

Minutes of Meeting
Abbeville County School District Board of Trustees
August 28, 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, Ms. Corrinna O'Bannon, Mr. Joseph Reynolds, Mr. Tim Rhodes
Mr. Tisdale was absent from the meeting.

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, Ms. Wanda Thomasson, Mr. Sherwin Johnson, Dr. Charles Costner, Mr. Chester King, Mr. Skip Hopkins, Ms. Lori Brewton, Mr. Todd Ramey, Mr. David Nixon, Mr. Dick Williams, Mr. Milton Scott

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. Rhodes made a motion to approve the agenda which was properly seconded and was approved by unanimous consent.**

4. Sign Claims

Claims were signed

5. Approve Minutes

Dr. Crenshaw said a copy of the minutes from the July 24th meeting had been sent in packages. He asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes, hearing none, Dr. Crenshaw said the minutes would be approved by unanimous consent.

6. Gold Star Highlights

Ms. Hall asked Dr. Crenshaw and Dr. Randolph to join her for "honor roll" recognition of the schools under The No Child Left Behind Act. The first of August schools and school districts received letter grades ranging from A-F under federal accountability. In the fall, schools and school districts will receive ratings ranking from Excellent to At-Risk under state accountability. The term AYP, and its all-or-nothing rating, no longer applies in South Carolina because of the US Department of Education –approved Elementary and Secondary Education Act Waiver. The "cut" score for a letter grade of A is 90. The following schools were recognized: Abbeville High

School (86.2) and Abbeville County School District (89.1) each received a B; Dixie High (97.3), Wright Middle (94.4), Westwood Elementary (91.6), Cherokee Trail (95.5), Diamond Hill (99.3), and John C. Calhoun (100) each received an A.

7. Administrative Section

A. Maintenance/Construction Update

Mr. Jones gave a report on the following topics:

- Opening Day
- 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. Ms. Betty Jo Hall

- Personnel – Ms. Hall told Board members that they had received in their packets, 3 action items for personnel and that the administration recommends approval on each of them. Mr. Reynolds said that he would like to make a motion to vote on this item by item instead of a total.

Action #1 - Mr. Rhodes made a motion to approve the administration recommendation of one annual contract resignation. This motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

Action #2 – Dr. Kolb made a motion to approve the administration recommendation of the ratification of: 1 Induction contract and 1 Annual contract that has been filled by action of the Superintendent in accordance with Board action. This motion was properly seconded and carried with a vote of 5 to 0 (Mr. Burton, Dr. Kolb, Dr. Crenshaw, Mr. Rhodes and Ms. O’Bannon voting in favor and Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Bell did not vote).

Action #3 – Ms. O’Bannon made a motion to approve the administration recommendation of the ratification of classified positions that have been filled by action of the Superintendent in accordance with Board policy. This motion was properly seconded and carried with a vote of 5 to 1 (Mr. Burton, Dr. Kolb, Dr. Crenshaw, Mr. Rhodes and Ms. O’Bannon voting in favor and Mr. Reynolds voted in opposition and Mr. Bell did not vote).

- **Diversity Report** – Ms. Hall gave a report on the recruiting efforts of our district and data in regards to minorities in the classroom and administration. She told Board members that since 2005 the percentage of minority teachers in our district has increased from 4% to over 7% while the budget has decreased and the percentage of black students has decreased. Also from 2005 -06 school year until

the 2012-13 school year all professional certified staff has increased from 15% to 22%.

Ms. Hall also told the Board the district process for posting, interviewing and hiring of candidates. She continued that in a statement from our attorneys: “Unless the District is subject to court order that requires district schools be staffed by a certain percentage by race, it is unlawful, under federal law know as Title VII, for the district to use race as a criteria in the hiring process.”

Mr. Reynolds asked Ms. Hall if she felt we were utilizing the qualified minorities available in the district that applied. For example, when we hire an assistant principal they are supposed to be certified to move up. Ms. Hall responded yes to his question. He continued, asking do you feel we are moving our assistant principals up, did we utilize this opportunity to move up this qualified person.

