

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY
AIKEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 13, 2015

The Aiken County Board of Education met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 13, 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. Richard Hazen
Mr. John Wesley Hightower
Mr. Keith Liner
Mr. Jeremy Mace
Mr. Ronnie West

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

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. Rosemary English.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the Regular Meeting on December 9, 2014; were presented for approval. Mr. Liner MOVED to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on December 9, 2014; SECONDED by Mr. West; MOTION carried on a vote of 7-0-2 (Mrs. English and Mr. Hazen abstained).

SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS

- Nigeria Williams was recognized for receiving the German American Chamber Trainee of the Year Award.

- S.C. Health Science Educators New Teacher of the Year was Ms. Teresa Hayden.

- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No requests this meeting.

- OFFICE OF BOARD CHAIRMAN

Chairman English 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.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A-1 DISTRICT GOALS AND UPDATE: Mr. Laurence presented a power point presentation regarding District Goals and Update.

- A-2 FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF AUGUST 31, 2014: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

- A-3 FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2014: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

- A-4 FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2014: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

- A-5 FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2014: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

- A-6 FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY CHANGE ORDER NOTIFICATION: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

- A-7 BOARD PR/COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE REVITALIZATION: Dr. Everitt gave a brief update regarding the Board PR/Communication Committee Revitalization.

- A-8 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: No update this meeting.

CONSENT ITEMS:

- B-1 RATIFICATION OF EXPULSIONS: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board ratify the expulsion of students not appealing this action.
- B-2 SUBMISSION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS (SCDDSN) GRANT FOR THE SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board approve the submission of the application for The South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs Grant for the Special Education Department and the receipt of funds, if awarded.
- B-3 TWO SUNSHINE HOUSE DONATIONS TO CHUKKER CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – FY15: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board approve the two Sunshine House donations to Chukker Creek Elementary School and adjustments to the FY15 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the award and expenditures.
- B-4 WALMART DONATION TO NORTH AIKEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ART DEPARTMENT – FY15: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board approve the \$1,500 Walmart donation to North Aiken Elementary School Art Department and adjustments to the FY15 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the award and expenditures.
- B-5 ROBERT MORGAN AND MAREE TARNOWSKA DONATION TO EAST AIKEN SCHOOL OF THE ARTS – FY15: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board approve the \$5,000 Robert Morgan and Maree Tarnowska donation to East Aiken School of the Arts and adjustments to the FY15 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the award and expenditures.

- B-6 POTASHCORP DONATION TO NORTH AUGUSTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – FY15: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board approve the \$5,000 PotashCorp donation to North Augusta Elementary School and adjustments to the FY15 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the award and expenditures.
- B-7 LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIVE COURSES FOR 2014-2015 (FROM 6/2/14 through 12/1/14): Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board approve the Local School Board Elective Courses (New) for 2014-2015 to date.
- B-8 ENVIRONMENTAL/GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES FOR AIKEN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board approve the engineering firm as provided by the Environmental/Geotechnical Engineering Screening Committee and authorize the Administration to negotiate a contract with the ranked firm for evaluating, designing and administering the Environmental/Geotechnical services and Chapter 17 inspections as needed annually over the next 5 years.
- B-9 CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT/CLERK OF THE WORKS DESIGN ASSISTANCE FOR CYCLIC MAINTENANCE PROJECTS DISTRICT-WIDE FOR AIKEN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board approve the ranked list of engineering firms as provided by the Construction Management/Clerk of the Works Screening Committee and authorized the Administration to negotiate a contract with the ranked firms for evaluating, designing and administering the construction Management/Clerk of the Works Projects as needed annually over the next 5 years.

B-10 MECHANICAL ELECTRICAL PLUMBING ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR HVAC PROJECTS DISTRICT-WIDE FOR AIKEN COUNTY PUBLIS SCHOOLS: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board approve the engineering firm as provided by the Mechanical Electrical Plumbing Engineering Screening Committee and authorize the Administration to negotiate a contract with Bufford Goff (BGA) being the top ranked firm for evaluating, designing and administering the construction of Mechanical Electrical Plumbing as needed annually over the next 5 years.

B-11 CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR PAVING/RESURFACING/EROSION CONTROL PROJECTS DISTRICT-WIDE FOR AIKEN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board approve the engineering firm as provided the Administration to negotiate a contract with Hass & Hildebrand, Inc., the top ranked firm for evaluating, designing and administering the construction of Pacing/Resurfacing/Erosion Control Projects or Civil Projects as needed annually over the next 5 years.

