

**ALLENDALE COUNTY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES – REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

**MONDAY – OCTOBER 23, 2017 – 6:00 P.M.  
ALLENDALE-FAIRFAX HIGH SCHOOL – MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM**

The Allendale County Schools Board of Trustees Regular Monthly Meeting was held on Monday, October 23, 2017 at 6:00 P.M. The Meeting was held at Allendale-Fairfax Middle/High School in the Multi-Purpose Room. The news Media, WDOG and WIIZ Radio Stations and the Barnwell Sentinel Newspaper were notified.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson Ms. Patricia Jenkins called the Meeting to Order at 6:03 P.M.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE:** A Moment of Silence was held.

**ROLL CALL:** Terry Hall  
Patricia Jenkins, Chairperson  
Willa Jennings, Vice Chairperson (heavy rain, arrived at 6:08 pm)  
Wilda J. Robinson (heavy rain, arrived at 6:08 pm)  
Catherine Russell, Secretary

**FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE:** Dr. Walter L. Tobin, Interim Superintendent  
Patricia W. Pringle, Recorder

**BOYKIN & DAVIS, LLC:** Kiara Lewis, Esq.  
Kenneth Davis, Esq.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Mr. Hall moved to approve the Agenda as stated. Ms. Russell seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**SC DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – MONTHLY UPDATE:** Dr. Tobin said the Board had at their seats a copy of the information to be presented at the Public Meeting. Dr. Margaret Gilmore, SDE highlighted: 1) professional development for teachers; 2) extensive District professional development calendar at all schools; 3) teachers are provided with rigorous content knowledge; 4) new SC Ready Assessment preparing our students to do well on these tests; 5) KRA – Kindergarten Readiness Assessment; 6) Special Education Audit – SDE providing lots of support; how to write good IEP's; 7) the SDE is providing funding for professional development to ensure it is solid and successful; 8) holding monthly community meetings; 9) District Learning Walks are being held in every school – visited every classroom looking for trends and patterns. They meet with the Team after the walk-thru to debrief teachers and principals; 10) new ELEOT (Emphasis on Student Engagement)

template; 11) partnership with "Educate My Sole" – incentives will be based on attendance, academic; 12) volunteers and tutors are ready to come into the school; 13) 40 student athletes from USC-Salk will come to AES and provide tutoring and support; 14) Beth Church will host a Good News Club; 15) we need to hear the voice of teachers and students so there is a District Teacher Advisory Committee and a Student Voice Committee; 16) Benchmark Testing has started; 17) Technology leaders – integrate technology into instruction and the curriculum; 18) have hired retired teachers – only 1 teacher vacancy at this time.

Chairperson Jenkins asked about the Allendale Six. Dr. Gilmore said this was shared with the Board earlier in the year. Dr. Tobin said what was found in trends and instruction, teachers were teaching and children were responding. The quality was very good and there were instances of the embedding of technology. Must be more rigorous and the questions must be at a higher level. The volunteers have been vetted by SLED. Ms. Jennings asked if there were substitutes in the District. Ms. Hall said they had 2 at AFHS and 1 at AFMS. Ms. Leath, AES has 2.5 subs. Ms. Russell said the teachers she talked to are not happy. She attended Lunch Buddies and talked with students and they have a lot of issues with things going on. Her experience of being in the school is totally different and teachers cannot voice their opinions because they may lose their jobs. Dr. Tobin said there is a process for firing people, you must have a reason to fire people. Ms. Russell said she asked 2 people to come tonight and they can speak as parents not employees. She feels the Board and Superintendent are not working together.

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION:** Dr. Tobin said the information was included in the Board Packets. \$1.3 in EIA and EFA funds, but have not gotten the local taxes. The Fund balance is \$4.6 million and an update will be provided after the audit. Information have been provided on the financial risks, the information was also provided to the SDE. Chairperson Jenkins asked about the salary increase, because the Board voted on the budget. Where are the funds coming from? Dr. Tobin said from the general funds and approved by the SDE. There was some contingency in the budget.

#### **APPEARANCES BEFORE THE BOARD:**

**Gang Resistance Education Training Program – Mr. Lewis Grant:** gave the Board a booklet – GREAT – Gang Resistance Education and Training, a bullying program. This is a 6 weeks program, a graduation and certificate is given after the program is completed. He is the only person in the area who does the program. The program is currently being held at AFMS.

**Aviation Program – Mr. Ahmad Mikell (was not present):** A handout was given to the Board by Ms. Betty Baker, Allendale Airport Manager. The goal is to get area students involved in Aviation. Students spend a day at the airport and talk about all the areas of aviation, lunch would be provided. Students would have an opportunity to fly around Allendale. They can obtain membership into the Young Eagle Program. Also students in the program can apply for scholarships. Start with the high school and may have to limit the number of students. If the response is great, it may need

two days. Chairperson Jenkins asked Ms. Baker to contact Dr. Tobin. The number is 584-3801 at the Airport. Parents would have to sign a permission form for students to participate. Ms. Robinson said an informational session, information home to parents and students need to take place.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Ms. Patricia Johnson said she wanted to talk about the positive things coming out of Allendale. If we don't show people what is going on in Allendale they will write their own story. We need a marquee at AES. She would like to see a top of the line, digital marquee at AFHS.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Legal Briefing and MOA – Ms. Robinson moved to go into Executive Session at 6:44 P.M. for the receipt of legal advice and MOA. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote

**OPEN SESSION/ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION (If any):** Ms. Robinson moved that the Board return to Open Session at 7:40 P.M. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**FOIA FEE SCHEDULE:** Ms. Robinson moved to adopt the FOIA Fee Schedule which was passed in the General Assembly subject to appropriate information from Dr. Tobin regarding the fee for staff time. Ms. Jennings seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Ms. Jennings moved that the Board approve the joint motion for Declaration of Unitary Status with Dismissal by the United States Department of Justice. Ms. Russell seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Ms. Russell moved to approve the Minutes of the Monday, September 25, 2017 Regular Monthly Meeting and Thursday, October 5, 2017 Special Called Meeting. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Thursday – October 26, 2017 – ½ Day Parent/Teacher Conference  
Friday – October 27, 2017 – No School – Professional Development  
Make-Up Days: February 16, 2018 and April 9, 2018

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Meeting was Adjourned at 7:45 P.M.