



Florence County School District Three
Board of Trustees
Board Minutes

District Office Board Room
Thursday, January 19, 2012
6:30 PM

In Attendance: Julia Mims, Paula Morris, Barbara Bryant, John Graham, Patsy McCutcheon, Richard Cook, Dianne Smith, and Amy McLean. Bernard McIntosh entered during the Special Recognition portion of tonight's meeting.

Absent: None.

Call to Order

Chair Dr. Julia Mims called the January 19, 2012 regular monthly meeting of the Florence County School District Three Board of Trustees to order. In accordance with the S. C. Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(d), as amended, the following have been notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting: Lake City News & Post and Lake City News and Shopper. This agenda is also posted on the Florence County School District Three website. A moment of silence was observed after which Chair Mims led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Richard Cook made the motion to approve the January 19, 2012 agenda as presented. Barbara Bryant provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion passed 8-0.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Paula Morris made a motion to accept tonight's consent agenda which includes A) the December 13, 2011 – Regular Monthly Board Meeting Minutes, B) Student Transfer Request, C) Certified Personnel Report, and D) 2 Facility Use Requests. John Graham provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion passed 8-0.

Communications to the Board

A. Board Chair Report

I. Report of Any Meetings Attended

Dr. Callicutt shared with board members and those present at tonight's meeting that he along with Bernard McIntosh, board member, and several district staff members and two principals attended the SCABSE conference in Myrtle Beach February 13-15, 2012.

II. Request to Attend Any Meetings

The SC School Board Association's Annual State convention will in Myrtle Beach, SC, February 23-26, 2012. The following board members have asked to attend: Julia Mims, Board Chair, Barbara Bryant, and John Graham. Vice Chair, Richard Cook, will also be attending as the SC School Board Association President.

Attendance to a national convention for a board member this year is for Patsy McCutcheon, who was eligible last year but switched with Paula Morris, who attended the National School Board Association Convention in San Francisco, CA, in April, 2011.

B. Special Recognition

➤ Perfect Attendance

Food Service operators, Transportation (Bus Drivers), and Maintenance Department employees are eligible to receive a perfect attendance incentive. Employees being recognized at tonight's meeting maintained perfect attendance from July 1, 2011 through December 16, 2011.

[Board Member, Bernard McIntosh, came in to join the meeting.]

Public Participation

No one signed up for this section of tonight's agenda.

Staff Reports

I. Monthly Budget Update – Donna D. Sullivan, Senior Director of Finance

Mrs. Sullivan shared with the board that all of the financial statements are available for viewing and all of the transparency reports are up to date as of December 31, 2011. Mrs. Sullivan also shared with the Board of Trustees that along with regular payroll checks on Friday, January 20, 2012 longevity pay will also be distributed. 31 certified employees and 38 classified employees will be receiving \$500 for an increment of 5 uninterrupted years of service for up to 20 years.

II. Update on Education Foundation – Yvonne Scott, Senior Director of Student Services

The committee met with Trip DuBard, Florence, South Carolina Area - Builder of Private Support for Public Schools. Board members received a handout as information of a program Mr. DuBard presented to the committee. With this program, anyone who would like to donate to the foundation, such as alumni, are given the opportunity to do so. As Dr. Callicutt commented, at the present time this committee is chaired by district personnel, however, in time this committee should be chaired by an outside source.

III. Report on Common Core Standards – Barbara Woodbury, Senior Director of Curriculum and Staff Development

The National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) and The Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) have released the Common Core State Standards for SY 2014-2015. These standards in ELA and Math have been developed to "define the knowledge and skills students should have to succeed in entry-level, credit-bearing, academic college courses and in workforce training programs." SC has adopted these standards. Only 5 states in the US have not yet adopted these standards. FCSD3 is in the process of studying and applying these standards to be ready for implementation for SY 2014-2015. This information is being shared with board members for the purpose of knowledge when attending educational conferences and this subject is talked about.

IV. Report from Main Street Elementary school on I-PADS – Angelia Scott, Principal of Main Street Elementary School

Angelia Scott shared with the FCSD3 Board Members a video that captured the students' excitement and enthusiasm having I-PADS available in the classrooms secured by Palmetto Priority funding. Instructional fees are used to purchase applications. Mrs. Scott explained to board members that these I-PADS are not taking the place of good solid instruction but being used as a tool to enhance instruction for all students. MSE hopes to 1) increase student engagement, 2) create flexible learning environments, 3) reduce transition times (such as moving classes to the computer lab), and 4) allow for instantaneous feedback between students and teachers.

Superintendent's Report

I. Ronald E. McNair Middle School Single-Gender Showcase – Friday, January 20, 2012

Each board member should have received an invitation to attend the Statewide Single-Gender Showcase being hosted by our own Ronald E. McNair Middle School. Ronald E. McNair Middle School was selected by the state as a result of their great success in implementing this instructional approach within their school. They have been and continue to chart the academic and behavioral progress of the students participating in this approach. State Department of Education officials will be in attendance as well as school representatives from all over the state of South Carolina.

