



Florence County School District Three
Board of Trustees Meeting
District Office Board Room
Thursday, January 20, 2011
6:00 PM

In Attendance: David Eaddy, Dianne Smith, Richard Cook, Gracie Hannah, Patsy McCutcheon, Bernard McIntosh, Paula Morris, Kimberly Sims, and Amy McLean.

Absent: None.

Notice to Media:

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 Morning News.

Call to Order

Chairman David Eaddy called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees held January 20, 2011 to order. A moment of silence was observed after which Chairman Eaddy led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Paula Morris made the motion to approve the January 20, 2011 agenda as presented. A second was provided by Richard Cook. This motion was passed unanimously. The approved agenda contained a consent agenda of the following items: (1) Minutes from the December 14, 2010 Regular Board Meeting; (2) Monthly Financial Report; (3) a Field Trip request; and (4) a Facility Use request.

Communications to the Board

1) Special Recognition

- a. Junior Scholars – Superintendent Wright shared the Junior Scholars program is the first time students have to earn potential scholarship opportunities. This program is in conjunction with Francis Marion University and the PSAT program, which also reaps other benefits to our students. Depending upon scores, Clemson University will pay students way to certain summer camps at the Clemson University campus. Seven students were recognized with top scores by Board Member Amy McLean along with Senior Director of Accountability, Laura Hickson. J. Paul Truluck Middle School, Guidance Counselor, Evelyn Kitt-Wilson, and Principal, Ned Blake presented certificates to Matthew Haines, Christian Luna, and John Rogers. Aden Cheek and Elijah McCutcheon were not present at tonight's meeting. Ronald E. McNair Middle School, Principal, Margie Myers presented certificates to Jenna Ann Lynch, and Megan Noel Parrott.
- b. Taste of Lake City winners – During the December festivities with Lake City was the Taste of Lake City competition, the District was happy to announce the winner of this competition was the Lake City High School (LCHS) Culinary Arts class. Coco Floyd (Culinary Arts Teacher), Don Navorska (Food Services Supervisor), Kathy Fridl with Foodscapes Restaurant and Deborah Altman representing Florence District Three on the Lake City Chamber of Commerce Board were present to help recognize the following students: Terrell Gamble, Quinston Hanna, DeAsija Eaddy, Tacoryia Mason, Lexus Ransom, Cassie Matthews, Briasha Pratt, and Khadejah Washington.

2) Board Chairman's Report

As part of School Board Appreciation month, each board member was presented with a Panther Blanket by principals of the district in recognition of their contribution to the students, staff, and communities of Florence District Three.

- a. *Report of Meetings Attended by Individual Members* – Richard Cook shared the news from the Legislative conference. The State is looking at a \$1.5 billion deficit. This will equate to 10 to 20% cuts before the end of this school year. Bernard McIntosh also shared he had attended the South Carolina Alliance of Black School Educators in Myrtle Beach.
- b. *Requests to Attend Meetings* – None to report.
- c. *Facilities Visits by Trustees* – Paula Morris visited Main Street Elementary (MSE) on January 19, 2011 where she was escorted by 4 students and Mr. Jerry State. Later that day in her own afterschool program, Mrs. Scott, MSE Principal, had snacks delivered to all her children. Patsy McCutcheon visited Scranton Elementary School (SES) where she sat in on a cluster meeting as part of the TAP program. Mrs. McCutcheon commented on the wonderful information that is being shared to be sure that children's academic needs are being met in each classroom. Kimberly Sims visited J. Paul Truluck Middle School (JPTMS). Three students escorted her around the school. She was able to visit the data wall again and see how the wall had been "brought up a notch." Amy McLean will be visiting Ronald E. McNair Middle School (REMMS) tomorrow, 1/21/2011. She also attended the J. C. Lynch Elementary School's presentation of Frosty the Snow Man. David Eaddy visited Olanta Elementary School where he "tagged around" with the 1st grade class. Gracie Hannah visited the LifeLong Learning Center campus. She toured the Alternative Center for Education facilities. Dianne Smith will be visiting J. C. Lynch Elementary School on Friday, 1/21/2011. Bernard McIntosh will visit Lake City Elementary before the month of January is out.

As requested, the two dates for the Ben Ziegler workshops have been confirmed. Wednesday, February 2, 2011 a workshop will be held here at the Florence District Three Staff Development Room, and Monday, February 7, 2011 a workshop will be held at the Florence County School District #2 (Hannah-Pamlico) district offices. A reminder of this meeting will be sent to board members.

Mr. Eaddy reminded board members again of the State Ethics report due April 15, 2011. This is an annual report required of all trustees that must be completed online. The website is provided at the bottom of the agenda.

3) Superintendent's Report

a. *SC Benefits Bank*

Yvonne Scott, Senior Director of Student Services is coordinating the district's effort to assist parents of students in our schools. The SC Benefits Bank is a free service available at local sites. Florence District Three has become a local site for this service. Presently, Florence District Three has 20 staff members trained to help individuals see if they can qualify for any of the following services: Food Assistance, Medical Benefits, and Student Aid. Once the applications are submitted, individuals will be able to receive a Quick Check online to see eligibility for all programs available simultaneously.

The school sites will not serve to assist in tax preparation and/or filing purposes through the SC Benefits Bank. However, the district's Technology Center will be available for any individual to access this service using their own individual login and password acquired through one of our trained staff members.

b. *OEC Peer Trainers*

Juanita Wilson, Senior Director of the Office of Exceptional Children, and her two staff members have been awarded the opportunity to be trainers to evaluate the transitional services for other districts. Florence District Three's Office of Exceptional Children's program is one of the few in South Carolina to receive 100% in all categories audited by the State Department.

c. District Grant Awards

The Superintendent shared some of Florence District Three's recent grant awards.

J. Paul Truluck Middle Elementary School received the Lowe's Toolbox for Education grant for \$4,100. This grant has been awarded to fund the Panther Parents involved in Education (PIE), a parent center. Principal Ned Blake provided an overview of the grant's outline and purpose.

Lake City Elementary School received a \$2,000 grant from the Center of Excellence. Dr. Linda Robinson and Tonyelle Thomas wrote the grant, which is centered around the "Seven Habits of Happy Kids" by Sean Convey.

d. Other comments

Superintendent Wright reminded board members that the Longevity payroll was distributed this month. As an update, this is pay received by employees who have been in the district for 5, 10, 15, and 20 years consecutively. These payouts come in \$500 increments at each completion of a 5 year period. During the January 2011 longevity payout, 26 certified and 39 classified employees received this compensation. The question was asked about how many in each of the 5 year categories were given. Mrs. Wright will provide this information at the next board meeting.

As previously shared by Superintendent Wright, the WIA One Stop grant is officially coming to a close in Florence County. A formal announcement has now been received with an ending date of April 30, 2011 for the One Stop office and its seven employees. If positions in Florence District Three are open, employees with the One Stop office will be given the opportunity to interview for these positions. The State Department of Commerce will now be taking a regional approach to One Stop services which they have previously begun in counties like Williamsburg experienced last year. At present the Youth Services grant will remain in Lake City under the auspices of the district while funding remains.

Mrs. Wright stated that Letters of Intent have gone out to employees of Florence District Three. If all funding and positions remain the same, Florence District Three would be able to offer these positions to those individuals who sign their intent to be come back next school year. Information is also gained through the Letters of Intent regarding employees who may be

working on an additional degree and/or hours that may impact funding levels for budget purposes.

New Business***1) Budget Calendar for SY 2011-2012***

The calendar for budget planning for SY 2011-2012 was presented to board members. Richard Cook made the motion to approve this calendar as presented. Kimberly Sims provided the 2nd for this motion. All board members voted in favor of this motion.

2) Ronald E. McNair 25th Commemorative activities

A calendar of events for the activities during the week of January 24, 2011 commemorating the 25th anniversary of the life of Dr. Ronald E. McNair was provided to Trustees. Mrs. Barbara Woodbury, Senior Director of Curriculum and Instruction invited all board members to be a part of this week-long event. Activities include a portable Planetarium, a representative from NASA who will be in all our schools providing scientific lessons to students, Science South presentations, science, art, and literary competitions as some of the events. A parade will be on January 28, 2011 at 5:00 pm. If any board members would any specific details, please do not hesitate to call the district office or Mrs. Wright.

Public Comment

The following individuals addressed the Board of Trustees during public comment: Betty McKenzie, Ron Bowser, Gloria Tisdale, Jean Gregg, and Marion Fowler.

Executive Session

Richard Cook made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss the Superintendent's contract. Amy McLean seconded the motion which was passed unanimously.

Action Taken on Matters Discussed in Executive Session:

After discussion of the Superintendent's contract, Richard Cook made the motion to come out of Executive Session. Paula Morris provided the 2nd for this motion which was passed unanimously. Kimberly Sims made the motion to accept the Superintendent's letter requesting no action be taken concerning the extension of her contract. Bernard McIntosh provided the 2nd for this motion. David Eaddy, Dianne Smith, Kimberly Sims, Richard Cook, Bernard McIntosh, Patsy McCutcheon, Gracie Hannah, and Amy McLean voted in favor of this motion. Paula Morris voted against this motion. The motion passed 8-1.

Adjourn

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, Patsy McCutcheon made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Richard Cook seconded the motion which was passed unanimously.

Date approved

David Eaddy, Chairman

Shelia Knotts, Recording Clerk

Kimberly Sims, Secretary