

BOARD OF TRUSTEES – REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

MONDAY – MAY 21, 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, May 21, 2012**. At **6:00 p.m.** the Board went into Executive Session to discuss Personnel and Contractual matters. 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 7:12 p.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE: A moment of silence was held.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Cave moved to approve the Minutes of the Monday, April 30, 2012 Regular Monthly Meeting and the Tuesday, April 17, 2012 Special Called Meeting. Ms. Mole seconded. The motion was approved by all.

GOOD NEWS

Duke University Student Recognition – Allendale Elementary: Students Chandler McKnight and Javarius Youmans were recognized for being selected to participate in the 2012 Duke University Talent Search Program.

National Youth Scholars Recognition – Fairfax Elementary: Student Teron Brabham was recognized for being selected to attend the National Youth Scholars 2012 Summer Program in Washington, DC.

Clean Sweep Award: The Clean Sweep Award was presented to the 301 Learning Center. Dr. Francis accepted on behalf of the Center.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ms. Wilda Robinson said her question was in regards to a statement made by the Superintendent. He would be going to the State Department (SDE) sometimes in May to discuss the Transformation Plan. The community has become aware that Board Members and Staff traveled to Columbia with a sizeable group of citizens. Ms. Robinson asked was this the planned development team and what funding source paid for this retreat for this sizeable group. Was a planned created and developed and when will it be shared? When will the Board announce to the community that a consulting firm had been contracted with?

Dr. McClain said on the Agenda tonight is a report on the retreat. The funding source is part of the School Improvement Grant. The group came together in concert with the SDE to begin the work in developing the Transformation Plan. The Board voted at the last Board Meeting to move forward with the employment of an Educational Management Group. Atlantic Research Services is the group that was ultimately chosen.

Board Member Smith said a point of order we need to be fair with everyone. Responses to Public Comments should be writing. Chairman Priester said as part of Public Comments it is not a question and answer session. This protocol has been established long ago. Please abide accordingly.

Mr. Marion Riley, Jr. said on April 30th he requested under the FOIA a copy of all salaries of \$50,000 and above. Why was one salary blacked out on this request? The Superintendent of Allendale is rated as one of the top 10 paid non-teaching educator in the State. He makes 24-1/2 times any medium paid person in the County. Does he need to update his FOIA request? Ms. Smith said point of order, make your request in writing and the District will respond back in writing to any questions that need to be answered.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

Discipline Reports: For information only.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE:

Palmetto Priority School Update – Allendale Elementary School, Ms. Leath, Principal reported and gave the Board a copy of her plan: 1) AES has had 2 visits since her last update to the Board; 2) Mr. Jim Wright visited the school and checked the documents to make sure everything was accounted for and on schedule. The school received a favorable report from this visit; 3) the last visit was also conducted by Mr. Wright and a representative from the SDE. Again to ensure that all documentation was in order; 4) the school did not achieve all of their objectives for all the goals, they did achieve 100% of the strategies and 5) Success Maker was one of the listed strategies, but they abandoned Success Maker because there was not enough time in the schedule to teach Science and Social Studies every day.

Dr. McClain reported on the May 17th and 18th Retreat: 1) Board Members Priester, Smith and Mole attended, parents, clergy, teachers and District Office Administrators; 2) during the 2 days

of planning the group responded to 9 domains as part of the assessment by the Cambridge Group that was sent to the District by the SDE; 3) on the 2nd day the group responded to a Memorandum of Agreement that must be entered into with the SDE as we go forth with the implementation of the Transformation Plan and 4) 9 components of the MOA will be monitored over the next 3 years by the SDE.

Allendale-Fairfax Middle School Transformation Plan Update – Mr. Holiday, Principal: 1) the 2 day work session mentioned above centered around what is best for students; they identified what they knew about EMO's and what services were provided by the group; 2) they were placed on team to review data from each school; 3) the principals reported out on successes and opportunities for improvement as referenced by the data for each school; 4) they discussed what were causalities of the successes and opportunities for improvement; 5) they looked at the 8 domains measured by Cambridge Assessment at AFMS; 6) for each domain they wrote "we must" or why "can't we" statements as it relates the domains; 7) the domains included: progress and student achievement; learning, teaching and assessment; curriculum; leadership; management and accountability; culture and climate and facilities; 8) the SDE brought in 9 new dimensions that must be addressed at the Meeting before the State Board of Education in July; 9) again they were placed in teams of 3 and they wrote goals for 3 of the 9 dimensions as it related to the District for the next 3 years and 10) they identified who was responsible for these goals and the overarching goals.

Adult Education Local Program Review – April 2012 – The Review was included in the Board packet for information only.

Summer Hours – Mon-Thurs 7:30a.m.-5:30 p.m. – June 4-August 10th – for information only.

District Summer Vacation Week – July 4th – Mr. Hall asked if the vacation days would be counted toward the employee leave. Dr. McClain said staff will take vacation during this time. Mr. Hall said this was forcing employees to take vacation whether they wanted to or not. He is not in agreement with this. Ms. Smith asked how this went last year. Last year this item was on the Agenda, but the District Office was not closed during this time.

APPROVAL

Student Release Requests: Dr. McClain recommended that the Board not accept the parents request for out of area student transportation. Ms. Smith moved to accept the Superintendent's recommendation. Mr. Caved seconded. The motion was approved by all.

PERSONNEL: Ms. Rivers, Personnel Director requested the Board approve the requests made in Executive Session. Mr. Cave moved to accept the recommendations from the Administration. Ms. Smith seconded. The vote was 4-1. Mr. Hall opposed the recommendations.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Budget Changes Report – April 1-30, 2012

Budget Report by Function – April 1-30, 2012

Mr. Tillotson, Interim Finance Director said the information was in the Board's packets. See page 39 which are budget transfers that occurred during the month. He reported: 1) with financial reports we continue to track thru the year with expectations of having a balanced budget, and maybe a small surplus; 2) the District has received all the funds anticipated thus far. Homestead exemptions, Tier 1 funding for residential tax relief; 3) we are looking for the remaining EIA and EFA allocations per State law and indirect costs from Federal funds and some tax revenues in late August; 4) the 3rd 2013 budget workshop should be scheduled in the next few days; 5) they are projecting a 2% cost of living increase and 1 step increase for all staff. This will be an average of a 4% increase, insurance cost will go up about 8%, which is built in the budget; 6) no change in the base student cost is anticipated and 7) the projected revenue is right at \$13.3 million and with some adjustments to operating expenses we will have a balanced budget. Chairman Priester asked about funding to assist in the increase of insurance cost. Mr. Tillotson said the State has a formula built in for this. As this cost goes up EIA funding from the State comes to the District for retirement and other expenses. Mr. Hall motioned to have the 2nd reading of the Budget at the next scheduled Budget Meeting. Mr. Cave seconded. The motion was approved by all.

NEWSLETTER

Fairfax Elementary School – May 2012

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AFHS Baccalaureate – Sunday, May 27th – 5:00 P.M.

Staff Recognition Day – Wednesday, May 30th – 8:00 A.M. – AFHS

AFHS Graduation – Wednesday, May 30th – 7:00 P.M.

Ms. Smith said the Board is not hiding anything. If anyone desires to work on any committee to work on the Transformational Plan, leave your name and number tonight or call the District Office and leave your information.

ADJOURN: The Meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.