

**ALLENDALE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

**MONDAY – SEPTEMBER 24, 2012 – 6:00 P.M.  
ALLENDALE-FAIRFAX HIGH SCHOOL – MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM**

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Allendale County Schools Board of Trustees was held on Monday, September 24, 2012. At 6:00 p.m. the Board went into Executive Session to discuss Personnel. The Meeting was held at Allendale-Fairfax High School in the Multi-Purpose Room. The news media was notified and present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Charlie Cave  
Timothy Hall, Vice Chairman  
Cheryl Mole  
Willie Priester, Chairman  
Valaree Smith, Secretary

**FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE:** Dr. Harold McClain, Superintendent  
Kedra Rivers, Director of Personnel  
Charles Tillotson, Interim Finance Director  
Patricia W. Pringle, Recorder

**7:00 P.M. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Priester called the Meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Mr. Cave moved to come out of executive session. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by all.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE:** A moment of silence was held.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Ms. Mole moved to approve the Agenda. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by all.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mr. Cave moved to approve the Minutes of the September 12, 2012 Special Called Meeting and the August 28, 2012 Regular Monthly Meeting. Ms. Mole seconded. The motion was approved by all.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** No comments

**GOOD NEWS**

**Clean Sweep Award** – Mr. Tillotson said a team of 3 view the buildings. The first thing you see is how the school looks on the outside and then you move to the inside. They set up a minimum

scoring system this year. Every single school passed the minimum qualifying score for this month. The vote was very close with Fairfax Elementary School coming 2 points shy of victory. Allendale Elementary School is the Clean Sweep Award winner for September. Ms. Leath, Principal accepted on the school's behalf.

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**SCSBA 2012 Certification of Delegates for Delegate Assembly:** Chairman Priester said Allendale County School District has 1 vote. Ms. Smith moved that the Board select Chairman Priester as the Delegate and herself as the Alternate since they are the only 2 Board members attending the conference. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by all.

**SCSBA Accidental Death and Dismemberment Policy:** Dr. McClain asked Board members to complete the form.

## **CONSENT AGENDA ITEM**

**Discipline Reports:** for information only. Dr. McClain said look at the number of offenses across the school district, they have been drastically reduced if you compare the numbers from September 2011 to September 2012. Chairman Priester asked what this number is attributed to. Dr. McClain said one principal stated students are focused on learning. This comment came from Mr. Youmans. Chairman Priester said the Board would like to see an accumulation of discipline numbers, an estimate, how many can be attributed to the same person. Mr. Youmans said from the AFHS side when you see the big numbers, it does not mean it is that number of students. Some students have more frequent referrals. The decrease can be seen in how they deal with habitual students. The Intervention person does a lot of work with the students, consulting with them. The staff, teachers and administration work hard on this. Ms. Smith said the report is reflecting only 1 student discipline for the month of August.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE**

**Atlantic Research Partners (EMO) – School Specialists Summary Presentations:** Mr. Flowers, AFHS Liaison Team Leader reported on some of the things he has been doing the last couple of weeks: a) observed and provided instructional feedback, met with Literacy and Numeracy Coaches to discuss instructional practices and getting to the right grade and course level; b) professional development for Science, Social Studies, Related Arts and as a kick off to MAP testing for high school students; c) provided Power of Teaching overview – what they are doing at a District wide level; d) in October all 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students will participate in the PSAT; e) they are all involved in District wide projects; f) meet every Tuesday morning with teachers and go over modules; g) they have a bi-weekly focus. This week's focus is on academic feedback to students – when a child responds, how does the teacher respond back? This is to increase the behavior; h) sample of Power of Teaching included in the Board packets; i) Code of Conduct working with a team on this. Developing a matrix to make sure everyone is on the same

page when it comes to discipline; j) they have been rotating into AES to support the Principal and working on Balanced Literacy. Ms. Smith asked for feedback on AFMS. Mr. Flowers said Ms. Mathis will provide this. Chairman Priester asked if there is a goal for what they want to see with the testing. Mr. Flowers said the goal is based around looking at adequate growth for all students in all subjects. They will focus on HSAP and the Report Card piece. Chairman Priester said statistics show males achieve on a lower level than females. What are we doing about this? Mr. Flowers said they are working across the board and they will call this to the teacher's attention if they are paying more attention to the girls than the boys. Dr. McClain said Dr. Francis wrote a grant that will focus on the Black male and this will be a joint effort between the A-F Learning Center and A-F High School.

Ms. Brown: a) said she is based at FES. Taught model lessons; they have a score card where principals may look at the schools as a whole, discuss vacancies, sub groups that hinder the District from making AYP; b) in small group interventions teachers come in and work with small groups of students 3-4 days a week; c) working with the MAP data to look at the results and drive the afterschool program; d) gathered information on where they are as a District to build a strong base and close the achievement gap; e) worked with the Parent Liaison, Ms. Kulisek and Mr. Everett to get more parents involved; f) worked with Bloom Taxonomy making sure teachers are asking questions at a higher level; g) brainstorm ideas with the principals to make sure with all the programs in the District there is some consistency and h) working to foster more collaboration between the elementary schools.

Ms. Mathis: a) said she is housed at AFMS and has constructed the MAP data wall. Teachers will analyze students RIT scores using the data; b) providing professional development for how they use the data to drive instructions; c) want to make sure teachers understand MAP data is not just a number; d) meet weekly with the leadership team and coaches; e) gave several professional developments on literacy and how to stress informational text effectively in the classroom; and f) working during Administrative Staff Meeting to clarify and update policy and procedures.

Ms. Smith said the Middle School was cited by the State Department of Education, so she will be watching this a little closely and she is keen on the Middle School. Ms. Mathis said the form Mr. Flowers talked about will be used at all the schools. Ms. Mole asked if the teachers are receptive to the ideals presented by the Emergency Management Group. Ms. Mathis said they have been surprised with the reaction from the teachers, it has been very good. The teachers have given them many compliments. They are gearing the professional development to what teachers want and need. They want teachers to have buy-in.

Ms. Smith asked about the new principal from AFMS. Dr. McClain introduced Mr. Robert Hemby, AFMS Principal. Mr. Hemby said he is humbly pleased to join this family. His job is to create a culture of learning and one of trust for teachers and the community. Data drives their decisions and he likes consistency. They have a guide for teachers to follow. It is no surprise about all the new teachers and high turnover. However, they are trying to get procedures in place and for teachers to follow these procedures. He wants AFMS to be a place where children want to come and not where they have to be.

Mr. Matt Schilit, Data Coordinator was introduced. He said he has been in the District for about a month and it has been an excellent start. He has seen some strong pieces in place in moving the District forward and where the District is going.

**Athletic Complex for Allendale-Fairfax High School:** Dr. McClain said this item is for information only. About 2 years ago they started a conversation about providing a track facility for Allendale County School children. Students are bused from here to Voorhees to use their facility. They need to jump start this conversation. The group had a meeting last week. He has a niece who works for a large PR firm in Washington. She rubs shoulders with a lot of people who has money. He in turn has asked her to help find Allendale some money. She has asked him to put together a proposal and said she may be able to help. A volunteer from SC State University has helped him put together a proposal. This person is volunteering his help now, but if the proposal is successful, he will be compensated on the back end. He has started the work on this project. The Governor's Office made a promise to Allendale and he will revisit this. Other strategies are in the works to involve Allendale County citizens and the community.

**PERSONNEL REPORT:** Ms. Rivers asked the Board to accept the recommendations made in executive session. Mr. Cave moved to accept the recommendations. Ms. Mole seconded. The motion was approved by all.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

**FY 2012 Year End Review:** Mr. Tillotson, Finance Director reported: a) the financial information is in the Board's packets; b) rapped up all the preparations for the Auditor's visit – McAbee, Talbert and Halliday will be arriving in about 2 weeks and will be on site for 3-4 days; c) they should be ready to report to the Board at the November meeting; d) in anticipation of the Strategic Project in 2014-2015, the District has taken advantage of the opportunity to flex some State funds and moved these to the Building fund to hold in reserve as it will be relating to the this Plan.

#### **NEWSLETTERS**

AFHS "Tiger Times"

FES "Wildcat Paws"

#### **ANNOUNCEMENT**

NSBA Convention – San Diego, CA – April 13-15, 2013 (*Registration/Housing Opens October 17, 2012*).

A late Public Comment: Ms. Starr Dunbar said she was a member of the Class of 1997. She and her son moved back to the community in January and he is participating in the Band. The Band currently has 70 students and as a community everyone support the Golden Vanguard. The Band

Director called a meeting last week and expressed concerns about support for the Band. The Band Director needs an assistant. People from other districts are helping out with different instruments. She is asking that the person coming from Orangeburg to assist the Director be compensated for gas. The Band is growing and students are eager to learn, they are coming to practice. Ms. Gates has something to give to the Band and she is asking for support and recognition from the schools.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.