

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY
AIKEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 18, 2017

The Aiken County Board of Education met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, April 18, 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. Jeremy Mace
Mr. Ahmed Samaha
Mr. Ronnie West

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
Mr. King Laurence, Chief Officer of Administration
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. Jeremy Mace.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the Special Called Meeting on March 21, 2017; and the Regular Meeting on March 28, 2017; were presented for approval. Mr. Hightower MOVED to approve the minutes of the Special Called Meeting on March 21, 2017; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Mr. Hightower MOVED to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on March 28, 2017; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION carried on a vote of 7-0-2 (Mrs. English and Mr. Hightower abstained).

SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS

- ACPSD Leadership Cohort was recognized. Mr. Sam Fueller spoke in regards to the Leadership Cohort.

- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No requests this meeting.

- OFFICE OF BOARD CHAIRMAN

- Chairman Green reminded Board Members about Two Days at the Capitol (2DAC) on Tuesday, April 25, 2017.

- Chairman Green also congratulated the District for receiving Full Accreditation from South Carolina Department of Education.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A-1 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Mr. Liner gave a brief Legislative Update.
- A-2 ENROLLMENT TRENDS RECOMMENDATIONS: Superintendent Alford spoke regarding recommendation by the committee on Enrollment Trends and other considerations.

School Start Times – Recommendations

Elementary Schools: 7:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. (7 hours of instruction)

Middle Schools: 8:00 a.m. – 3:10 p.m. (7 hours and 10 min. of instruction)

High Schools: 8:20 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (7 hours and 10 min. of instruction)

Byrd Elementary is in urgent need of four modular units due to full capacity. Administration recommends approval to proceed with purchasing the modular units for Byrd Elementary for the 2017-2018 school year. Mr. Liner MOVED to approve the purchase of four modular units for Byrd Elementary for the 2017-2018 school year; SECONDED by Mr. Mace; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Superintendent Alford also recommended hiring a firm to look at facilities regarding enrollment/facility use for 3, 5, and 10 years. The firm would also look at the following: demographics within areas (hard lines); demographics across specific areas: 1, 2 and 3; and comprehensive demographics for entire district. The Board gave their approval to proceed with recommendation.

- A-3 CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION – COTTON MILL CHARTER SCHOOL was moved to C-14 for public hearing and Board of Education discussion and pending action on application.

- A-4 FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY CHANGE ORDER NOTIFICATION: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.
- A-5 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORTS FOR THE NORTH AUGUSTA HIGH SCHOOL 2A & 2B ADDITION PROJECT: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.
- A-6 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORTS FOR THE LEVELLE MCCAMPBELL MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.
- A-7 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORTS FOR THE AIKEN HIGH SCHOOL PHASE 2A ADDITION PROJECT: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

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 POTASH DONATION TO BELVEDERE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – FY17: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve the \$1,500 Potash donation to Belvedere Elementary School and adjustments to the FY17 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the award and expenditures.

- B-4 PURCHASE OF C-CANS FOR AIKEN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS OPERATIONS CENTER: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board authorize the administration to enter into a contract with Touax Modular in the amount of \$29,700.00. The funding will come from the new Aiken County Operations Center account.
- B-5 ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY/ENGAGEMENT COLLABORATIVE GRANT – FY18: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve the Adult Education and Family Literacy/Engagement Collaborative Grant in the amount of \$17,980 and adjustments to the FY18 Special Revenue fund to reflect the amount of the award and the expenditures.
- B-6 BOB RICHARDS TOYOTA DONATION TO AIKEN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS – FY17: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve the \$2,000 donation to Aiken County Public Schools and adjustments to the FY17 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the award and expenditures.
- B-7 WOMEN'S STUDY CLUB OF RIDGE SPRING DONATION TO RSM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – FY17: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve the \$2,000 Women's Study Club of Ridge Spring donation to RSM Elementary School and adjustments to the FY17 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the award and expenditures.
- B-8 CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 1 FOR THE NEW LEAVELLE MCCAMPBELL MIDDLE SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve Change Order Number 1 at New Leavelle McCampbell Middle School Building Project from H.G. Reynolds Company, Inc. in the amount of \$305,940.00.

B-9 SOUTH AIKEN HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL STADIUM TOILETS & CONCESSIONS: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board authorize the Administration to accept the low base bid totaling \$693,544.00 and enter into a contract with J.E. Stewart Builders, Inc. for the South Aiken High School Football Toilets & Concessions with the funding coming from the Athletic account for Year 2017-2018.

B-10 PROJECT LEAD THE WAY LAUNCH GRANT TO HAMMOND HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – FY18: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve the \$7,500 Project Lead the Way Launch grant and adjustments to the FY18 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the award and expenditure.

B-11 PROJECT LEAD THE WAY LAUNCH GRANT TO NORTH AUGUSTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – FY18: Superintendent Alford recommended the Board approve the \$78,500 Project Lead the Way Launch grant and adjustments to the FY18 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the award and expenditure.

Mr. Liner MOVED to approve items B-1 through B-11; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS:

C-1 PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS: Mr. Liner MOVED to approve lists of certified personnel for school year 2016-2017; classified personnel for school year 2016-2017; certified personnel for school year 2017-2018; certified retiree rehariae personnel for school year 2017-2018; classified personnel for school year 2017-2018; and non-employee supplemental personnel for school year 2017-2018; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- C-2 POLICY CHANGES RELATED TO REORGANIZATION – FINAL READING: Mrs. English MOVED to adopt on final reading the following Policies: KE, IHCA, GDJ, JJE, JJIC and Administrative Rule JJIC-R, JICEA, and Administrative Rule JJA-R; SECONDED by Mr. Liner; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-3 CHANGES TO POLICY GBAA AND ADMINISTRATIVE RULE GBAA-R SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT – FINAL READING: Mrs. English MOVED to adopt on final reading Policy GBAA and Administrative Rule GBAA-R; SECONDED by Mr. Liner; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-4 CHANGES TO POLICY JI AND ADMINISTRATIVE RULE JI-R STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES – FINAL READING: Mrs. English MOVED to adopt on final reading Policy JI and Administrative Rule JI-R; SECONDED by Mr. Liner; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-5 CHANGES TO POLICY KF COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES – FINAL READING: Mrs. English MOVED to adopt on final reading Policy KF; SECONDED by Mr. Liner; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-6 NON-RENEWAL OF IDENTIFIED ANNUAL CONTRACT CERTIFIED PERSONNEL FOR 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR: No action necessary.
- C-7 NON-RENEWAL OF IDENTIFIED CONTINUING CONTRACT CERTIFIED PERSONNEL FOR 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR: Mr. Barber 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 2017-2018 school year, subject to the Board's duty to review the matter on the merits of a hearing pursuant to South Carolina law; SECONDED by Mr. Liner; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- C-8 NON-RENEWAL OF IDENTIFIED INDUCTION CONTRACT CERTIFIED PERSONNEL OF 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR: Mrs. English 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 2017-2018 school year, pursuant to Section 59-26-40 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina; SECONDED by Mr. Liner; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-9 RE-EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED PERSONNEL, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS, FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR: Mr. Mace MOVED to accept the Superintendent's recommendations and authorize the re-employment for the 2017-2018 school year 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. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-10 RE-EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED PERSONNEL FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR: Mr. West MOVED to authorize and approve the re-employment for the 2017-2018 school year of all certified personnel shown on the attached list (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 2017-2018 school year); SECONDED by Mr. Mace; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-11 DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE: Mr. Laurence presented a power point presentation regarding District Strategic Plan Update. Mr. Liner MOVED to approve the 2017 update to the District Strategic Plan 2014-19; SECONDED by Mrs. English; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-12 SELECTION OF EXTERNAL AUDITORS FOR THE FISCAL YEARS 2016-17 THROUGH 2020-21: Mr. Liner MOVED to authorize the District to contract with Elliott Davis, LLC for auditing services for fiscal years 2016-17 through 2020-21; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C-13 2017-2018 PRELIMINARY BUDGET: Mr. Traxler presented a power point presentation regarding the Preliminary Budget for 2017-2018. Mrs. English MOVED to approve the Preliminary Budget for 2017-2018 with the inclusion of an additional step to teacher scale (Step 25); and Phase 2 of service credit as presented; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Burkhalter declared the hearing of the Cotton Mill Charter School Application open:

C-14 CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION – COTTON MILL CHARTER SCHOOL: Ms. Doggett gave a detailed overview of the application for the Cotton Mill Charter School. Ms. Doggett fielded questions from Board members. Mr. Liner MOVED that the Board deny the application for the reason that applying the rubric for evaluating the overall application gives an indication of insufficiency in material areas that will be more fully explained to the Committee within the next ten days, but as have been generally articulated by several Board members during the deliberation this evening; SECONDED by Mr. Samaha; MOTION carried on a vote of 7-2 (Mr. Barber and Mr. Hightower opposed).

Mr. Burkhalter declared the hearing of the Cotton Mill Charter School Application closed.

INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS:

No items this meeting.

OFFICE OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT:

- SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE:
- Mr. Samaha spoke regarding the Junior Preview Day at USCA. The event was a success and thanked all that made it possible.
- Content Interventionist presented a power point presentation regarding successes and goals for Aiken County students.

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: Personnel: Consideration of Administrative Appointments as proposed employment contract matters; and Student Appeal: Student Appeal (Area 2).

Mr. Liner MOVED to enter Executive Session for the purpose as stated; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The regular session recessed at 7:41 p.m.

Executive session convened at 7:48 p.m.

Regular session resumed at 8:30 p.m.

Chairman Green announced while in executive session the Board considered, or received information concerning, the following matters: Personnel: Consideration of Administrative Appointments as proposed employment contract matters; and Student Appeal: Student Appeal (Area 2).

CONTRACTUAL ISSUES:

- Contractual Issue: Mr. Atchley MOVED to approve the new contractual agreement for continued services with Mr. William Burkhalter as Aiken County School District Legal Counsel for 2017-2018 school year; SECONDED by Mr. Limer; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

LEGAL BRIEFINGS:

- LEGAL BRIEFING: No items this meeting.

PERSONNEL ISSUES:

- ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS:
 - F-3-a: ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL AT J.D. LEVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: Mr. Mace MOVED to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent and appoint Sara Hyer, Assistant Principal of J.D. Lever Elementary School; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
 - F-3-b: ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL AT SCHOFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL: Mr. Mace MOVED to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent and appoint Kamar Lee, Assistant Principal of Schofield Middle School; SECONDED by Mr. Atchley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

OFFICE OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT:

No items this meeting.

APPEALS:

F-5-a: STUDENT APPEAL (AREA 2): The Board heard an appeal from the guardian of a student in Area 2. Mr. Liner MOVED to uphold the recommendation of the Hearing Officer and expel the student for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year; SECONDED by Mr. Mace; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Mace MOVED to adjourn the meeting; SECONDED by Mr. Liner; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting adjourned at 10:43 p.m.

Submitted by: Vicky Durden

APPROVED: