

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY  
AIKEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 8, 2015

The Aiken County Board of Education met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, December 8, 2015, at the District Office, 1000 Brookhaven Drive, Aiken, at 7:00 p.m. Print and broadcast news media were notified of the time, date, and place of this meeting.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Rosemary English, Chairman  
Mr. Levi Green, Vice-Chairman  
Mr. Cecil Atchley  
Mr. Tad Barber  
Mr. John Wesley Hightower  
Mr. Keith Liner  
Mr. Jeremy Mace  
Mr. Ronnie West

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Richard Hazen

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Sean Alford, Superintendent  
Dr. Shawn Foster, Deputy Superintendent  
Mr. Tray Traxler, Comptroller  
Mr. William Burkhalter, General Counsel  
Dr. Cecelia Hewett, Associate Superintendent  
for Administration  
Mr. King Laurence, Associate Superintendent  
for Instruction  
Mrs. Janice Kitchings, Academic Officer  
for Elementary School  
Mrs. Joy Shealy, Academic Office  
for Middle School  
Dr. Tim Yarborough, Academic Officer  
for High School  
Dr. Randy Stowe, Director of Administration  
Mrs. Vicky Durden, Administrative Assistant  
to Board of Education

Chairman English called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

Devotional and Pledge were led by Mr. Levi Green.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Chairman English stated if there were no objections the agenda would stand as amended.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the Special Called Meeting on November 17, 2015; and minutes of the Regular Meeting on November 24, 2015; were presented for approval. Mr. Liner MOVED to approve the minutes of the Special Called Meeting on November 17, 2015; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION carried on a vote of 6-0-2 (Mr. Mace and Mr. Barber abstained). Mr. Liner MOVED to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on November 24, 2015; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION carried on a vote of 7-0-1 (Mrs. English abstained).

#### SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS

- East Aiken School of the Arts presented Board and Cabinet members ornaments made by the students.
- Aiken High School FFA presented the Board members with poinsettias.
- Dr. Gary Senn, Director of Ruth Patrick Science Center presented the Spirit of Ruth Patrick award to \_\_\_\_\_ and Robert E. Alexander Administrator of the Year award to \_\_\_\_\_
- ACIRA Distinguished Teacher of Reading Awards were presented.

- ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS: Mr. Burkhalter reviewed the procedures for the election of Board Officers and distributed ballots for electing a chairman. Mr. Burkhalter counted the votes and announced the appointment of Mrs. Rosemary English as Chairman of the Board. Ballots were distributed for the election of the Vice-Chairman. Mr. Burkhalter counted the votes and announced the appointment of Mr. Levi Green as Vice-Chairman of the Board. Mrs. English and Mr. Green expressed appreciation to fellow Board Members for their continued support.
- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No requests this meeting.

- OFFICE OF BOARD CHAIRMAN

Chairman English and Mr. Liner gave a brief update regarding Legislative Advocacy Conference. Chairman English reminded the Board of PEP Retreat scheduled for January 6, 2016 at the Aiken County Chamber building.

#### INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A-1 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015: Mr. Tim Grow with Elliott Davis Decosimo LLC gave a brief overview of the Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ended June 30, 2015.
- A-2 FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF AUGUST 31, 2015: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

- A-3 FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2015: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.
- A-4 FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY CHANGE ORDER NOTIFICATION: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.
- A-5 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Mr. Liner presented a power point presentation regarding Legislative Update.

CONSENT ITEMS:

- B-1 RATIFICATION OF EXPULSIONS: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board ratify the expulsion of students not appealing this action.
- B-2 JUILLIARD IN AIKEN DONATION TO LBC MIDDLE SCHOOL – FY16: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve the Juilliard in Aiken donation to LBC Middle School and adjustments to the FY16 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the award and expenditures.
- B-3 HEIGHTS CHURCH DONATION TO REDCLIFFE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – FY16: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve the \$1,491.25 donation to Redcliffe Elementary School and adjustments to the FY16 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the award and expenditures.

B-4 SUBMISSION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA ARTS COMMISSION ABC ARTS IN EDUCATION GRANT – EAST AIKEN SCHOOL OF THE ARTS – FY17: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve the submission of the South Carolina Arts Commission ABC Arts in Education grant and the receipt of funds, if awarded.

B-5 PAINTING OF PRESS BOXES AT AIKEN HIGH, SILVER BLUFF AND MIDLAND VALLEY HIGH: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board authorize the administration to accept the bid of \$27,000.00 and enter into a contract with R.D. Brown Contractors, Inc. to paint press boxes at Aiken High, Silver Bluff High and Midland Valley High with the funding coming from the 2015-2016 Athletic funding account.

B-6 READ 180 AND SYSTEM 44 READING INTERVENTIONS: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve the purchase of Read 180 and System 44 as well as the three-year installment agreement.

Mr. Hightower MOVED to approve items B-1 through B-6; SECONDED by Mr. Liner; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS:

C-1 PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS: Mr. Liner MOVED to approve lists of classified personnel for school year 2015-2016; SECONDED by Mr. Green; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C-2 REVISIONS TO TWO POLICIES CONCERNING TOBACCO FREE SCHOOL, NAMELY POLICY ADC (TOBACCO FREE SCHOOLS) AND POLICY GBED (TOBACCO FREE SCHOOLS/STAFF) – FINAL READING: Mr. Liner MOVED to approve on final reading the revisions to two policies concerning tobacco free school, namely Policy ADC and Policy GBED; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C-3 CHANGES TO POLICY JICJ – PAGING DEVICES, CELL PHONES, AND OTHER PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES – FINAL READING: Mr. Liner MOVED to approve on final reading the changes to Policy JICJ – Paging Devices, Cell Phones, and other personal electronic devices; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C-4 AMENDMENTS TO POLICY ICA SCHOOLS CALENDAR – FIRST READING: Mr. Liner MOVED to approve on first reading the proposed amendments to Policy ICA – School Calendar; SECONDED by Mr. Green; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS:

- Mr. Green wanted to congratulate SBHS as AA Lower State Champions. Mr. Hightower also wanted to congratulate MVHS as AAA Lower State Champions.

OFFICE OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT:

Dr. Alford gave a brief update of events around the District.

Chairman English announced the Board will need to go into executive session for the purpose of considering the following matters in such order as the Board may choose: Contractual Issues: Consideration and discussion of proposed property sale and property acquisition; Consideration of Auditor's proposed Agreed Upon Procedures; Consideration and Discussion of an executory provision of the Superintendent's contract; Student Appeals: One student appeal from Area 5; and Legal Briefing: Update on one litigation issue, and consideration of a minor charter amendment for Horse Creek Academy.

Mr. Liner MOVED to enter Executive Session for the purpose as stated; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The regular session recessed at 8:26 p.m.

Executive session convened at 8:32 p.m.

Regular session resumed at 10:14 p.m.

Chairman English announced while in executive session the Board considered, or received information concerning, the following matters: Contractual Issues: Consideration and discussion of proposed property sale and property acquisition; Consideration of Auditor's proposed Agreed Upon Procedures; Consideration and Discussion of an executory provision of the Superintendent's contract; Student Appeals: One student appeal from Area 5; and Legal Briefing: Update on one litigation issue, and consideration of a minor charter amendment for Horse Creek Academy.

CONTRACTUAL ISSUES:

- a. CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION OF PROPERTY SALE AND ACQUISITION: Mr. Mace MOVED to approve and authorize the Administration to move forward with completing any negotiations or specifications of elements to a property sale and a property acquisition presented and discussed, and that the Administration reduce the sale and purchase to concurrent executed contracts so that they constitute a committed combination project, provided that the essential aspects of both the sale and the purchase can be confirmed by such contracts within the anticipated sales proceeds and the anticipated purchase costs as presented to, and considered by, the Board and that the Superintendent and/or Chief Officer for Operations and Student Services be authorized to execute such contracts as discussed and noted herein; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION OF AGREED UPON PROCEDURES: No action necessary.
  
- c. CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT: No action necessary.

LEGAL BRIEFINGS:

- LEGAL BRIEFING: Mr. Hightower MOVED to approve the First Amendment to the Horse Creek Academy Charter Agreement dated February 18, 2018, in order to conform the document to the earlier name change approval and also to facilitate the school's participation in the CDEPP funded 4K program, as discussed, and authorize the Chair to sign the same and authorize the Superintendent to sign a Grade Span Change document for the State Department of Education; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PERSONNEL ISSUES:

- ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT: Mr. Liner MOVED to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint Scott Floyd, Principal for Aiken Middle School; SECONDED by Mr. Hightower; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

OFFICE OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT:

No items this meeting.



APPEALS:

- a. STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a high school student in Area 5. Mr. Hightower MOVED to allow the student to attend the Center of Innovative Learning on strict probation; SECONDED by Mr. Mace; MOTION failed on a vote of 4 – 4 (Mr. Atchley, Mr. Liner, Mr. Barber and Mr. West opposed). Mr. Atchley MOVED to expel the student for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year; SECONDED by Mr. Liner; MOTION failed on a vote of 4 – 4 (Mr. Green, Mrs. English, Mr. Mace and Mr. Hightower opposed). Mr. Mace MOVED to suspend the student from Center of Innovative Learning for 10 days and return on strict probation to complete long term assignment; Mr. Mace withdrew the motion. Mr. Barber MOVED to place the student at the Alternative Program at SBHS on strict probation and long term assignment; SECONDED by Mr. Liner; MOTION carried on a vote of 7-1 (Mr. Hightower opposed).

Mr. Mace MOVED to adjourn the meeting; SECONDED by Mr. Green; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Submitted by: Vicky Durden

APPROVED: