

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY  
AIKEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 9, 2014

The Aiken County Board of Education met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, December 9, 2014, 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:**

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:**

Mrs. Rosemary English, Chairman  
Mr. Richard Hazen

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Dr. Elizabeth Everitt, Superintendent  
Mr. David Caver, Deputy Superintendent  
Mr. Tray Traxler, Comptroller  
Mr. William H. Burkhalter, Board Attorney  
Dr. Cecelia Hewett, Associate Superintendent  
for Administration  
Mr. King Laurence, Associate Superintendent  
for Instruction/Accountability  
Mrs. Laurie Reese, 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/Superintendent

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

Devotional and Pledge were led by Dr. Tim Yarborough.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Vice-Chairman Green stated if there were no objections the agenda would stand as approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the Special Called Meeting on November 19, 2014 and minutes of the Regular Meeting on November 25, 2014; were presented for approval. Mr. West MOVED to approve the minutes of the Special Called Meeting on November 19, 2014; and minutes of the Regular Meeting on November 25, 2014; SECONDED by Mr. Hightower; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS

- Legion of Valor Bronze Cross Achievement Award winner Daneshka Padro-Perez was recognized
- Dr. Gary Senn presented the following awards: Spirit of Ruth Patrick Award was presented to Ms. Karey Santos from Millbrook Elementary. Robert E. Alexander Administrator of the Year Award was presented to Mr. Johnnie Spears from Leavelle McCampbell Middle School.
- Bob Richards, Owner; Jack Brennan, Chief Operating Officer; and Terry Lambert, General Manager were present to present the Bob Richard's \$10K Giveaway. Clearwater Elementary, Jackson Middle School and South Aiken High School received checks in the amount of \$3,333. Justin McKinney and Salley Brady were selected as "favorite teachers" and received checks in the amount of \$250. The District's overall "favorite teacher" was Kerri Dean from New Ellenton Middle School and received a check in the amount of \$250. Hammond Hill Elementary received a check for \$1,000 for favorite video.

- East Aiken School of the Arts was recognized as S.C. Title I Reward School of Progress.
- Ms. Carrie Power was recognized as S.C. Art Education Association Teacher of the Year.
- 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. Mr. Green expressed appreciation to fellow Board Members for their continued support for Mrs. English and himself.
- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No requests this meeting.

- OFFICE OF BOARD CHAIRMAN

Vice-Chairman Green reminded the Board of the Special Called Meeting scheduled for January 20, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of Work Study regarding Budget and Five Year Facility Improvement Plan.

Vice-Chairman Green reminded the Board to submit names for Oversight Committee by December 12, 2014, to Mr. Caver.

#### INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A-1 AUDIT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014: Ms. Michelle Jones and Ms. Nicole Hillman with Elliot Davis LLC presented the Audit Financial Statements for the year ended on June 30, 2014.

A-2 AIKEN COUNTY VIRTUAL ACADEMY UPDATE: Ms. Fran Altringer presented a power point presentation regarding Aiken County Virtual Academy Update.

A-3 IMPROVEMENT STATUS UNDER TITLE III OF NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

A-4 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Mr. Liner gave a brief update regarding Legislative Update.

CONSENT ITEMS:

B-1 RATIFICATION OF EXPULSIONS: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board ratify the expulsion of students not appealing this action.

B-2 OUT-OF-DISTRICT TRANSFER REQUEST: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board approve the Out-of-District transfers as presented.

B-3 SUBMISSION OF GRANT APPLICATION BY THE FISCAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR THE SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOOL BOARDS INSURANCE TRUST RISK CONTROL GRANT – FY15: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board approve the submission of the application for the South Carolina School Boards Insurance Trust Risk Control Grant and the receipt of funds, if awarded.

B-4 CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 9 FOR THE 2013 CHUKKER CREEK ELEMENTARY PAVING PROJECT: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board approve Change Order Number 9 from Contractors South, Inc. in the amount of \$27,500.00.

Mr. Hightower MOVED to approve items B-1 through B-4; SECONDED by Mr. Mace;  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS:

C-1 PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS: Mr. Liner MOVED to approve lists of certified retiree rehire personnel for school year 2014-2015; classified personnel for school year 2014-2015; certified supplemental personnel for school year 2014-2015; and non-employee supplemental personnel for school year 2014-2015; SECONDED by Mr. West; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C-2 POLICY ADF – WELLNESS – FRIST READING: Mr. Liner MOVED to approve on first reading the proposed Policy ADF on wellness; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS:

- Mr. Wesley Hightower discussed Communications Committee Revitalization Meeting scheduled for December 19, 2014; and submitting documentation for SCSBA Public Champions Award.

OFFICE OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT:

Dr. Everitt gave a brief update on events around the District.

Vice-Chairman Green 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: Student Appeals as follow: four from Area 1; one from Area 2; and one from Area 3; and Personnel Matters: Procurement safeguards related to personnel issues.

Mr. Hightower MOVED to enter Executive Session for the purpose as stated; SECONDED by Mr. West; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The regular session recessed at 8:22 p.m.

Executive session convened at 8:27 p.m.

Mr. Atchley was absent from Executive Session due to illness.

Regular session resumed at 10:15 p.m.

Vice-Chairman Green announced while in executive session the Board considered, or received information concerning, the following matters: Student Appeals as follow: four from Area 1; one from Area 2; and one from Area 3; and Personnel Matters: Procurement safeguards related to personnel issues.

#### CONTRACTUAL ISSUES:

No items this meeting.

#### LEGAL BRIEFINGS:

- LEGAL BRIEFING: No action necessary.

PERSONNEL ISSUES:

- PROCUREMENT SAFEGUARDS RELATED TO PERSONNEL ISSUES: No action necessary.

OFFICE OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT:

No items this meeting.

APPEALS:

- a. STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a middle school student in Area 1. Mr. Mace MOVED to uphold the decision of the Tribunal and expel the student for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year; SECONDED by Mr. Hightower; MOTION failed on a vote of 2-4 (Mr. Hightower, Mr. Barber, Mr. Green and Mr. Liner opposed). Mr. Liner MOVED to allow the student to attend the Center of Innovative Learning at Pinecrest on strict probation and long term assignment; SECONDED by Mr. Barber; MOTION carried on a vote of 5 – 1 (Mr. Mace opposed).
- b. STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a high school student in Area 3. Mr. Hightower MOVED to uphold the decision of the Tribunal and expel the student for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year; SECONDED by Mr. Liner; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- c. STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a high school student in Area 1. Mr. Hightower MOVED to allow the student to attend the Center of Innovative Learning at Pinecrest on strict probation and long term assignment; SECONDED by Mr. Liner; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- d. STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a high school student in Area 1. Mr. Hightower MOVED to allow the student to attend the Center of Innovative Learning at Pinecrest on strict probation and short term assignment; SECONDED by Mr. Liner; MOTION carried on a vote of 5-1 (Mr. Barber opposed).
- e. STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a high school student in Area 1. Mr. Liner MOVED to uphold the decision of the Tribunal and permanently expel the student from Aiken County Public Schools; SECONDED by Mr. West; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- f. STUDENT APPEAL: The Board received a request to have an out of time appeal and have the case heard by the Tribunal. Mr. Hightower MOVED that based upon the administration's explanation and briefing of the circumstances which led to the submission of the case for expulsion ratification on October 28, 2014, due to the parent's default in appealing the case, the Board rescind such action and place the matter back in pending status and that the case be remanded to the Tribunal level since it never reached that point previously, such action being subject to certain conditions between the parties; SECONDED by Mr. Mace; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Barber MOVED to adjourn the meeting; SECONDED by Mr. Hightower; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting adjourned at 10:21 p.m.

Submitted by: Vicky Durden

APPROVED: