

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY
AIKEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2011

The Aiken County Board of Education met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, February 8, 2011, 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. Ray Fleming, Vice-Chairman
Dr. John A. Bass
Mr. Levi Green
Mr. Richard Hazen
Mr. John Wesley Hightower
Mr. Keith Liner
Mr. Dwight Smith
Mrs. Donna Moore Wesby

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Elizabeth Everitt, Superintendent
Mr. David Caver, Deputy Superintendent
Mr. William H. Burkhalter, Board Attorney
Mr. Tray Traxler, Comptroller
Dr. Cecelia Hewett, Associate Superintendent
for Administration
Mrs. Joy Shealy, Assistant Superintendent
for Area 1
Mrs. Peggy Trivelas, Assistant Superintendent
for Area 2
Dr. Tim Yarborough, Assistant Superintendent
for Area 3
Mrs. Janice Kitchings, Assistant Superintendent
for Area 4
Dr. Randy Stowe, Assistant Superintendent
for Area 5
Mrs. Vicky Durden, Administrative Assistant
To Board of Education

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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. Bill Burkhalter.

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 held on January 18, 2011, and minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 25, 2011, were presented for approval. Mr. Fleming MOVED to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 18, 2011, and minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 23, 2011; SECONDED by Mrs. Wesby; Mrs. Wesby noted several changes to the minutes for clarification; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS

- NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS: The Board recognized the National Board Certified Teachers of Aiken County.
- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No requests this meeting.

- OFFICE OF BOARD CHAIRMAN

Chairman English discussed several issues: SCSBA Work Study with Board on February 21, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.; SCSBA Annual Convention will be February 23 – 27, 2011; and forming an Ad HOC Board Committee on Advisory Councils' Roles and Responsibilities. Mr. Liner, Mr. Green, Mr. Smith, Mr. Hightower and Mrs. English agreed to participate in the Ad HOC Board Committee as discussed.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A-1 MID-YEAR UPDATE: Dr. O’Gorman gave a detailed overview of Mid-Year Update.
- A-2 AIKEN COUNTY CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER UPDATE: Mr. Brooks Smith gave a detailed overview of the Aiken County Career and Technology Center.
- A-3 BUDGET UPDATE: Mr. Traxler gave an overview of the budget. Mr. Hightower MOVED to have the administration review a cost free assessment from SCSBIT and bring information back to Board for further discussion; SECONDED by Mr. Liner; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Hazen had to leave the Board Meeting at 7:40 p.m. but returned at 8:56 p.m. prior to Executive Session.

CONSENT ITEMS:

- B-1 RATIFICATION OF EXPULSION: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board ratify the expulsion of students not appealing this action as submitted by Area Assistant Superintendents. ACTION ITEM: Update on student’s returning to school after being placed in the Alternative Program.
- B-2 ING UNSUNG HEROES GRANT APPLICATION – FY11: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board approve the submission of the ING Unsung Heroes grant application in the amount of \$25,000 for Aiken Middle School.

B-3 ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY COORDINATOR – NEW POSITION AND JOB DESCRIPTION: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board approve the position of Assistive Technology Coordinator and job description.

B-4 REVISION TO POLICY GCB – PROFESSIONAL STAFF CONTRACTS AND COMPENSATION ADDITIONAL READING: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board adopt the Policy GCB as revised, upon this additional reading.

Mr. Green MOVED to approve items B-1 through B-4 as recommended; SECONDED by Mr. Fleming; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS:

C-1 PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS: Mr. Fleming MOVED to approve lists of certified personnel for school year 2010-2011; classified personnel for school year 2010-2011; certified supplemental personnel for school year 2010-2011; and non-employee supplemental personnel for 2010-2011; SECONDED by Mr. Green; MOTION carried on a vote of 7-1 (Mr. Hightower opposed).

INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS:

- ADVISORY COUNCIL APPOINTMENT: Mr. Hightower MOVED to appoint Mr. Jeffery Thomas to the Area 3 Advisory Council; SECONDED by Mr. Fleming; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- Mr. Green announced the Discipline Committee, Tribunal and Administration will meet on Thursday, February 10, 2011 at the District Office at 4:30 p.m. to receive update on Tribunal Process.

- Mr. Fleming discussed the urgency to schedule a meeting to discuss and establish feedback from the Board for the Aiken County Legislative Delegation regarding numerous educationally-related bills currently pending before the state legislature. Mr. Fleming MOVED to schedule a Special Called Meeting on Wednesday, February 16, 2011, beginning at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose as stated; SECONDED by Mr. Hightower; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Dr. Bass stated he would not be receiving pay for this meeting.

OFFICE OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT:

- Superintendent Everitt gave a brief update on events in the District.

Chairman English announced the Board would need to have an executive session for the purpose of considering the following matters: Contractual Issues: Review of the District's Administrative Organizational Structure; Legal Briefing: Dismissal of a pending EEOC complaint; and a brief contractual issue; and Student appeals as follow: one from Area 1; one from Area 3; one from Area 5; and three from Area 4.

Mr. Green MOVED to enter Executive Session for the purpose as stated; SECONDED by Mr. Smith; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The regular session recessed at 8:54 p.m.

Executive session convened at 8:59 p.m.

Regular session resumed at 11:00 p.m.

Chairman English announced while in executive session the Board considered, or received information concerning, the following matters: Contractual Issues: Reviewed the District's Administrative Organizational Structure; Legal briefing: Dismissal of a pending EEOC complaint; and a brief contractual issue; and Student appeals as follow: one from Area 1; one from Area 3; one from Area 5; and three from Area 4.

CONTRACTUAL ISSUES:

- REVIEW OF THE DISTRICT'S ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE: No action taken.

LEGAL BRIEFINGS:

- LEGAL BRIEFING: No action necessary.

PERSONNEL ISSUES:

No items this meeting.

OFFICE OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT:

No items this meeting.

APPEALS:

F-5-a: STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a middle school student in Area 1. Mr. Fleming MOVED to uphold the decision of the Tribunal and expel the student for the remainder of the 2010-2011 school year; SECONDED by Mr. Smith; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

F-5-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 recommendation of the Administration and expel the student for the remainder of the 2010-2011 school year; SECONDED by Mr. Green; MOTION carried on a vote of 6-3 (Mrs. Wesby, Mr. Fleming, and Mr. Hazen opposed).

F-5-c: STUDENT APPEAL: The item was pulled on 2/8/11.

F-5-d: STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a high school student in Area 5. Mr. Green MOVED to uphold the decision of the Tribunal and expel the student for the remainder of the 2010-2011 school year. Also included in the motion was permission to enroll in the Adult Education Program; SECONDED by Mr. Hazen; MOTION carried on a vote of 8-0-1 (Mrs. Wesby abstained).

F-5-e: STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the guardian of a high school student in Area 4. Mr. Fleming MOVED to continue out of school suspension and direct administration to conduct an assessment to see if the student qualifies for special services. Also included in the motion the administration will make a recommendation to the Board if further disciplinary actions are needed; SECONDED by Mr. Hightower; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

F-5-f: STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a middle school student in Area 4. Mr. Green MOVED to uphold the decision of the Tribunal and expel the student for the remainder of the 2010-2011 school year; SECONDED by Mr. Liner; MOTION failed on a vote of 3-6 (Mr. Liner, Mrs. Wesby, Mr. Fleming, Mrs. English, Mr. Hazen and Mr. Hightower opposed). Mr. Fleming MOVED to allow the student to attend the Alternative Program on strict probation; SECONDED by Mrs. Wesby; MOTION carried on a vote of 7-2 (Dr. Bass and Mr. Green opposed).

F-5-g: STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a middle school student in Area 4. Mr. Fleming MOVED to rescind the ratification of expulsion and hear the student appeal; SECONDED by Mrs. English; MOTION failed on a vote of 2-7 (Mr. Liner, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Wesby, Dr. Bass, Mr. Hazen, Mr. Green, and Mr. Hightower opposed). Mr. Hightower MOVED to uphold the ratification of expulsion; SECONDED by Mr. Hazen; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Dr. Bass MOVED to adjourn the meeting; SECONDED by Mr. Hightower; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting adjourned at 11:18 p.m.

Submitted by: Vicky Durden

APPROVED: