

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charleston County School District was held on Monday, June 10, 2013, in the Board Room at 75 Calhoun Street with the following members of the Board present: Mrs. Cindy Bohn Coats – Chair, Mr. Craig Ascue - Vice Chair, Mr. John Barter, Rev. Chris Collins, Mr. Tom Ducker, Mr. Chris Fraser, Mr. Todd Garrett, Mr. Michael Miller, Mrs. Elizabeth Moffly, and Dr. Nancy J. McGinley, Superintendent and Executive Secretary. Staff members Mr. Michael Bobby, Mr. John Emerson, Dr. Lisa Herring, Dr. Brenda Nelson, Mrs. Ericka Taylor, and Mr. Padron were also in attendance.

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

At 4:00 p.m., Mrs. Coats called the meeting to order. Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to go in Executive Session to discuss the following agenda items. The motion was approved by consensus.

1.1: Student Transfer Appeals received May 23- June 4, 2013

1.2: Out of County Student Appeal

1.3: Renewal of Administrative Contracts for FY2013-2014

1.4: Memminger School of Global Studies

1.5: Memminger School of Global Studies

1.6: Principal Appointment – Mitchell Elementary School

1.7: Legal Update – Mr. John F. Emerson, General Counsel

OPEN SESSION 5:15 p.m.

II. CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Coats called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Then she called for a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to adopt the June 10, 2013 agenda with the modifications shown below. The vote was 9-0.

- Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser to change agenda item 11.1C Memminger School of Global Studies IB Proposal to information and place it on June 24th meeting agenda. Rev. Collins recommended an amendment to have the item return to the Board as an action item to include the history, minutes, etc. However, Mr. Garrett refused the amendment.
- Mr. Fraser agreed to change item to information and place on June 24th meeting agenda and bring it back to the Board as an action item to include the history, minutes, etc.
- Mr. Ascue moved, seconded by Rev. Collins to move 10.1A to end of agenda and move 11.1 A and 11.1B up after committee reports.

IV. SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS – Mrs. Erica Taylor – Executive Director of Strategy & Communications

4.1: A. –RiverDogs Readers

Ms. Mary Ann Dieter recognized General Manager Dave Echols, in his absence, for their partnership with the CCSD reading initiative called Reading and Running with the RiverDogs. Approximately 360 Title I students participated and progress was made. Blaney Burns, Lambs, North Charleston ES and Pinehurst schools were selected to participate.

B. –PTA “Reflections” State Winners

District 9 PTA Reflections winners were recognized.

V. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – Dr. Nancy J. McGinley – Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Nancy McGinley reported the following:

- Dr. McGinley reported that the district lost two students during the last week. Payton Moore, a student at Mt. Pleasant Academy and Adraius Jenkins, a Haut Gap student. She requested a moment of silence in remembrance of the two students at Mt. Pleasant Academy and Haut Gap MS. Prayers and sympathy to both families.
- Graduation – board members were thanked for attending graduations. Principal Judith Peterson at Academic Magnet was given an apple by each of her 200 graduates. Mrs. Mary Runyon shook hands of 380 graduates while Ms. Lucy Beckham shook hands with 750 graduates.
- Charleston Educators Symposium starts tomorrow at the joint campus of Academic Magnet and School of the Arts. Board members were invited to attend. The symposium attracts educational leaders from across the state and country, and it empowers teachers and administrators with skills and information necessary to realize Charleston Achieving Excellence: Vision 2016. The keynote speakers include Rebecca Mieliwocki, 2012 National Teacher of the Year, Pedro Noguera, Professor in the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development at New York University and Marian Wright Edelman from the Children’s Defense Fund.
- The First Reading of the Budget will be presented tonight. Mr. Bobby will present the details that the board requested at the last meeting. Senior staff continues to look for ways to repurpose expenditures to enable the district to fund priorities including some of the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for valued employees.

VI. VISITORS, PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

1. Mr. Anthony G. Bryant addressed the Board about an ethics complaint will be filed and the Justice Department’s concern regarding land use for businesses. Mr. Bryant attempted to read a letter. However, due to time restraints, the letter was given to the Board member.
2. Mr. Edward Potter addressed the board in support of increasing funding allocations for large schools. Mr. Potter said students at large schools are being shortchanged because of the old funding model. He urged the board to support the new model.
3. Rev. John Paul Brown expressed concerns regarding a rumor about changing of the name of Burke High School. He urged the Board to allow input from the Burke HS Alumni if a name change is considered in the future.
4. Ms. Janeen S. Zaio expressed concerns about the proposed International Baccalaureate Program at Memminger. She suggested there was no evidence that the IB program is a valuable program. She suggested a Montessori program should be considered instead. Also she encouraged members of the Board review a website called “The Truth about IB Programs”.
5. Ms. Allison Leggett expressed concerns about the funding allocation for Wando and other large schools. She suggested additional funding be allocated to large schools.
6. Ms. Katherine Bloder addressed the Board regarding the inequity of funding allocation for larger schools.
7. Mr. Bob Veronee, a West Ashley HS parent, expressed concerns about funding allocation for large schools.
8. Ms. Suzanne Burbage, a West Ashley HS parent, expressed concerns about the funding allocation for large schools. She suggested the board review specific needs of the large schools to include the funding for clerical staff.
9. Ms. Heidi Shetton, a West Ashley HS parent, expressed concerns about the funding allocation for larger schools. She asked the board to provide funding required to support West Ashley HS with adequate staff.
10. Ms. Suzanne Hardie addressed the board on behalf of the Charleston Area Justice Ministry that supports the district’s goals. She urged the Board to support the Early Childhood proposal for four year olds.
11. Mr. Ren Manning, member of the Charleston Area Justice Ministry, urged the Board to consider the proposal to include Early Childhood slots in the 2013-14 budget.
12. Mr. Jeremy Rutledge, a Clergy with the Charleston Area Justice Ministry, addressed the Board in support of Early Childhood proposal.
13. James Leggett, a Wando HS student, addressed the Board in support of program funding for large

schools.

14. Mr. Eric Jackson, director of RJ Inc, expressed concerns related to rumors about changing the name of Burke HS. He also addressed concerns about Title I suspensions and the efforts of his organization to address these concerns.

Mrs. Moffly noted that she wasn't aware of a name change for Burke HS.

15. Mr. Patrick Hayes expressed concerns about the number of struggling readers in CCSD. He urged the Board to consider a millage increase.
16. Mr. Chuck Turner addressed the Board in support of the Large School Initiative. He asked the board to fully fund the initiative.
17. Ms. Millicent E. Brown addressed the Board about the proposed plan to revitalize the Burke HS program. She stressed the importance of commitment and a budget line item to create a serious revitalization effort.
18. Mr. Michael Murray expressed concerns about funding at east cooper schools. He urged the board to consider an additional \$5 million for east cooper school or the district would consider going charter.
19. Dr. Barbara Dilligard addressed the board about rumors related to the renaming of Burke HS. She said everyone became concerned after it was suggested at a recent neighborhood meeting. She also said Burke is 103 years old and it continues to serve the community with great courage and fortitude. She spoke about Burke's potentials and University Project proposal. She urged the Board to work with the community and approve funding for the University Project proposal.
20. Ms. Lori Carroll, a Wando HS Fine Arts Department representative, addressed the Board about the funding allocation for large schools in CCSD.
21. Ms. Jodi Swanigan, principal of East Cooper Montessori Charter School, represented others Montessori supporters that were signed up to address the Board (Sharon Massar, Alys Campaigne, Audy Craig, Lara D'Eugenio and Kristen Johnson. She asked the Board to consider partnering with the charter school proposal to expand the school in the vacant Laing MS facility. She said while it is good for both parties it is also a risk for both parties.
22. Ms. Cynthia Hart, a Wando parent, addressed the Board about budgeting issues as it relates to Wando HS. She said development of labels such as School of the Arts, Academic Magnet HS, and charter schools work well. While Wando fits into the category of all those schools, it does not receive the allocations of those schools. She asked how gift money would be allocated as well as the challenged funds. She asked if Wando was eligible for fund next year. If not, the board should consider action to do otherwise.
23. Ross Cody, junior class president at Wando, said the new budget doesn't take a lot of funding issues in consideration.
24. Mr. Howard Chalmers, a Laurel Hill ES parent, addressed funding issues for large schools.
25. Reid Darby, a Wando HS student, addressed the Board about funding for his school. He also expressed a need for more AP teachers to allow Wando HS to keep its test scores up.
26. Ms. Tracey Hatchell, a Wando HS parent, addressed the board regarding a student transfer appeal for her daughter. She said her son was transferred to Wando earlier under No Child Left Behind.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/EXECUTIVE SESSION AGENDA ITEMS

7.1: A. Open Session Minutes of May 28, 2013

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Barter, to approve the open session minutes of May 28, 2013 with corrections. The minutes were approved 8-1-0 (Fraser abstained since he was absent at the last meeting).

Mr. Ducker said the minutes should say Mr. Garrett made the motion and not him because the vote was 7-2 - he opposed.

Mrs. Moffly said the discussion of \$3.4 million and use of Race to the Top funds was more in depth than what was recorded and she said inquired about the use of RTT funds. Dr. Herring response to Mrs. Moffly's inquiry was that RTT funds could be used to pay for trainers for Common Core training.

7.2: Executive Session Action Items of June 10, 2013

The Board will voted on executive session items of June 10, 2013 which follows:

1.1: Student Transfer Appeals

Appeals received May 23- June 4, 2013

Mr. Ascue moved, seconded by Mr. Ducker, to defer student transfer appeal request C to allow staff time to confirm the IEP. Student transfer appeals A, B, D, E, F, G, I, J, K were denied for the 2013-14 school year. Student transfer appeal H was pulled before the meeting. The vote was 9-0.

1.2: Out of County Student Appeal

Mr. Ascue moved, seconded by Rev. Collins, to deny an Out of County Student Transfer Appeal Request for the 2013-14 school year. The vote was 9-0.

1.3: Renewal of Administrative Contracts for FY2013-2014

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the renewal of administrative contracts for FY2013-14. The vote was 8-1 Moffly opposed.

1.4: Memminger School of Global Studies

Mr. Barter moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to approve the recommendation for change order to HITT Contracting for the Wentworth Park Lot, not to exceed \$350,000.00. The funding source is the One (1) cent sales tax revenues (Wave 1 Program Contingency Reserves). The vote was 9-0.

1.5: Memminger School of Global Studies

Mr. Barter moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to approve the recommendation to reallocate funds for the Wentworth Street parking lot. The amount is \$400,000. The funding source is The funding source is the One (1) cent sales tax revenues (Wave 1 Program Contingency Reserves). The vote was 9-0.

1.6: Principal Appointment – Mitchell Elementary School

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, to approve a recommendation to appoint Deborah Smith as the principal at Mitchell ES. The vote was 8-1 (Collins opposed).

1.7: Legal Update – Mr. John F. Emerson, General Counsel

The Board received a legal update in executive session. However, no action was taken.

7.3: A. Financial Minutes of May 28, 2013

Mr. Barter moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser, to approve the financial minutes of May 28, 2013. The vote was 9-0.

B. Financial Minutes of March 25, 2013 Update

The Board received the updated financial minutes of March 25, 2013 as information.

VIII. CAE UPDATE

IX. MANAGEMENT REPORT(S)

NOTE: Agenda item 11.1A was moved up on the agenda during the Adoption of the Agenda.

11.1A: Sullivan's Island Elementary School – Early Steel Package – Mr. Michael Bobby

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to approve a recommendation to enter into a contract with Steel Works of the Carolinas, Inc., in the amount of \$371,027.00, for the Sullivan's Island Elementary School – Early Steel Package (Solicitation No. 13-CMG-B-004). The vote was 7-2 (Ducker and Moffly opposed).

After Mrs. Moffly suggested delaying early steel package and reallocate funds for Sullivan's Island at Carolina Park, Mr. Miller asked Mrs. Moffly for an explanation. Mrs. Moffly shared information on the three bands and said Sullivan's Island is in the life safety band. She spoke about a \$20 million allocation for a school in the north part of Mt. Pleasant plans to build new single family homes and there not being a budget in place to address the need within the next four years.

Mr. Miller asked about the possibility to reallocate the funds for another school. Mr. Bobby said legal

counsel has advised staff a number of times about projects that it could be used for. If the plan was not included in the funding program, the funds could not be used for such purpose.

Mrs. Moffly disagreed and mentioned that funds were reallocated earlier from the 2005-2009 program. Mr. Miller asked what would happen if the Sullivan's Island building was halted. Mr. Bobby said a substantial amount of money already invested in the project. Then he mentioned the outstanding amount to be paid.

Mr. Fraser said the agenda item on the agenda publicly noticed was for the steel package. Therefore, it could not be changed. He called for the question.

Mrs. Moffly asked about the origination of funds for the reallocation and stated that Sullivan's Island was initially not on the list.

Mr. Ducker asked about delaying the steel package and its impact on Sullivan's Island. Mrs. Coats asked Mrs. Moffly if she wanted to amend the motion to delay the steel package. Mr. Fraser said he would not accept an amendment. However, Mrs. Moffly could offer another motion.

Mr. Miller asked when Sullivan's Island is scheduled to be finished. Mr. Bill Lewis said August 2014. Rev. Collins asked about plans to build a school in Carolina Park. Mr. Bobby said it was mentioned as a recommendation for the 2016 Building Program and possibly could be completed in 2018 if funding is approved. Also, there is no advanced design plans for Carolina Park. Mr. Lewis said it would have to be a large school and could possibly cost about \$40 million. Rev. Collins inquired further about left over contingency funds. Mrs. Coats said it could only be used for projects on the list.

Mrs. Moffly said the Board should reconsider the Sullivan's Island decision because of the small number of students residing on the island. She concluded that other students would have to be bused in.

X. COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

10.1: Audit & Finance Committee – Mr. John Barter

A. First Reading of the FY2013-14 Budget – Mr. Michael Bobby -

Mr. Michael Bobby shared an overview of the proposed budget for the 2013-14 school year and staff responded to a number of questions from individual Board members. A summary of Mr. Bobby's overview follows:

- The Audit & Finance spent a lot of time reviewing the budget and responses to questions they asked are provided.
- There is no legal requirement to have two readings. Tonight the board is not asked to approve anything. Staff is only asking the Board to accept the first reading.
- The Charleston County Board of Trustees annually is presented and ultimately adopts a spending plan for the District for each fiscal year. The spending plan is adopted through a budget resolution that encompasses the following elements:
 1. General Operating Fund budget- \$382,314,659
 2. Special Revenue Fund budget \$70,302,559
 3. Education Improvement Act Fund budget - \$27,072,947
 4. Food Service Budget - \$23,808,616
 5. Debt Service/Capital Budget - \$75,666,404

General Funds

- The District's strategic priorities are most important.
- The District continues to put more money in schools and less on central staff.
- GOF \$382 million is the proposed budget but not inclusive of all discussed.
- There has been little change in the District's budget in four years.

- Last year staff received a 2% Cost of Living increase and funds were spent for the Literacy project.
- Anticipation of using Fund Balance and \$4 million is non-recurring.
- Mr. Bobby said funds would be reduced at grades 7-9 because of the academic work being done at a lower grade level.
- Staff is considering reducing the Renaissance School and Professional Development to fund the Cost of Living increase proposed.
- Strategic Initiative for Large School Allocations – a small amount is included in the budget.
- Cost of Living Increase at 2% is being considered
- School Improvement Grant at NCHS and Morningside would be reduced going forward. That amount is primarily used for staffing and it allows them to do things they wouldn't otherwise be able to do.

Special Revenue – pg 77-81

- Title I budget decreased by 10% and there are budget decreases.
- School Improvement Grants for North Charleston HS and Morningside MS decreased
- SIG grant decrease
- Mr. Bobby shared an illustration of what happens with staff positions if revenue stays the same or decrease.
- The one cent sales tax did not guarantee that property taxes would never increase.

Capital Budget

- Beyond Base Budget-----
- Investing in our people, especially teachers
- Supporting expansion of literacy academies
- Alternative Education

Other Topics Covered

- Mr. Bobby shared scenario of what could be done with \$5 million.
- Follow up to First Reading
- Cost Control Future
- Considerations FY15-FY15

Dr. McGinley said she supports the elimination of busing in zones. Decisions made this year would have ramifications next year when St. Johns, Burke, and Stall step down from SIG grant next year.

Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Garrett, to accept the first reading of the Fiscal Year 2014 School District Budget. The vote was 8-0.

Rev. Collins requested a friendly amendment to accept the budget as a district and come back with options to increase funding for schools without tax increases. Mr. Fraser said a motion wasn't needed because it is included in all documents provided to the Board. Mr. Ascue said options for PreK, Low Country Tech, etc. Mr. Fraser said a motion wasn't needed. Mr. Barter said the motion is consistent with the email received from Dr. McGinley and said there is a need to look at programs that are not working.

Dr. McGinley said she is committed to coming back with all the reductions that could be identified but she is doubtful that it would be equivalent to what is needed.

Mr. Ducker said during discussion at the upcoming board workshop the Board would look at other things and staff would be asked to provide amounts.

10.2: Policy Committee – Mr. Chris Fraser

10.3: Strategic Education Committee – Mr. Michael Miller

A. Strategic Education Committee Update

XI. POTENTIAL CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

11.1: A. Sullivans Island Elementary School – Early Steel Package – Mr. Michael Bobby

NOTE: This item was moved up on the agenda during the Adoption of the Agenda and is listed after the Management and CAE Reports.

B. East Cooper Montessori Charter School – Move – Mr. Michael Bobby

Mr. Garrett moved, seconded by Mr. Fraser to approve the recommendation for staff to work forward with the partnership agreement between East Cooper Montessori Charter School and Charleston County School District enabling the charter school to utilize the old Laing School Building (2213 Highway 17 North, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464) opening initially in the fall of 2014-2015 with phased plan to expand into middle school in future years, with final approval from the Board. The vote was 8-0. Note Mrs. Moffly left before the Board voted on this item.

Mr. Barter expressed his support but urged everyone to consider the precedence it would be setting in considering this partnership because other schools may ask for the same considerations. He suggested good dialogue and discussion be considered beforehand.

Rev. Collins said the precedence was also an issue for him and he is concerned about how other requests would be considered.

Mrs. Coats inquired about what the Board was asked to approve at this time. Mr. Bobby said the only intent is for the Board to give direction to staff to work through the details to come at a future date to look at financial ramifications, future considerations, etc.

Mr. Miller said that perception is not reflected in the written documents the Board received. He expressed skepticism and said the District may be opening a door they may not be able to close. He suggested the Board proceed with caution moving forward.

Mr. Ducker said the Montessori program would work well with the Zone Concept established as a need in that district. Mr. Ascue agreed and said the people are watching what is being done in District 2. Also he said Montessori has a great track record and this partnership would address the need for a Montessori school and seats in Mt. Pleasant.

Mr. Fraser said it's a unique situation and the agreement addresses Montessori training needs in the district and addresses space issues.

Dr. McGinley expressed her appreciation for concerns about precedence it would set. She will bring a report to the Board on details about what the district is getting in return.

NOTE: Mrs. Moffly left the meeting at 6:54pm

C. Memminger School of Global Studies IB Proposal

The board will discuss the IB proposal at Memminger.

Mr. Garrett announced the community meeting scheduled to be held this week. He also said the Strategic Committee will meet soon to discuss the IB Proposal for Memminger. He asked Dr. Turner to confirm survey information. Dr. Turner also responded to questions from Rev. Collins about reaching out to parents. She said they would do a call out and she would work with Dr. Nelson for a door to door notice to parents. Also, information was sent home to parents with students. Mr. Ascue asked about progress made with current parents. Mr. Ducker asked about reaching out to parents that live in the neighborhood that are sending their kids to other schools. Dr. Turner said they were working to get the info out to them also.

Mr. Garrett said he appreciates the attention given to current students there and improving their performance.

Rev. Collins said he would have preferred making the IB decision after students returned to the school to see if it is something they like. He requested the notes and minutes from meetings be provided on Friday.

Mr. Barter requested the district also provide zone context and what is being done in the other three zones.

Mrs. Coats said this item would be on the June 24th agenda.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

12.1 A. Possible Board Workshop June 17, 2013

Mrs. Coats led the discussion of having a Board Workshop on June 17, 2013 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm and have the June 19th meeting to discuss the 2013-14 budget.

Mr. Barter didn't feel the meeting was needed because of coverage given at the Audit & Finance Committee meetings. He added that the presentation made tonight should answer most questions.

Mr. Ascue said option is to allow individual board members and the public to thoroughly listen and get questions answered.

Mr. Ducker suggested the June 17th meeting be optional if individual board members feel the need to ask questions. Mr. Bobby said he would be available. No presentations would be done.

Rev. Collins said someone should be available to answer questions. He only needs Mr. Bobby to answer questions for a couple of hours, not five. Mrs. Coats said other board members also have questions.

Mr. Garrett asked if he should bring his priorities for budget at those times. Mrs. Coats confirmed.

Mrs. Coats also announced the cancellation of the Special Called 6/11/13 meeting. Also, she requested staff send out a meeting notice for two Board workshops on 6/17/13 and 6/19/13

and a special called meeting for principal appointment before the 6/19/13 Board Workshop.

At 8:38pm Mr. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Barter to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by consensus.