

Minutes of Meeting
Abbeville County School District Board of Trustees
July 24, 2012
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. Samuel Bell, Mr. Mark Burton, Dr. Bill Crenshaw, Dr. Allen Kolb, Mr. Tracy Lindler, Ms. Corrinna O'Bannon, Mr. Joseph Reynolds, Mr. Tim Rhodes, 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. Sam Jones, Mr. Matt Kimsey, Ms. Roni Scott, Mr. Sherwin Johnson, Dr. Charles Costner

1. Call to Order

Dr. Crenshaw called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Crenshaw led the pledge of allegiance.

3. Approve Agenda

Dr. Crenshaw stated that the agenda had been distributed and asked if there were any suggestions or revisions to the agenda. **Mr. Tisdale said he would like to add the interim appointments to the agenda. After some discussion, it was decided that interim appointments would be added to executive session and if personnel was not discussed it would be discussed after executive session in open session. Dr. Crenshaw asked if there were any objections to the amended agenda, hearing none he said the agenda was approved by unanimous consent.**

4. Sign Claims

Claims were signed

5. Approve Minutes

Dr. Crenshaw said a copy of the minutes from the June 26th meeting had been sent in packages. He asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes; Mr. Lindler requested that his name be added as present and non voting. Dr. Crenshaw asked if there were any objections to the amending the minutes to include Mr. Lindler's request, hearing no objections, Dr. Crenshaw said the minutes would be accepted as amended.

6. Gold Star Highlights

Ms. Hall asked Dr. Crenshaw and Dr. Randolph to join her for several recognitions.

Ms. Joyce Cunningham came up and recognized Miss Tyler Brady of Dixie High School as an outstanding student receiving the exceptional achievement award.

Ms. Hall recognized the successes of the Abbeville County School District graduates, she said there were 182 students in the graduating class and their post secondary plans included:

- 53 students with plans to attend 4 year colleges and universities
- 108 students have plans to attend 2 year colleges
- 9 students plan to enter the workforce
- 3 students will attend career specific programs
- 12 students have made commitments to the military
- The scholarship total for Abbeville County School District 2012 graduates is \$3,218,218.

She informed the Board that the upcoming school year opening day will be on August 14, 2012 at Wright Middle School at 8:00 AM. She also told them that the students first day will be August 21, 2012.

7. Public Input

Ms. Regina Lee asked to speak to the Board and she had three topics.

- 1) BEDH – Policy for public input – she said she wanted this policy to be rescinded or amended to allow public participation at Board meetings. She suggested the public be allowed to sign up the night of the Board meeting to address the Board of Trustees.
- 2) Ms. Lee had responses to the three individuals who spoke at the June Board meeting.
- 3) Lastly she spoke of diversity in the school system. She said that the number one priority is to educating students in a global world.

Mr. Lindler addressed the issue of Board policy BEDH and made a motion that the administration be directed to give careful study to the policy relating to public input in School Board meetings. This motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

8. Policy and Residency Update

Dr. Crenshaw at this time turned the gavel over to the Vice Chair, Dr. Kolb to chair this portion of the meeting. Mr. Duff gave an overview of Board policy BBBC Board Member Resignation and when a Board member moves from the area he was elected to serve. After much discussion on this issue Dr. Crenshaw stated, “For the record, my residency, my domicile is at 7 College Street, Due West, South Carolina.”

Ms. Kim London, Abbeville Voters Registration Commission answered some questions concerning residency. There was much more discussion on this issue. Dr. Kolb stated that the meeting would move on to item 9 and Dr. Crenshaw took the seat as chair.

9. Administrative Section

A. Maintenance/Construction Update

Mr. Jones gave a report on the following topics:

- Supplies for 2012-2013
- Facilities Projects – Capital Projects Plan General

- Westwood Elementary School Re-roof and HVAC Replacement
- Direct Digital Controls for HVAC
- John C. Calhoun Elementary School Bus Parking Lot
- Security Camera Systems at High Schools
- Computer Lab HVAC Modifications
- Parking Lots at the Career Center, Cherokee Trail and Diamond Hill Elementary
- Porch Ceilings at Diamond Hill Elementary

B. Curriculum – Ms. Jean Smith

Ms. Smith told the Board that districts can now apply for Race to the Top District/Consortium Grants. There are a certain number of students that a district must have in order to apply, so we will be applying with the consortium if approved by the Board to move forward. **Mr. Tisdale made a motion to continue with this project, this motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.**

C. Financial Update – Ms. Scott

Ms. Scott told the Board that in their packet they had received a budget report by location and this was not the final report for June 30, this report shows that we have exceed the budget in some schools and others there are funds left which could be due to budgeting in Title 1 schools. She asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

She also told the Board that she had received the Moodys Rating, which is an annual rating we get concerning our credit rating and it remained the same as in the previous year even though we lost money in our fund balance last year. This was due to the sound financial decision the Board made for replenishing the fund balance with the 10 mils over a period of years to replace that.

10. Miscellaneous from the Board

Ms. O'Bannon asked a question concerning "No Child Left Behind", Ms. Smith stated that the waiver that South Carolina submitted to the Federal Government passed and it will go into effect this school year with a different grading system. We do not have all of the particulars yet.

Mr. Tisdale asked Mr. Duff a question concerning state law 59-19-8, does this apply to permanent or temporary employees. Mr. Duff responded that this was the general statute that says no teacher or other employee will be employed as a full time or permanent employee without the Boards' approval. Also with a temporary employee the Board needs to confirm the hiring at some point and should do so as soon as possible.

Dr. Crenshaw asked that the following statement be added to the record. "At the last meeting it was suggested and actually stated that Board policy was not followed, Robert's Rules of Order was not followed. At the called meeting preceding, which some people walked out because the agenda was modified after it had been approved, that's incorrect. As you will notice we were getting ready to vote on going into executive session, what we did on that

same meeting was to vote on going into executive session so to the extent that that idea was used as an excuse to leave; that was a mistake in interpretation of Roberts Rule of Order.

After Dr. Crenshaw's statement there was much discussion concerning interim appointments and questions for Mr. Duff. Dr. Crenshaw told the Board that this topic could be added to the agenda for the next Board meeting if needed and discussed in full at that time.

11. Executive Session

At 8:55 p.m., Ms. O'Bannon made a motion to go into executive session. This motion was properly seconded and carried with a vote of 7 to 2 (Mr. Lindler did not vote).

12. Return to Open Session

At 10:10 p.m. there was a motion made to return to open session.

Mr. Tisdale made a motion to accept the administration's recommendation for 1) release of a ML Science contract 2) approval of 3 continuing contracts, 1 annual contract and 2 induction contracts and 3) the Board ratify one continuing contract that has been filled by action of the superintendent in accordance with Board policy. This motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Lindler made a motion that the chair of the Abbeville County School District be declared vacant. This motion was properly seconded and failed with a vote of 4 to 4 (Mr. Lindler, Mr. Bell, Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Rhodes voted for the motion; Mr. Burton, Dr. Kolb, Ms. O'Bannon and Dr. Crenshaw voted against the motion; Mr. Tisdale abstained).

13. Adjourn

At 10:15 P.M. Dr. Kolb made a motion to adjourn.