Crenshaw made a motion to adjourn the meeting, this was properly seconded and carried unanimously.