Ms. Hall told Mr. Reynolds that we recently had this opportunity and we tried to move this person. Dr. Crenshaw said the administration brought the name to the Board that Mr. Reynolds is referring to and the Board voted this person down and he said Mr. Reynolds voted against this person.

Mr. Reynolds stated he did not vote against that person, he said he voted against where he wanted that person to go. He continued that the person he was talking about was qualified to go to Wright Middle School. She was qualified to go to Wright Middle School and she was not given the opportunity.

Dr. Crenshaw said that the administration would compile a list of the credentials and qualifications for each of the two candidates listing them as A and B without reference to race or gender. This would be prepared for the next Board Meeting.

Mr. Reynolds told the Board that there were 5 or 6 minority teachers from Abbeville County that were teaching in Greenwood County that someone said applied to Abbeville but were not hired. Dr. Randolph asked Mr. Reynolds to get him a list of these people and the district would check into the issue. Mr. Reynolds said he would provide the list to Dr. Randolph.

Mr. Rhodes made the comment that we are not the only district that has the problem of hiring qualified minority teachers. He said that he had talked with Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Tisdale concerning this issue. Dr. Randolph said that we need to increase our applicant pool; we are going to recommend to the Board the best person for the job no matter whether they are male, female, black or white or for teacher, principal or assistant principal positions.

C. Curriculum – Ms. Jean Smith

Ms. Smith told Board members that they had received the report on the test scores for the district and our test scores were very good.

Ms. Smith told the Board that our district will be pulling out of the Race to the Top District/Consortium Grant due to the additional cost that this will have on the district.

D. Financial Update – Ms. Scott

Ms. Scott told the Board that in their packet they had received a budget report she asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

She also informed the Board of the action item that the Board must annually adopt this resolution for debt payment. The Resolution for General Obligation Bonds is as follows: This is a resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of a not exceeding \$200,000 general obligation bond, series 2012, of Abbeville County School District, South Carolina; authorizing the South Carolina Association of governmental organizations to facilitate the sale of the bond under its general obligation debt program; prescribing the terms and conditions under which the bond may be issued; authorizing the superintendent of the school district to determine certain matters relating to the bond; providing for the payment of the bond and the disposition of the proceeds for the payment of the bond and the disposition of the proceeds thereof; and other matters relating thereto. **Ms. O'Bannon made a motion to approve this resolution and it was properly seconded and carried unanimously.**

E. Dr. Randolph

Dr. Randolph told Board members that they had been sent copies of policy BEDH – Public participation at Meetings. There are 3 revisions to this policy he told members; 2002, 2006 and 2007 were the revised dates. Any revisions made in 2002 and 2006 did not change the specific meaning of the policy. The 2007 revision was that the person wishing to speak to the Board must indicate what relief they are seeking from the Board of Trustees. Another revision, the Superintendent has made sure that the person wishing to come before the Board has followed the proper chain of command. The third change was preventing repetitive remarks from being made to the Board meeting after meeting. The changes were adopted on 5-07 and the Board approved the revisions.

Dr. Randolph told Board members that he had been in contact with the SCSBA concerning a retreat for the Board and their suggestion was to wait until after election of new members in November and look at having a retreat after the first of the year. Taking into consideration the budget cuts, Dr. Randolph will check into a retreat after the first of the year at the District Office.

Dr. Randolph told the Board that the house that was built by the Career Center carpentry class had been sold and the carpentry class would like permission to construct another house this school year. **Mr. Burton made a motion to approve this request and this request was properly seconded and carried unanimously.**

8. Miscellaneous from the Board

Mr. Rhodes congratulated the schools and teachers for the hard work that they had done to get the scores that they had received.

9. Adjourn

At 8:10, Mr. Rhodes made a motion to adjourn.