B-12 ROOF ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR ROOF PROJECTS DISTRICT-WIDE FOR AIKEN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board approve the ranked list of engineering firms as provided by the Roof Engineering Screening Committee and authorize the Administration to negotiate a contract with the ranked firms for evaluating, designing and administering the construction of Roof Projects as needed annually over the next 5 years.

Mr. Green MOVED to approve items B-1 through B-12; SECONDED by Mr. Hazen; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS:

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

C-2 POLICY ADF – WELLNESS – FINAL READING: Mr. Hightower MOVED to adopt on final reading the proposed Policy ADF on wellness; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS:

- Mr. Richard Hazen discussed Policy GCF regarding retiree rehires. Mr. Hazen MOVED to have the Administration review Policy GCF and bring back information regarding number of current retiree rehires and salaries; SECONDED by Mr. Liner; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- Mr. Wesley Hightower invited the Board and community members to Martin Luther King Essay Contest award presentation on January 25, 2015 at 2:30 p.m. at USCA Convocation Center.

OFFICE OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT:

Dr. Everitt gave a brief update on 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: Oversight Committee Considerations in view of third party contracts; Student Appeals as follow: one from Area 5; two from Area 4; one from Area 2; one from Area 3; and two from Area 1; Personnel matters: Consideration of potential impacts to District and certain employees of concerning changes to personnel contracts necessitated by proposed policy changes and one additional personnel issue; and Legal Briefing: one proposed contractual matter.

Mr. Barber MOVED to enter Executive Session for the purpose as stated; SECONDED by Mr. Mace; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The regular session recessed at 7:43 p.m.

Executive session convened at 7:48 p.m.

Regular session resumed at 10:04 p.m.

Chairman English announced while in executive session the Board considered, or received information concerning, the following matters: Contractual Issues: Oversight Committee Considerations in view of third party contracts; Student Appeals as follow: one from Area 5; two from Area 4; one from Area 2; one from Area 3; and two from Area 1; Personnel matters: Consideration of potential impacts to District and certain employees of concerning changes to personnel contracts necessitated by proposed policy changes and one additional personnel issue; and Legal Briefing: one proposed contractual matter.

CONTRACTUAL ISSUES:

- OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION: Mr. Hightower MOVED to approve the recommendation of the Administration of individuals to serve on the Oversight Committee; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

LEGAL BRIEFINGS:

- LEGAL BRIEFING: No action necessary.

PERSONNEL ISSUES:

- CONSIDERATION OF IMPACT TO DISTRICT AND CERTAIN EMPLOYEES CONCERNING CHANGES TO PERSONNEL CONTRACTS NECESSITATED BY PROPOSED POLICY CHANGE: No action necessary.
- CONSIDERATION OF CONTRACTUAL CHANGE RELATED TO SUPERINTENDENT: Mr. Green MOVED to accept the request of the Superintendent to be released from her employment contract as Superintendent of the District, effective July 31, 2015, for purposes of retirement; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

OFFICE OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT:

No items this meeting.

APPEALS:

- a. STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of an elementary school student in Area 5. Mr. Green MOVED to allow the student to return to school on strict probation; SECONDED by Mr. Liner; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a middle school student in Area 4. Mr. Hazen MOVED to uphold the decision of the Tribunal and expel the student for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year. Also included in the motion, the Administration will determine placement for the student prior to the 2015-2016 school year; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION carried on a vote of 8-1 (MR. Hightower opposed).

- c. STUDENT APPEAL: The Board will hold this appeal pending medical documentation.

- d. STUDENT APPEAL: The parent and student did not show for the appeal. 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. Atchley; MOTION carried on a vote of 8-0-1 (Mrs. English abstained).

- e. STUDENT APPEAL: The parent and student did not show for the appeal. Mr. Hightower MOVED to uphold the recommendation of the Administration and expel the student for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year; SECONDED by Mr. Mace; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- f. STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a middle school student in Area 1. Mr. Barber 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.

- g. STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a middle school student in Area 4. Mr. Hightower MOVED to allow the student to return to the Center of Innovative Learning at Pinecrest on strict probation and to finish long term assignment by the Tribunal; SECONED by Mr. Mace; MOTION carried on a vote of 6-3 (Mr. Atchley, Mr. Barber and Mr. Hazen opposed).

Mr. Hightower MOVED to adjourn the meeting; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting adjourned at 10:18 p.m.

Submitted by: Vicky Durden

APPROVED: