

NEWBERRY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Learning Center
July 22, 2013
Executive Session - 6:00 PM
Public Board Meeting - 7:30 PM

In accordance with the SC Code of Laws of 1976, as amended, Section 30-4-80(d), the following were notified of the time, place, date and agenda of this meeting:

- a. The Newberry Observer
- b. The Whitmire News
- c. WKDK Radio Station
- d. Individuals Requesting Information

The following business was transacted:

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Hamm called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

II. ESTABLISH A QUORUM/APPROVE AGENDA

A quorum was established with the following Board members in attendance: Mr. Hugh B. Gray, Jr., Mr. Ike Bledsoe, Jr., Mrs. Lucy Anne Meetze, Mr. Jody Hamm, Mrs. Jessie Reeder, Mr. Clyde Hill and Mr. Lee Attaway.

Mr. Hamm asked for a motion to approve the agenda. On a motion by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Bledsoe, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as submitted.

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Personnel Resignations/Recommendations
- B. Contractual Considerations
- C. Personnel Matter

Mr. Hamm requested a motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel resignations/recommendations, contractual considerations and a personnel matter.

Mr. Gray made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Hill to enter into executive session to discuss personnel resignations/recommendations, contractual considerations, and a personnel matter. The motion was passed by a unanimous vote.

IV. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:32 pm.

V. INVOCATION

Mrs. Lucy Anne Meetze gave the invocation.

VI. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Hamm led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

VII. WELCOME/RECOGNITION OF THE MEDIA

Mr. Hamm welcomed everyone and recognized the news media. He thanked the media for their attendance and coverage at Board meetings. Those present from the media were Ms. Tammy Kitchen and Ms. Natalie Netzel.

Mr. Bennett recognized and introduced Ms. Carolyn Barnes, who is the District's new Director of Child Nutrition.

VIII. ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Hamm asked if there was any action to be taken from the executive session.

Mr. Bledsoe made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Attaway to approve the following teacher recommendations and to accept the following resignations. This motion passed with a majority vote. Mrs. Meetze abstained from voting for the Newberry Elementary recommendations to hire.

Received the following resignations: Crystal Lominick, Gateway to Technology at Mid-Carolina Middle; Megan Setzler, Science at Mid-Carolina Middle; Virginia Vedder, Media Specialist at Mid-Carolina Middle; Marcia Berry, PE at Newberry Elementary; Ralph Summer, Montessori at Newberry Elementary; Angela Sarvis, Special Ed. at Newberry High; Nicole Merrell, Art at Newberry Middle; and Kimberly Neal, Math at Whitmire Community. Received the retirement of Kay Beggs, Business Ed. at the Career Center.

Approved the recommendation to hire the following:

Boundary St. Elementary – Cerese Long, Media Specialist; Katie Welch, Special Ed.
Gallman Elementary School – Clarissa Hendrix, Special Ed.; Andrea Pridmore, Grade 4; Kelly Walsh, Special Ed.; Mid-Carolina High – Ethel Richburg, Business Ed; Rhea Faris, Math; Mid-Carolina Middle – Cecilia Kelly, Gateway to Technology; Erik Barber, ML Science Newberry Elementary – Hayli Downs, Montessori; Peggy Cwiakala, Media Specialist; David Meetze, PE Newberry High – Michelle Moses, English; Hannah Faile, Special Ed.; Amy Sarver, Special Ed. Newberry Career Center – Patrice Lawson, Business Ed; Iain Stewart, PLTW/Industrial Tech. Newberry Middle – Laura May, Gateway to Technology; Lara Northcott, Art.

The Board voted not to hear from an employee in regards to their termination.

IX. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no comments from the public.

X. APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 10, 2013 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Without objection, the minutes from the June 10, 2013 Board Meeting were approved as presented.

XI. ACTION ITEMS

A. High School Band Budgets

Mr. Bennett stated that this action item was added to continue discussion regarding a one-time gift to offset funds for the high school band program. After some discussion, Mr. Bledsoe made a motion to give the high school band program a one-time gift of \$10,000.00 to be dispersed as follows: Newberry High School - \$4000.00, Mid-Carolina High School - \$4000.00 and Whitmire Community School - \$2000.00. This motion was seconded by Mr. Hill. Mrs. Susan Dowd asked for clarification of the motion and it was determined after some discussion that this money would be given to the Principals at each school to be earmarked for the band programs. The motion passed with Mrs. Reeder opposing.

B. Human Resources - Mrs. Arrington

First Reading of School Board Policy Changes:

1. Policy GBEC Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace
2. Policy GCO Evaluation of Professional Staff
3. Policy GCQE Retirement of Professional Staff
4. Policy GDQC Retirement of Support Staff

Mrs. Arrington presented for Board approval first reading of Policy GBEC Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace. She stated that this policy changed the definition of "Drug" to include counterfeit drug, imitation controlled substance, synthetic drug or designer drug (bath salts and synthetic marijuana). She explained that South Carolina law has been changed to ban these specific substances.

Mrs. Arrington also presented for Board approval first reading of Policy GCO Evaluation of Professional Staff. These are revisions to the Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Principal Performance (PADEPP) regulation that were made to include a Tier 1 and Tier 2 certification for Administrative Certification.

Also presented by Mrs. Arrington for Board approval was first reading of Policy GCQE Retirement of Professional Staff. These recent changes to the South Carolina Retirement System prompted changes in this policy to clarify the difference between employees who were hired before and after June 30, 2012. Presented also was first reading of Policy GDQC Retirement of Support Staff which was the same as the above.

Mr. Bledsoe motioned, seconded by Mr. Hill to approve first reading, Policy GBEC Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace, Policy GCO Evaluation of Professional Staff, Policy GCQE Retirement of Professional Staff and Policy GDQC Retirement of Support Staff which passed with a unanimous vote.

C. Student Services - Dr. Tim Hunter

First Reading of School Board Policy Changes:

1. Policy JLDBB Self-Esteem Promotion/Suicide Prevention

Dr. Tim Hunter presented for Board approval first reading of Policy JLDBB Self-Esteem Promotion/Suicide Prevention. This policy establishes the board's vision for the district's suicide awareness and prevention program. The age of students is lowered from age 15 to age 10. It states that local mental health agencies and training guidelines from the South Carolina Department of Education are resources that can provide the necessary assistance that will help the district staff, parents/legal guardians and students. It also states that the superintendent will ensure implementation of the required training in this area for the renewal of credentials for individuals employed in a middle or high school. After some discussion regarding the wording, Mr. Attaway motioned to approve the first reading of Policy JLDBB Self-Esteem Promotion/Suicide Prevention, which was seconded by Mrs. Meetze. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

XII. STAFF REPORTS

A. Finance – Mrs. Dowd

1. Cash Flow

Mrs. Dowd provided the Board with a cash flow summary by fund which included a total through June 30, 2013 as well as a current general fund budget report showing a balance

of **\$9,818,548.31** in the general fund, **\$372,487.17** in other state restricted funds, (i.e., educational lottery money) and a total in all categories of **\$14,313,250.48**.

Mrs. Dowd provided the board with a cash flow summary by fund, with a total through June 30, 2013 of **\$3,413,779.74** for technology/construction funds. Mrs. Dowd noted that verbal taxes were included in these totals. Mr. Bledsoe asked about what current projection of fund balance might be. Mrs. Dowd reported that there were additional accrual expenses that have now been posted. She stated that at this time, it does not look as if we will be adding a lot to the fund balance and we could possibly use some of it depending on the total accrual expenditures.

B. Operations – Mr. Suber

1. Construction Update – Administrative Building, NCCC, MCMS Overhead & Lighting Project

Mr. Suber gave a monthly construction report on the new district administration office. He provided images of the project. He reported that all demolition has been completed at Mid-Carolina Middle School and all new ceiling tile is in the administrative office. The new ceiling grid work has started in classrooms. He also reported that the Career Center paving is now 100% complete.

XIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Bennett presented Mrs. Reeder with the South Carolina School Board Association's Certificate for her completion of Level 1 Certification. The year-round training curriculum provided by the South Carolina School Board Association focuses on leadership skills for board members on state and national educational issues.

A. Back to School Program

Mr. Bennett presented information to the Board regarding the Back to School Program. He invited the Board members to attend the District wide In-Service Event to be held at Newberry High School on August 15th at 11:00 am.

B. High School Graduations

Mr. Bennett shared with the Board the challenges that take place for both parents as well as district staff regarding the determination of high school graduation sites. It was his recommendation that the Board begin to contemplate and discuss the location for future high school graduations. After some discussion, Mr. Bennett made the recommendation that this be placed on next month's agenda as an action item.

XIV. ADJOURN

No further business was discussed. The next regular scheduled meeting of the Newberry County Board of Education will be held on Monday, August 26, 2013 at 7:30 pm at the Learning Center. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:25 pm.

Secretary

Board Recorder

Date