II. Efforts to Recruit Minorities

What has been done in the past? The district has participated in recruitment fairs at the following schools:

<i>USC</i>	<i>College of Charleston</i>
<i>FMU</i>	<i>SC State</i>
<i>Charleston Southern</i>	<i>Coastal Carolina</i>
<i>Winthrop</i>	

What are we doing now? We will still participate in these recruitment fairs but we will add Claflin and any other predominantly black colleges and universities that may have a significant number of education related graduates. Once we receive our letter of intent from our present employees in February, we will have a much better idea of just what areas of certification we may need along with the numbers of new teachers we will need for next school year. While we will not hire someone solely based on their race, we must be and will be sensitive to the balance of diversity within our district. We desire for all races to have positive role models within our schools. We also will strive to get more of our own students of all races to consider education as a professional (calling).

My job is to foster the development of all professional candidates within our district with an eye on ensuring quality and equity.

This past weekend I attended and encouraged staff to attend the South Carolina Black Educators conference with 2 goals in mind:

- 1) What can we learn from others about better educating our students? (In particular black males)*
- 2) Look to make contact with prospective employees and sell our district.*

I also am utilizing my contacts developed over 37 years in various school districts in an attempt to attract more quality black applicants for positions within our district.

Share ethnic report representing hiring since July 1st, 2012: (the day I officially began)

We will continue to chart our progress in this area while keeping our eye on the bigger picture – better educational opportunities for all of our students.

III. SUGGESTION BOXES

We have surveyed all of our schools to determine how many were utilizing suggestion boxes to provide an avenue for feedback on improving our schools. All of our elementary schools have suggestion boxes. When they receive suggestions, they normally share with the administration, faculty, and School Improvement Council. Of our three (3) secondary schools only J. Paul Truluck has utilized a suggestion box. The other 2 secondary schools indicate that their School Improvement Council is utilized as the primary source for community suggestions.

IV. BUDGET PROCESS FOR 2012-2013

We have begun preparing for the budget development process for 2012-2013. Over the next few weeks I will be meeting with district office administrators and each individual principal to seek their input on what resources are needed to meet the goals we have established for ourselves under the umbrella of our strategic plan. Also, work has begun to write legislation that we can present to our legislative delegation that could provide us with a degree of fiscal autonomy. The success or failure of this legislation will have a direct impact on our budget calendar and our budget development. If things develop as we hope they will. Our board would have at least two public readings of the budget with the option of additional public hearings if deemed necessary before final approval is given to the operational budget.

FYI – In South Carolina out of 86 school districts:

- *21 have total fiscal autonomy*
- *14 have limited fiscal autonomy*

Only 4 districts out of 86 still have Town meetings to approve the budget. They are:

- *Florence Cty School District #5 – Johnsonville*
- *Florence Cty School District #4 – Timmons ville*
- *Florence Cty School District #3 – Lake City*
- *Florence Cty School District #2 – Pamplico*

Hopefully, we can be successful in our attempt to get new legislation, and we will keep our community informed and involved as the board works to approve our operational budget.

V. Report on public screening of “Waiting for Superman”

Approximately 50 people attended this viewing at the Lake City Bean Market Museum which included board members, Dr. Julia Mims, Richard Cook, Dianne Smith, Patsy McCutcheon, and Barbara Bryant.

VI. Update on Board Policy Revisions

Most committees are sharing revisions, suggestions, and concerns electronically before bringing policies to the board for 1st reading. Any revised policy will need 2 readings of approval by the Board of Trustees.

Action Items

- I. Policy JCDA "Tobacco Use by Students" – 1st Reading
- II. Policy GAMA "Tobacco-Free Schools/Staff" – 1st Reading

Richard Cook made the motion to accept Policy JCDA and Policy GAMA as presented. John Graham provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. This motion passed 9-0.

Executive Session

Richard Cook made the motion to go into executive session to discuss the Superintendent's contract. Paula Morris provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. This motion passed 9-0.

Action Taken during Executive Session

John Graham made the motion to come out of executive session. Paula Morris provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members voted in favor of this motion. This motion passed 9-0.

Barbara Bryant made the motion that the Board of Trustees extend the contract of Dr. Keith Callicutt for an additional year on the same terms and conditions as contained in the employment agreement entered into by the Board and Dr. Callicutt in June 2011. John Graham provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. This motion passed 9-0. Dr. Callicutt's contract with FCSD3 will expire in June 2013.

Public Comment – To comment on items that appeared on the agenda.

No comments were expressed during this portion of the January board meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Richard Cook made the motion to adjourn. John Graham provided the second for this motion. All board members voted in favor of this motion. The motion passed 9-0.

Date approved

Julia Mims, Chair

Shelia Knotts, Recording Clerk

Dianne C. Smith, Secretary