

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY
AIKEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 14, 2017

The Aiken County Board of Education met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, February 14, 2017, 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, Chairman
Mr. Tad Barber, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Cecil Atchley
Mrs. Rosemary English
Mr. John Wesley Hightower
Mr. Keith Liner
Mr. Ahmed Samaha
Mr. Ronnie West

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Jeremy Mace

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Sean Alford, Superintendent
Dr. Shawn Foster, Chief Officer of Operations and Student Services
Mr. Tray Traxler, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. William Burkhalter, General Counsel
Dr. DeeDee Washington, Chief Officer of Instruction
Mrs. Janice Kitchings, Executive Director
 of Elementary School
Mrs. Laurie Reese, Executive Director
 of Elementary School
Mrs. Joy Shealy, Executive Director
 of Middle School
Mr. Scott Newman, Interim Executive Director
 of High School
Mrs. Vicky Durden, Administrative Assistant
 to Board of Education

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

Devotional and Pledge were led by Mr. Keith Liner.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Superintendent Alford discussed removing Item B-8 for further discussion after Proviso from State Legislators. Mrs. English MOVED to remove Item B-8 from the agenda as discussed; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Chairman Green stated if there were no objections the agenda would stand as amended.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the Regular Meeting on January 24, 2017; were presented for approval. Mr. Liner MOVED to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on January 24, 2017; SECONDED by Mrs. English; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS

- South Carolina School Counselor of the Year – Sharon Worsley was recognized.

- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No items this meeting

- **COMMENTS:** Superintendent Alford discussed the news article in Aiken Standard and the comments on social media regarding a statement he had made at the Town Hall Meeting at South Aiken High School. Superintendent Alford stated that he does not believe in punishment but does believe in discipline. At no point in time will we tolerate students who interrupt in a very severe fashion the learning environment. This has been a distraction for the school district and Superintendent Alford apologize for that. Teachers are doing an outstanding job right now on the home stretch of this second semester, and we're getting ready for an outstanding performance with our students in the end-of-year assessments. Our schools are very safe, our kids enjoy school and our teachers enjoy school.

- **OFFICE OF BOARD CHAIRMAN**

- SCSBA Annual Conference is scheduled for February 16 – 19, 2017.
- Town Hall Meetings scheduled at 6:30 p.m. are as follow:

February 16 at Mossy Creek El.

21 at Caledonia Baptist Church (Area 4)
1887 Old 96 Indian Trail
Batesburg-Leesville

23 at Silver Bluff High School

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A-1 **HORSE CREEK ACADEMY UPDATE:** Dr. Frank Roberson gave an update regarding Horse Creek Academy.
- A-2 **FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2016:** The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

A-3 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Mr. Liner gave a brief Legislative Update.

CONSENT ITEMS:

- B-1 RATIFICATION OF EXPULSIONS: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board ratify the expulsion of students not appealing this action as submitted by Hearing Officer.
- B-2 OUT-OF-DISTRICT TRANSFER REQUESTS: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve the recommendation of the Chief Officer of Administration to release the students from Aiken County to attend the out-of-district schools.
- B-3 REQUEST FROM AN INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AND EXCHANGE PROGRAM SEEKING APPROVAL TO PLACE FOREIGN STUDENTS IN DISTRICT SCHOOLS: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board recognize AFS-USA as eligible to request placements of foreign exchange students in Aiken district schools.
- B-4 CLARK AND CONCORDIA DONATION TO NORTH AUGUSTA MIDDLE SCHOOL, LBC MIDDLE SCHOOL AND PAUL KNOX MIDDLE SCHOOL – FY17: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve the Clark and Concordia donation to North Augusta Middle School, LBC Middle School and Paul Knox Middle School.
- B-5 SUBMISSION OF THE SUMMER READING CAMP COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP GRANT: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve the submission of the Summer Reading Camp Community Partnership Grant and the receipt of funds, if awarded.

B-6 SUBMISSION OF SC STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ARTS CURRICULAR INNOVATION GRANT APPLICATION BY EAST AIKEN SCHOOL OF THE ARTS – FY18: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve the submission of the application for the SC State Department of Education Arts Curricular Innovation grant for East Aiken School of the Arts and the receipt of funds, if awarded.

B-7 SUBMISSION OF THE FARMER'S INSURANCE DREAM BIG TEACHER CHALLENGE GRANT – AIKEN MIDDLE SCHOOL – FY18: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve the submission of the application for the SC State Department of Education Arts Curricular Innovation grant for East Aiken School of the Arts and the receipt of fund, if awarded.

Mr. Liner MOVED to approve items B-1 through B-7 (Item B-8 was removed from the agenda); SECONDED by Mrs. English; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS:

C-1 PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS: Mrs. English MOVED to approve lists of certified personnel for school year 2016-2017; classified personnel for school year 2016-2017; certified supplemental for school year 2016-2017; and classified supplemental for school year 2016-2017; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C-2 WAIVER REQUEST FOR BOARD POLICY IJOA (CHAPERONE RATIO FOR FIELD TRIPS): Mr. Samaha MOVED to provide a one-time waiver of Board Policy IJOA to allow the ratio of 15 to 1 students to chaperones adjust the number of chaperones to 105; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C-3 ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE FIVE-YEAR FACILITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN: Mr. Liner MOVED to approve the proposed Five-Year Facility Improvement Plan as presented; SECONDED by Mr. West; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS:

- Mr. Hightower discussed Board Sub-committees.

OFFICE OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT:

- POST-SECONDARY DATA PROTOCOLS: Mrs. Gina Bassford presented a power point presentation regarding Post-Secondary Data Protocols.

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: Appeals: One student appeal (Area 1); Contractual Matters: Initial legal briefing on two proposed contractual requests regarding charter schools; and Brief Verbal Legal Update: one litigation mediation matter and one employment security claim decision.

Mrs. English MOVED to enter Executive Session for the purpose as stated; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The regular session recessed at 8:08 p.m.

Executive session convened at 8:15 p.m.

Regular session resumed at 10:01 p.m.

Chairman Green announced while in executive session the Board considered, or received information concerning, the following matters: Appeals: One student appeal (Area 1); Contractual Matters: Initial legal briefing on two proposed contractual requests regarding charter schools; and Brief Verbal Legal Update: one litigation mediation matter and one employment security claim decision.

CONTRACTUAL ISSUES:

- CHARTER SCHOOL REQUESTS: No action necessary.

LEGAL BRIEFINGS:

- LEGAL BRIEFING: The Board received a legal update.

PERSONNEL ISSUES:

No items this meeting.

OFFICE OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT:

No items this meeting.

APPEALS:

- a. STUDENT APPEAL (AREA 1): The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a student in Area 1. Mr. Liner LOVED to uphold the recommendation of the Hearing Officer and expel the student for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year; SECONDED by Mr. West; MOTION carried on a vote of 5-3 (Mrs. English, Mr. Barber and Mr. Samaha opposed).

Mrs. English MOVED to adjourn the meeting; SECONDED by Mr. Mace; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting adjourned at 10:06 p.m.

Submitted by: Vicky Durden

APPROVED: