

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY
AIKEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 12, 2016

The Aiken County Board of Education met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 12, 2016, 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, Chief Officer for Operations
and Student Services
Mr. Tray Traxler, Comptroller
Mr. William Burkhalter, General Counsel
Dr. Cecelia Hewett, Chief Officer
for Administration
Mrs. Mattie Dillon, Interim Chief Officer
for Administration
Mr. King Laurence, Associate Superintendent
for Instruction
Mrs. Janice Kitchings, Executive Director
for Elementary School
Mrs. Laurie Reese, Executive Director
For Elementary School
Mrs. Joy Shealy, Executive Director
for Middle School
Dr. Tim Yarborough, Executive Director
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 Mrs. Laurie Reese.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the Regular Meeting on December 8, 2015; were presented for approval. Mr. Liner MOVED to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on December 8, 2015; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS

- Silver Bluff High School was recognized as AA Lower State Champions.
- Coach Al Lown was recognized for his many years of service to Aiken County Public Schools and Silver Bluff High School. Best wishes on his retirement.
- Midland Valley High School was recognized as AAA Lower State Champions.
- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Larry Fridle spoke regarding Founders of Aiken County and partnering with Aiken County Public Schools. Mr. Green MOVED to partner with Founders of Aiken County; SECONDED by Mr. Hightower; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- OFFICE OF BOARD CHAIRMAN

Chairman English gave a brief update on PEP Retreat and upcoming meetings. Chairman English reminded the Board of the Special Called Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 19, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of a budget work study.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

A-1 FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2015: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

A-2 DISTRICT CUSTODIAL PILOT PROGRAM: Augusta Janitorial Supply presented a power point presentation regarding District Custodial Pilot Program.

A-3 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Mr. Liner gave a brief update regarding Legislative issues.

CONSENT ITEMS:

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

- B-2 OUT-OF-DISTRICT TRANSFER REQUESTS: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve the students listed to be released from Aiken County to attend the out-of-district schools requested.
- B-3 ONLINE CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT SYSTEM: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve the five-year license agreement for Rubicon Atlas.
- B-4 CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 2 FOR THE NORTH AUGUSTA HIGH SCHOOL ADDITION PROJECT PHASE 1: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve Change Order Number 2 from H.G. Reynolds Company, Inc. credit in the amount of \$240,660.00.
- B-5 2015 INSTALLATION OF ALUMINUM BLEACHERS @ WAGENER-SALLEY HIGH AND SILVER BLUFF HIGH: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board authorize the Administration to accept the low bid of \$22,233.00 and enter into a contract with GT Grandstands, Inc. to install and deliver 2-sets each of aluminum bleachers to Wagener-Salley High and Silver Bluff High.
- B-6 DESIGN DEVELOPMENT PRESENTATION AND BUDGET FOR THE AIKEN HIGH SCHOOL ADDITION PHASE 2A PROJECT: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve the design development plans, specifications, and projected construction budget as presented and authorize the Architect to proceed with construction documents phase which is the final drawings and specifications for this project.

- B-7 UNIT PRICING BIDS FOR 2016 DISTRICTWIDE FENCING INSTALLATION: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board allow the administration to enter into a contract with Aiken Augusta Fence and Sitec, LLC to install or replace fencing as needed by the Construction Facilities Department.
- B-8 PUBLIC EDUCATION PARTNERS DONATION TO EARLY FAMILY LITERACY PROJECT – FY16: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve the \$4,250 donation to Aiken County Public Schools and adjustments to the FY16 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the award and expenditures.
- B-9 THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR THE CENTRAL SAVANNAH RIVER AREA AND THE BORDER BASH FOUNDATION GRANT TO MOSSY CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – FY16: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve The Community Foundation for the Central Savannah River Area and the Border Bash Foundation grant to Mossy Creek Elementary School and adjustments to the FY16 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the award and expenditures.

Mr. Green MOVED to approve items B-1 through B-9; SECONDED by Mr. Barber; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS:

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

C-2 AMENDMENTS TO POLICY ICA SCHOOLS CALENDAR – FINAL READING:
Mr. Liner MOVED to adopt on final reading the proposed amendments to Policy ICA – School Calendar; SECONDED by Mr. Green; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C-3 PRESENTATION BY HORSE CREEK ACADEMY: Mr. Hightower MOVED to accept the update as information only; SECONDED by Mr. Mace; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS:

No items this meeting.

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: Discussion and consideration of proposed changes to salary schedule classification and responsibilities for two categories of professional employees;
Student Appeals: three student appeals from Area 3; one from Area 2; and three from Area 1; and Legal Briefing: Update and discussion on two surplus real property.

Mr. Hightower MOVED to enter Executive Session for the purpose as stated; SECONDED by Mr. Green; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The regular session recessed at 8:47 p.m.

Executive session convened at 8:52 p.m.

Regular session resumed at 11:26 p.m.

Chairman English announced while in executive session the Board considered, or received information concerning, the following matters: Contractual Issues: Discussion and consideration of proposed changes to salary schedule classification and responsibilities for two categories of professional employees; Student Appeals: three student appeals from Area 3; one from Area 2; and three from Area 1; and Legal Briefing: Update and discussion on two surplus real property.

CONTRACTUAL ISSUES:

- DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO SALARY SCHEDULE CLASSIFICATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR TWO CATEGORIES OF PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES: No action necessary.
- CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED SALE OF PROPERTY: Mr. Mace MOVED to approve the recommended contract with the prospective buyer first negotiating with us and go forward with the finalizing the sale of the Area 2 office as outlined in its terms by the District's legal counsel; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

LEGAL BRIEFINGS:

- LEGAL BRIEFING: No action necessary.

PERSONNEL ISSUES:

No items this meeting.

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 3. 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. Green; MOTION failed on a vote of 4 – 4 (Mr. West, Mr. Atchley, Mr. Barber and Mr. Mace opposed). Mr. Mace MOVED to expel the student for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year; SECONDED by Mr. Atchely; MOTION carried on a vote of 5-3 (Mr. Green, Mrs. English and Mr. Hightower opposed). Mr. Liner MOVED to bring item F-5-A back for discussion; SECONDED by Mrs. English; MOTION carried on a vote of 6-1-1 (Mr. Atchley opposed and Mr. Green abstained). Mr. Liner MOVED to allow the student to attend the Center of Innovative Learning at Pinecrest on strict probation on long term assignment with counseling services; SECONDED by Mr. Hightower; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a high school student in Area 3. Mr. Hightower MOVED to allow the student to attend the Center of Innovative Learning at Pinecrest on strict probation and allow the Administration to determine length of assignment; SECONDED by Mr. Liner; MOTION carried on a vote of 6-2 (Mr. Barber and Mr. Atchley opposed).

- c. STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a high school student in Area 3. Mr. Mace MOVED to uphold the decision of the Tribunal and permanently expel the student from Aiken County Public Schools; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION carried on a vote of 7-0-1 (Mrs. English abstained).

- d. STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a middle school student in Area 2. Mr. Liner MOVED to uphold the decision of the Tribunal and expel the student for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year with this being the student's second expulsion; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION carried on a vote of 7-1 (Mrs. English opposed).

- e. STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a middle school student in Area 1. Mr. Atchley MOVED to return to school on strict probation; SECONDED by Mr. Liner; MOTION carried on a vote of 7-1 (Mr. Hightower opposed).

- f. STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a middle school student in Area 1. Mr. Atchley MOVED to allow the student to return to school on strict probation; SECONDED by Mr. Mace; MOTION carried on a vote of 7-1 (Mr. Hightower opposed).

- g. 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 2015-2016 school year; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION failed on a vote of 2-6 (Mr. Liner, Mr. Barber, Mr. Green, Mrs. English, Mr. Hightower and Mr. West opposed). Mr. Barber MOVED to allow the student to return to school on strict probation; SECONDED by Mr. Green; MOTION failed on a vote of 2 – 6 (Mr. Liner, Mr. Atchley, Mrs. English, Mr. Mace, Mr. Hightower, and Mr. West). 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. Green; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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: