

CCSD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board Meeting

September 25, 2017

75 Calhoun St., Charleston, SC 29401

Minutes

A meeting of the Charleston County School District Board of Trustees was held on Monday, September 25, 2017, in the board room at 75 Calhoun Street.

The following CCSD board members were present: Mrs. Kate Darby – Chair, Rev. Eric Mack – Vice Chair, Mrs. Cindy Bohn Coats, Rev. Chris Collins, Mr. Todd Garrett, Mr. Kevin Hollinshead, Mrs. Priscilla Jeffery, Mr. Michael Miller, Mr. Chris Staubes, and Dr. Gerrita Postlewait, Superintendent of Schools and Executive Secretary.

The following staff members were present: Mrs. Cynthia Ambrose, Mr. Jeff Borowy, Mr. Bill Briggman, Mr. John Cobb, Ms. Natalie, Mrs. Michele English-Watson, Mrs. Terri Nichols, Mr. Glenn Stiegman, Mrs. Erica Taylor, Dr. Joseph Williams, and Mr. Kim Wilson.

The news media was duly notified of the meeting and representatives were present.

Mrs. Darby called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m. Then she called for a motion to convene into Executive Session.

Mrs. Coats moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to go into Executive Session to discuss the following agenda items. It was noted that agenda item #5.1C - Engagement of the Clemson University Office of Inclusion and Equity to conduct a Diversity and Cultural Competence Assessment and Develop Recommendations would also be discussed during Executive Session. The motion was approved by consensus.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

4:30 p.m.

- I. 1.1 Home School Application**
- 1.2 Receipt of Legal Advice related to matters covered by attorney-client privilege pursuant to §30-4-70-(a)(2)**
 - 1. Contractual Matters**
 - 2. Personnel Matters**
- 1.3 Discussion of Student Transfer Requests pursuant to §30-4-7—(a)(2)**
(Note: None submitted as of 9/19/17)

OPEN SESSION

Immediately following Executive Session

Approximately 5:15 p.m.

- II. Call to Order**
Mrs. Darby called Open Session to order at 5:20 p.m. Then, she called for a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. Adoption of Agenda/Approval of Consent Agenda Items**
Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to adopt the September 25, 2017 with one amendment (moving 5.1C to Executive Session). The vote was 9-0.
- IV. Approval of the Minutes**

- 4.1 **A. Open Session Minutes – July 17, 2017**
Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mrs. Coats, to approve the July 17, 2017 minutes and financial impact statement. The vote was 9-0.
- B. Open Session Minutes – Special Called Meeting - July 27, 2017**
Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mrs. Coats, to approve the July 27, 2017 minutes and financial impact statement. The vote was 9-0.
- C. Open Session Minutes – Special Called Meeting – August 14, 2017**
Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mrs. Coats, to approve the August 14, 2017 minutes and financial impact statement. The vote was 9-0.
- D. Open Session Minutes – Special Called Meeting – August 22, 2017**
Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mrs. Coats, to approve the August 22, 2017 minutes and financial impact statement. The vote was 9-0.
- E. Open Session Minutes – Special Called Meeting – September 1, 2017**
Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Rev. Mack, to approve the September 1, 2017 minutes and financial impact statement. The vote was 7-0-2 (Coats and Miller abstained).

V. APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS

- 5.1 **A. September 18, 2017 - Executive Session**
 - 1.1 Student Placement Decision**
 - 1. Mrs. Coats moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to overturn a principals' decision and allow the student to remain at their current school. The vote was 9-0.
 - 2. Mrs. Coats moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to review all magnet school applications and continuation policies, plans, and processes. The vote was 8-0-1 (Collins abstained).
- B. September 25, 2017 – Executive Session**
 - 1.1 Home School Request**
Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mrs. Coats, to approve a home school request. The vote was 9-0.
 - 1.3 Student Transfer Request**
No action was taken.
- C. Engagement of the Clemson University Office of Inclusion and Equity to conduct a Diversity and Cultural Competence Assessment and Develop Recommendations**
Mrs. Coats moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to direct staff to enter a contract with Clemson University Office of Inclusion and Equity to conduct a Diversity and Cultural Competence Assessment and develop recommendations in the 2018-19 school year. The vote was 9-0.
- D. Executive Session Item – 8/14/17 Transportation**
Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to authorize staff to negotiate a modification of the contract with the student transportation service contract with the vendor. The vote was 6-3 (Coats, Garrett, and Staubes opposed).
- E. Personnel**
No action was taken.

VI. Special Recognitions

- 6.1 **A. South Carolina School Board Association Boardmanship Institute Recognition**
Mr. Kevin Hollinshead and Ms. Priscilla Jeffery were recognized for completion of Level 1 of the SCSBA's Boardmanship Institute.

Ms. Cindy Coats was recognized by SCSBA for completion of Level 3 of the SCSBA's Boardsmanship Institute.

B. Other

Ms. Erica Taylor, Chief Strategy and Communications Officer, was recognized for being one of 17 professional and civic leaders from across South Carolina that has been selected to participate in the SC Policy Fellowship for 2017-2018.

VII. Visitors/Public Comments

1. Ms. Kristen French expressed concerns about the closure of Garrett Academy and some students not having access to trade programs while the new center is being built.
2. Ms. Carol Tempel asked the board not to close Garrett Academy. She also asked the board to build the new school on the current campus.
3. Mr. Jesse Williams spoke about the petition for Garrett Academy. He urged the board to not approve the recommendation from staff to place the North Charleston CAS at North Charleston HS.
4. Mr. Kristifer Randall said closing Garrett Academy was a bad idea. He suggested staff consider just updating the current facility.
5. Ms. Julia Eichelberger, a Charleston Area Justice Ministry representative, congratulated the board on the PBIS pilot program. She stressed the importance of funding to back program and suggested restorative practice training for all CCSD schools.
6. Mr. Patrick Hayes expressed concerns about administration, outstanding Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, Special Education and other things.
7. Ms. Allison Mackey addressed the Board on behalf of teachers and others who want to see a change in district leadership. She spoke about the budget, information shared about Burns and Sanders Clyde, and failed communication.
8. Mr. Marvin Pendarvis read a letter he sent earlier to the board about the North Charleston CAS proposal. He urged the board to not close Garrett Academy but build a new facility at the current site.
9. Dr. Jon Hale, a Quality Education Project member, spoke about a petition that is circulating to keep Garrett Academy open. He urged the board to consider the petition. Also, he spoke about the law as it relates to school choice and private schools and how it is segregating schools. He urged the board to abolish school choice and public private education.
10. Dr. Kendall Deas spoke about leadership and Garrett Academy. He suggested Garrett Academy remain open and that no action be taken on the North Charleston CAS proposal until input is received from the community.

VIII. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Gerrita Postlewait – Superintendent of Schools

8.1 A. Superintendent's Report

1. 2017-18 Updates – Cindy Ambrose, Jeff Borowy, Reginald McNeil

Start of School Recap –

- Mr. Borowy highlighted work that was done over the last few months.
- Mr. Reginald McNeil shared information on school openings—New, Renovated, Expansions, etc.

2. October Annual Reports and Strategic Planning Meetings

- ACT information will be shared with Board members soon after the embargo is lifted
- MAP data has been reviewed; Staff will look at performance and growth
- CCSD results will be presented at an upcoming Strategic Education meeting
- The State Accountability System is new; staff will investigate to see what it means for CCSD
- Pilot programs and Strategies identified last year are being considered
- Information was provided on maintenance work orders
- The Transportation Update provides information about the online process
- Emergency Training for School Resource Officers
- Nutrition Services reported that the number of lunches provided daily has increased
- Information Technology - Smart Boards are being replaced with Promethean Boards and security was upgraded because of malware

3. Reading selection for discussion in October: *School District Leadership that Works*

4. Other – Strategic Plan –

- Meetings are being held with school staff and central staff
- Invitations were extended to anyone interested
- Dates for upcoming Constituent Boards Annual Reports were provided

- Dates for Strategic Plan meetings were shared
 - About the schedule included in the board agenda packet, Dr. Postlewait asked the board to set aside the following times:
 - November 13th – Presentation of Strategic Plan recommendations
 - October 13th – Operations Workshop, Choice School, and School District Leadership That Works

IX. 9.1 A. Fund Balance Restoration and FY-18 Budget Revision

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Rev. Mack, to approve the 2017-2018 operating budget revision. The vote was 7-2 (Coats and Miller opposed).

X. COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

Policy & Personnel Committee

10.1 A. Policy GDCFB – Clearance Standards for Classified Staff (First Reading)

Mrs. Coats moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett to approve the first reading of Policy GDCFB with proposed changes. The vote was 9-0.

Rev. Collins asked that third bullet say "...it would be done on a case by case basis".

Operations Committee

**10.2 A. Executive Session Item – 8/14/17
Transportation – See agenda item 5.1D**

B. North Charleston Center for Advanced Studies Plan

Mrs. Coats moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to approve the recommendation to build the Center for Advanced Studies for the north area that was approved on the 2014 ballot referendum at North Charleston High School site. The vote failed 6-2 (Collins, Hollinshead, Jeffery, Mack, Miller, and Staubes opposed; Coats and Darby supported the motion; Garrett was not present at the time of the vote).

Mr. Hollinshead moved, seconded by Rev. Collins, to delay the North Charleston Center for Advanced Studies (CAS) vote to allow time to convene an advisory committee to include elected officials of North Charleston, the three elected North Charleston Board members to discuss the CAS program in N. Chas. The three representatives will submit a recommendation by October 19. This matter will be placed on the October 23 board agenda for action. The vote was 8-0 (Garrett was absent).

C. Information regarding programming for North Charleston Center for Advanced Studies

Mr. Rich Gordon responded to Board questions about current programs at Garrett and proposed programs for the North Charleston CAS.

Other Business

10.3 A. 2017-2018 Committee of the Whole Meeting Proposal - Mack, Coats, Darby, Jeffery, and Staubes

Mrs. Coats moved, seconded by Mrs. Jeffery to approve the recommendation to relocate four Committee of the Whole meetings. The vote was 8-0.

B. Board Member Request to Attend Conference

Rev. Collins suggested the board delay the vote on his request to attend a conference.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Note: These items were approved with the approval of the 9/25/17 Board Agenda.

XI. 11.1 A. Executive Session Items – 8/14/17

Operations Committee

1. Lease Guarantee – The board approved a recommendation to approve guarantee of lease.

Policy & Personnel Committee

2. Health Advisory Committee Appointees – The board approved #1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 for HAC positions

Other Agenda Items

XII. 11.1 Upcoming Meetings

10/9/17 – Committee of the Whole Meeting at Baptist Hill HS, starting at 10:00 a.m.

XIII. Adjournment