## CHEROKEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 BOARD OF TRUSTEES BOARD MEETING

## **September 14, 2015**

The Cherokee County School District Board of Trustees met in regular session on Monday, September 14, 2015 at 7:00 PM in the Board Room at the District Administrative Office. Board members present were Chair Ms. Cheryll Smith, Vice Chair Mr. Johnny Sarratt, Jr., Secretary Dr. Mark Nix, Mr. Barry Bailey, Mr. Billy Blackwell, Mrs. Elaine Fowler, Mr. Ron Garner, Mrs. Robin Harper, and Mr. Tracy Moore. Administrators present were Superintendent Dr. Quincie L. Moore, Chief Operations Officer for Administrative Services Mr. Joe Walker, Chief Academic Officer for Teaching and Learning Ms. Kim Bagwell, and Director of Human Resources Dr. Carl Carpenter. News media present was Mr. Scott Powell of the Gaffney Ledger.

In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, Section 30-40-80(d), as amended, the following have been notified of the time, date, and agenda of this meeting: The Cherokee Chronicle, The Gaffney Ledger, The Shelby Star, The Spartanburg Herald-Journal, Radio Stations WZZQ-AM and WFGN, WSPA-TV, WYFF-TV, and WSOC-TV.

Chair Ms. Cheryll Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Mr. Johnny Sarratt, Jr. led the opening invocation. AFJROTC Presentation of Colors.

Approval of the Board Agenda was the next item on the agenda. Mrs. Harper made the motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Dr. Nix. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.

Approval of Board Minutes dated June 29, 2015 was the next item on the agenda. **Dr. Nix made a** motion to approve Board Minutes dated June 29, 2015, seconded by Mrs. Fowler. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.

Approval of Board Minutes dated July 14, 2015 was the next item on the agenda. Mrs. Harper made a motion to approve Board Minutes dated July 14, 2015, seconded by Dr. Nix. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.

Approval of Board Minutes dated August 10, 2015 was the next item on the agenda. Mrs. Harper made a motion to approve Board Minutes dated August 10, 2015, seconded by Mr. Sarratt, Jr. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.

Honors/Accomplishments/Commendations were next on the agenda.

- District Teacher of the Year Dr. Frank Wilson Gaffney High School
- District Support Staff of the Year Michelle Poole Limestone-Central Elementary
- 2015 Perfect PASS Scorers
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place State Essay Winner Taylor Covington Gaffney High School
- SC High School League Sportsmanship Award Blacksburg High School Athletic Department

With the recent social media threat to area schools, Dr. Moore invited Chief of Police Richard Turner, Sheriff Steve Mueller, Deputy Jeff Stevens, and Deputy Tim Hartman to attend the Board meeting, publically thanking them for their added presence and resource assistance on September 11, 2015, in all schools. Dr. Moore shared the importance of community partnerships and complimented these agencies on their willingness to work with our district.

School Board Policy BCBI – Public Participation was the next item on the agenda. No one requested to speak before the Board.

Update on District Building Plan – M.B. Kahn was next on the agenda. Mr. David Knight, Project Manager and Mr. Nick Montanez, Construction Manager of M.B. Kahn, presented the September 2015 Monthly Progress Report on the building program projects and a financial summary of each project as requested. Ms. Donza Madison of McMillan, Pazdan, Smith provided the Trustees with the DOT observations and their recommendations from a recent visit to Grassy Pond Elementary and Northwest Elementary for proposed traffic patterns to accommodate the additions at both sites. A Board Building Program Workshop has been scheduled on November 23, 2015. **This was presented for information only; no action was necessary.** 

Evaluation of the District Maintenance Department was the next item on the agenda. Mr. Jeff Willis presented to the Trustees with an in depth view of the Maintenance Department, providing examples of job descriptions, the hiring process, and staff evaluations. Mr. Willis also elaborated on the Maintenance Vehicles and Costs and the work order process that included information on the maintenance assignments for the summer months. He closed with the cost effective initiatives that have been implemented in the department, giving an example of the cost savings using chemical-free stripping for floors, the five-year preventative maintenance plan, changes in purchasing procedures, and lastly the food service equipment repairs. Mr. Joe Walker, Chief Operations Officer for Administrative Services, ended the presentation with a review of the 2014-2015 Energy Report that included cost avoidance savings from 1999-2015 and a breakdown of savings increased during the 2014-2015 school year. **This was presented for information only; no action was necessary.** 

Executive Session – Personnel Matters for the purpose of discussing the employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline or release of an employee or employees of the District/Legal Briefing on Pending Action was next on the agenda. Ms. Smith called for a motion to go into Executive Session. Mrs. Harper made a motion that the Board enter into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters for the purpose of discussing the employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline or release of an employee or employees of the District/Legal Briefing on Pending Action, seconded by Dr. Nix. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion. The Executive Session began at 8:26 PM and ended at 9:35 PM. Ms. Smith said the Board had been in Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters for the purpose of discussing the employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline or release of an employee or employees of the District/Legal Briefing on Pending Action. Mr. Blackwell made the motion to return to regular session, seconded by Dr. Nix. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.

Action as needed from Executive Session was the next item on the agenda. Ms. Smith said that no action was needed from Executive Session.

The next item on the agenda was Superintendent's Report.

Personnel Recommendations was the next item under the Superintendent's Report. Ms. Smith called for a motion to approve the Personnel Recommendations. Mr. Garner made a motion that the Board accept the Superintendent's Personnel Recommendations, seconded by Mrs. Harper. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.

Act 155 Participants was the next item under the Superintendent's Report. Mr. Garner made motion to approve the Act 155 diploma requests for September 2015, seconded by Mr. Blackwell. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.

SCC Ground Lease Agreement was the next item under the Superintendent's Report. After a review of the lease, Dr. Moore asked that the Board approve the SCC Ground Lease Agreement. **Mr. Garner made the** 

motion to approve the SCC Ground Lease Agreement based on the recommendation of the District attorney and administration, seconded by Mrs. Fowler. Trustees voted unanimously for the motion.

Instructional Spotlight – 1:1 Technology Initiative was the next item under the Superintendent's Report. Ms. Kim Bagwell, Chief Academic Officer for Teaching and Learning, presented the Trustees with an Instructional Spotlight on the Technology 1:1 Initiative, highlighting the Administrators' Professional Development Academy from Summer 2014 to Summer 2015, the schedule of the Professional Development Academy of Teachers and related topics studied, Technology Expectations and Technology Resources provided to the teachers. Pam Oliver, Cherokee County Technology Integrator, concluded the presentation with an update on 1:1 Rollout Statistics. **This was presented for information only; no action was necessary.** 

Board Newsletter was the next item under the Superintendent's Report. Dr. Moore provided a newsletter to each Trustee that contained valuable Board information for their review. **This was presented for information only; no action was necessary.** 

SCSBA Law Conference was the next item under the Superintendent's Report. Mr. Sarratt, Jr. shared topics that were discussed at the conference, in particular the process now in place for make-up days and updates on certified hearing procedures. Ms. Smith shared information on the ABCs of IDEA and properly identifying students with disabilities. In closing, Dr. Moore discussed social issues and the roles of administrators and teachers when responding to these issues as reported at the Law Conference. **This was presented for information only; no action was necessary.** 

Announcements was the next item under the Superintendent's Report. Dr. Moore reviewed the September announcement handout of upcoming events and meeting dates. **This item was received for information only; no action was taken.** 

Other Matters was the next item on the agenda.

Mr. Bailey left the meeting after executive session for personal reasons and was not present to make comments.

Mr. Blackwell was very appreciative of Mrs. Fowler's gift this evening and also offered praise and recognition to all of the honorees. He revisited the earlier Maintenance presentation, asking for more information and inquired on tracking work orders with the School Dude software.

Mrs. Fowler stated "this district is on a mission, oh the places we will go" before saying how thankful and grateful she is with the people in this district. She thanked Dr. Moore for inviting law enforcement officials at the meeting to honor them and shared information about a group of ladies at Grassy Pond Baptist Church whose daily prayer list includes many community members and agencies. Mrs. Fowler reiterated Manny Scott's story to the Administrators, urging them to continue to seek ways to reach the Manny Scotts of the district.

Dr. Nix commented on the presence that the new logo has given the District. Dr. Nix then inquired about Awards Days ceremonies and the possibility of having these programs later in the day, the number of transient students the District has at this time, and how many reading interventionists we have this school year.

Mr. Moore revisited the Maintenance presentation from earlier in the meeting, reiterating Mr. Blackwell's concerns. He also asked about District's electrical costs, suggesting to renew the established 1999 benchmarks used for the report.

Mrs. Harper welcomed Mr. Bratton to the District as the new Finance Director. She shared her appreciation towards the administrators, teachers, and staff for the seamless start of the new school year. Mrs. Harper added a congratulations to Dr. Wilson and Michelle Poole and to all of the honorees this evening.

Mr. Garner shared the sentiments of his fellow Board members and revisited the Maintenance presentation from earlier in the meeting. He stated that he had concerns about the effectiveness of the department and the presentation and he reiterated the attempts he has made when asking about the details of the department functions and requested more information.

Mr. Sarratt, Jr. hopes to see the school year continue to go as well as it has and shared his admiration for the honorees this evening.

Ms. Smith thanked all who attended the meeting tonight. In spite of it being an empty room given the time of the evening, she shared her gratitude to the administrators and her appreciation for the all of the accomplishments recognized this evening.

The next item on the agenda was adjournment. Ms. Smith called for a motion to adjourn. **Mr. Garner made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Sarratt, Jr. Trustees voted unanimously to adjourn.** The meeting adjourned at 10:25 PM.

APPROVED BY:

Chenyll D. Smith, Chairman