

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY
AIKEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 24, 2015

The Aiken County Board of Education met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, March 24, 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
Mrs. Laurie Reese, Academic Officer
for Elementary School
Mrs. Janice Kitchings, 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 Mr. Keith Liner.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mr. Barber moved to add Contractual Item regarding Real Estate to Executive Session; SECONDED by Mr. Liner; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Chairman English stated if there were no objections the agenda would stand as amended.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the Special Called Meeting on March 3, 2015; and minutes of the Regular Meeting on March 10, 2015; were presented for approval. Mr. Hightower MOVED to approve the minutes of the Special Called Meeting on March 3, 2015; and minutes of the Regular Meeting on March 10, 2015; SECONDED by Mr. Green; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS

- Paul Knox Middle School and Aiken High School were recognized as District Academic Team Winners.
- Paul Knox Middle School was recognized a Future City Winners.
- Aiken County Spelling Bee Winner - Skylar Kernaghan was recognized.
- South Carolina Association of School Librarians' Awards: Marcia Beja, Intellectual Freedom Award and Faith Barber, Conference Scholarship Award Winners.
- Midland Valley High School 3A State Basketball Champions were recognized.

- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No requests this meeting.

- OFFICE OF BOARD CHAIRMAN

Chairman English reminded the Board of the Budget Work Study and Salary Schedule Progress Report scheduled for March 31, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. Middle School Athletic recognitions will be May 12, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

A-1 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORTS FOR THE NORTH AUGUSTA HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

A-2 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Mr. Liner gave a 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 transfer request as recommended by the Director of Administrative Services.

- B-3 2014-2015 TITLE I FOCUS FUNDS: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board to authorize the use of the Title I Focus funds and the implementation of the strategies for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years.
- B-4 2015 PAINTING OF AIKEN MIDDLE, NEW ELLENTON MIDDLE, MOSSY CREEK ELEMENTARY, MILLBROOK ELEMENTARY AND REDCLIFFE ELEMENTARY: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board authorize the administration to accept the bid of \$473,800.00 and enter into a contract with R.D. Brown Contractors, Inc. to paint Aiken Middle, New Ellenton Middle, Mossy Creek Elementary, Millbrook Elementary and Redcliffe Elementary.
- B-5 PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS, 2015-2016: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board approve the proposed meeting schedule of the Aiken County Board of Education for the 2015-2016 fiscal year.
- B-6 EPIDOC, LLC DONATION TO EAST AIKEN SCHOOL OF THE ARTS – FY15: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board approve the \$15,000 EPIDOC, LLC 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-7 SUNSHINE HOUSE DONATION TO CHUKKER CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – FY15: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board approve the Sunshine House donation to Chukker Creek Elementary School and adjustments to the FY15 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the award and expenditures.
- B-8 SALE OF SWITCH SURPLUS INVENTORY: Superintendent Everitt recommended the Board allow the Technology Department to sell the surplus switch inventory.

Mr. Green MOVED to approve items B-1 through B-8; SECONDED by Mr. Mace; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS:

- C-1 PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS: Mr. Atchley MOVED to approve lists of certified personnel for school year 2014-2015; certified personnel for school year 2015-2016; and classified personnel for school year 2014-2015; SECONDED by Mr. Green; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-2 NON-RENEWAL OF IDENTIFIED INDUCTION CONTRACT CERTIFIED PERSONNEL FOR 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR: Mr. Liner MOVED to accept the Superintendent's recommendation that the contracts of the employees shown on the attached list, all of whom are induction contracted employees, not be renewed for the 2015-2016 school, pursuant to Section 59-26-40 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-3 NON-RENEWAL OF IDENTIFIED ANNUAL CONTRACT CERTIFIED PERSONNEL FOR 2015-2016: Mr. Green MOVED to conditionally accept the Superintendent's recommendation that the contracts of the annual contract employees on the attached list not be renewed for the 2015-2016 school year, subject to the employees' appeal right pursuant to Section 59-26-40 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina; SECONDED by Mr. West; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-4 NON-RENEWAL OF IDENTIFIED CONTINUING CONTRACT CERTIFIED PERSONNEL FOR 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR: Mr. Liner MOVED to conditionally accept the Superintendent's recommendation that the contracts of those continuing contract employees shown on the attached list not be renewed for the 2015-2016 school year, subject to Board's duty to review the matter on the merits of a hearing pursuant to South Carolina law; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C-5 RE-EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED PERSONNEL, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS, FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR: Mr. Liner MOVED to accept the Superintendent's recommendations and authorize the re-employment of the certified employees shown on the attached list, subject to the conditions, stipulations, requirements, or qualifications set forth for the employees; SECONDED by Mr. West; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C-6 RE-EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED PERSONNEL FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR: Mr. Hightower MOVED to authorize and approve the re-employment for the 2015-2016 school year of all certified personnel presently under contract with the District not listed on any schedules included with companion agenda items being separately considered (with the exception of employees who have given formal notice of retirement or of their intent to resign for relocation or other personal reasons before the start of the 2015-2016 school year); SECONDED by Mr. Green; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS:

- ATHLETIC FACILITY COMMITTEE REPORT/POSSIBLE ACTION: Mr. Liner and Mr. Hazen discussed the Athletic Facility Committee Report. A meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 31, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. prior to the Special Called Board Meeting.

OFFICE OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT:

Dr. Everitt gave an 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: Student Appeals as follow: two from Area 1; and two from Area 3; Personnel Issue: Grievance Appeal; and Contractual Issue regarding Real Estate.

Mr. Atchley MOVED to enter Executive Session for the purpose as stated; SECONDED by Mr. Mace; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The regular session recessed at 8:40 p.m.

Executive session convened at 8:46 p.m.

Regular session resumed at 10:25 p.m.

Chairman English announced while in executive session the Board considered, or received information concerning, the following matters: Student Appeals as follow: two from Area 1; and two from Area 3; Personnel Issue: Grievance Appeal; and Contractual Issue regarding Real Estate.

CONTRACTUAL ISSUES:

- REAL ESTATE: Mr. Liner MOVED to move forward with gathering additional information regarding property proposal; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

LEGAL BRIEFINGS:

- LEGAL BRIEFING: No action necessary.

PERSONNEL ISSUES:

- GRIEVANCE APPEAL: Mr. Atchley MOVED to uphold the recommendation of the Superintendent and deny the request set forth in the grievance; SECONDED by Mr. Green; MOTION carried on a vote of 8-0-1 (Mr. Hightower abstained).

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

- c. STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a middle school student in Area 3. 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. Atchley; MOTION carried on a vote of 4-5 (Mr. Liner, Mr. Barber, Mr. Green, Mr. West and Mr. Hightower opposed). Mr. Barber MOVED to allow the student to attend the Center of Innovative Learning at Pinecrest on strict probation for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year; SECONDED by Mr. West; MOTION carried on a vote of 6-3 (Mr. Atchley, Mr. Mace and Mr. Hazen opposed).

- d. STUDENT APPEAL: This appeal was pulled by the Administration on 3-24-15.

- e. STUDENT APPEAL: The Board heard an appeal from the parent of a high school student in Area 3. Mr. Liner MOVED to uphold the decision of the Tribunal and expel the student for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year; SECONDED by Mr. Mace; MOTION carried on a voted of 8-1 (Mr. Barber opposed).

Mr. Mace MOVED to adjourn the meeting; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting adjourned at 10:33 p.m.

Submitted by: Vicky Durden

APPROVED: