

ALLENDALE COUNTY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES – REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

**MONDAY – APRIL 25, 2016 – 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, April 25, 2016. At 6:00 P.M. the Board went into Executive Session #1 to discuss SCSBIT Safety Audit, Personnel/Contractual, Student Release Requests and Denmark Tech MOA's. The Meeting was held at Allendale-Fairfax High School in the Multi-Purpose Room. The news media was notified.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson Catherine Russell called the Meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

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

**ROLL CALL:** Alonzo Frazier  
Terry Hall, Vice Chairperson  
Patricia Jenkins, Secretary  
Wilda J. Robinson  
Catherine Russell, Chairperson

**FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE:** Leila W. Williams, Superintendent  
Angela Grant, Director of Finance  
Kedra Rivers, Director of Personnel  
Patricia W. Pringle, Recorder

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION #1:** Ms. Robinson moved to go into Executive Session #1 for the SCSBIT Safety Audit; Personnel/Contractual/Spanish; Student Release Requests and Denmark Tech MOA. Mr. Frazier seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**OPEN SESSION:** Ms. Jenkins moved that the Board return to Open Session at 7:15 PM. Mr. Frazier seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Ms. Jenkins moved that a correction be made to the Minutes of the April 4, 2016, Special Called Meeting. It should read "IGP" not "IGA". Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote. Ms. Robinson moved to accept the Minutes of Monday, March 21, 2016, Regular Monthly Meeting and Thursday, April 14, 2016, Special Called Meeting as presented. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Ms. Pamela Shepard-McKnight spoke on behalf of her daughter, Chandler McKnight, a student at AFHS. Chandler was invited to attend a number of academic conferences Engineering; Technology and Physicians. She was chosen to serve as a delegate for AFHS and the State at the Future Medical Leaders Congress. Students from the entire nation will be attending. She is asking the school and the district to help. The cost to attend is \$1746.00. She asked for assistance for tuition for the conference, which will be held June 25-27, 2016 in Boston, MA.

Mr. Dwayne Ennis, Town Administrator said he was at the meeting as a parent. He wanted to talk about classes, education and his son and daughter. His daughter was a STEMs semi-finalist for Math and Science. They had some Engineering, STEM type questions asked. But his daughter could not ask some of the basic questions. He had an opportunity to visit Brookland-Cacye High School to see their New-Tech Program and it was like night and day. His children feel like they go to school at a prison. The students that do well are not celebrated. If they were the football team they would be paraded around. He has met with Ms. Anderson, Mr. Brandyburg, Mr. Baines and the Superintendent. As parents they should be notified of everything going on. This needs to be addressed and corrected. Students should be properly challenged. Other parents need to come and speak up about these things. He is in full support of working with the schools. We need to throw away the politics of education. We need to pull the maximum amount out of each student. He implored the superintendent and board to work hard.

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**NSBA Annual Conference - Boston, MA - April 9-11, 2016:** Mr. Hall reported: 1) all of the presentations he attended was on student achievement; 2) most of the presenters said if you come from a poverty or rural district that is not an excuse for students not to achieve; 3) need to hold the superintendent, principals and students accountable; 4) one of the presentations was on FFA an Agricultural School - they made the school a success; 5) Robin Roberts did an outstanding presentation.

Ms. Robinson reported: 1) the focus was on advocacy, governance, district management and board/superintendent partnership; 2) Dan Rather, former CBS news anchor was a keynote speaker and talked about himself being a product of public education and from a small, rural town in Texas; 3) want to ensure education meets the needs of all students regardless of their zip code, as board members we are responsible for being the voice for the school district; 4) Every Student Succeeds Act - a little more flexibility in making decisions for students; 5) Boarddocs the Districts subscriber held an evening event at the JFK Presidential Library. The history that comes out of Boston, she listened to and reflected on JFK speeches and asked herself if she was living up to her role "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what can you do for your country."

Ms. Jenkins reported: 1) one of the presenters talked about the Prophetic Board Member and the findings of a research study. Also lower achieving districts and what kept students from learning; 2) poverty is not an excuse - there are no excuses. All students can learn and we must make sure students learn all they can and not having limitations on students as Board members, challenge students; 3)

don't have low or watered-down expectations and believe students can meet these challenges and expectations.

Chairperson Russell reported: 1) one session talked about what's expected of board members and they should be there for students, be an asset and be a helping hand for students; 2) Robin Roberts was very motivating, she said don't concentrate so much on the problem, but on the solution.

Mrs. Williams reported: 1) she attended sessions on literacy and infusing technology into the curriculum; 2) she met with the Literacy team last week to implement what was learned in Boston; Increase the Literacy rate of students and get parents more involved.

**School Takeover:** Mrs. Williams said she shared information with the Board on what the SDE did to turn low performing districts around. She was asked "Is Allendale on the list?" She went straight to the source, which is State Superintendent Molly Spearman, who said rest assured this has not been a discussion. Allendale has not been mentioned for such a thing to happen. An article was included in the Board's packet on the recent takeover of two schools in Florence.

**Healthy Learning Funding Request:** Mrs. Williams said the information was in the Board's packet. Each year they present to the Board and ask for help. Healthy Learners help students with medical issues and getting them to appointments. They are asking the District to allocate \$25,000 to assist with the cost needed to service students in the community. As a non-profit they receive grants and funds from foundations and they can bill for certain services. Mr. Hall asked what was given last year. Ms. Grant, Finance Director said \$15,000 was given last year. Mrs. Williams said they wanted to make sure the information was received in time for the budget process. Ms. Robinson asked this item be tabled because they are going into the budget process.

## **GOOD NEWS**

**FES 1<sup>st</sup> Grader – Hannah Meyer – Letter to President Barak Obama:** Mother, Chasity Robinson said Hannah has been reading since she was about 2 years old. Thanks to her grandparents and some good teachers. She really loves books. She wrote the letter to the president when she was in Pre-K and he replied to her letter. Hannah read her letter. In his reply the President encouraged her to dream big and work hard.

**CATE Project Presentations** – Ms. Anderson, CATE Director gave the Board a handout on the needs assessment for Allendale County. See page 2 – all the data compiled of the district; page 5 – table 5 – degrees conferred – 16 clusters at AFHS; page 8 – table 7 – career clusters of 2015 – percentages of students enrolled in the clusters; page 12 – bottom, A closer look at career clusters. Page 13 – possible ways to expand the future forecast/workforce. Mr. Hall said for future reference can they get the information presented a little earlier. Ms. Anderson said if the Board had any questions they can contact her. Mr. Frazier asked Ms. Anderson to do a PowerPoint on the information. Ms. Anderson said there is a grill in the back made by students,

see the safety gear and the students completed a dog house in the carpentry class. Note the easel out front made by the students. They had a very successful Fashion Show last Friday night sponsored by the Cosmetology Class.

Mr. Stephen Mason, Denmark Tech recognized 2 students who participated in the Bridge Competition. Kenny Smith and Michael Green from AFHS received a medallion and \$100 each.

Mr. Mark Lott, representing VFW Post 7607, Fairfax presented students Quinesha Fullington, a senior at AFHS with a check for \$50. Quinesha said she visited West Point, but chose Clemson over West Point. Symone Jones, a 7<sup>th</sup> grader at AFMS had all A's also received a check.

### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEM**

**Discipline Reports:** For information only.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE**

**Apple Connect-Ed Rollout** – Ms. Jamison, Director of Technology, presented a PowerPoint: 1) the grant was awarded in October 2014 to FES and AES; 2) Apple committed over \$100 million dollars for Professional Development on iPads and MacBooks; 3) the new wireless access points were installed at the schools and the equipment was delivered; 4) student iPads should be delivered during the summer; 5) teachers will have more PD during the summer institute.

**Data Update:** Mrs. Williams said she is working on updating the website; assessment (gave the Board a handout); SC Ready testing starts tomorrow in grades 3-8<sup>th</sup>; gave date/month when the assessments are administered and tentative report dates to the Board; Benchmark and MAP are given within the District that are not State testing; we do not want to over-test students.

**Renovation Project – Update:** Mrs. Williams highlighted: 1) they had a construction meeting last week; 2) Brownstone attended via conference call and promised to have 85% of the drawings to the District by April 22<sup>nd</sup>; 3) on April 21<sup>st</sup> Brownstone uploaded the drawings to the State Office of School Facilities; 4) looking for Mr. Morgan to come down and give feedback on what has been done to date.

**Student Dress Code** – Mrs. Williams said information was in the Board packets; section from the Code of Conduct is included. Next month they will need to have further discussion to include this in the Code of Conduct. Ms. Robinson asked about a survey before implementing the dress code, look at doing an end-of-the year survey for parents, middle and high school students on looking at how the implementation worked for them. Mrs. Williams asked the Board for information on what they would like to see. Hair adornment, etc. could be included on the survey.

**Medicaid Update:** Mrs. Williams said school districts can bill for certain activities through Special Services. But with the Affordable Health Care Acts school districts must re-validate and some items have caused some concerns. Ms. Mays, the Director

of Special Service said districts are concerned that school districts must list the Social Security number of one of the persons involved in the billing process. You cannot put your Social Security number on the documents and take it right back out, but will remain on file for 5 years for validation. Some cannot bill for Medicaid services because they are not comfortable with that particular mandate. The District has not been cut off yet, but if they do not provide the information the District will be cut off from receiving these funds. They need the SS# to track Medicaid fraud. Ms. Robinson said she would not want the District to be in a position not to receive the reimbursement, and understand employees not wanting to provide their SS#. Is there a conflict with HIPPA laws with this? Mrs. Williams said they have talked about FERPA and the document would not be housed locally with the SS#'s listed. Mr. Frazier asked if Senator Clyburn been contacted. Ms. Robinson asked what the school's attorney had to say about this issue.

**Legislative Updates:** Mrs. Williams said the SDE has implemented the 10 Point Grading Scale, which has been approved. The SDE will have professional development for districts this summer and a webinar was also held on the implementation.

**PERSONNEL:** None

#### **APPROVAL**

**Student Release Request:** Ms. Robinson moved that students' MD, JF and SF be released from Allendale County School. The request for additional support for students JF and SF is not granted. Ms. Jenkins seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Ms. Grant, Director of Finance said the following information was in the Board packets: Board Meeting Cover Letter – April 20, 2016; Budget Change Report March 2016; Operating Statement March 31, 2016 and School Board Travel Expense.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Sunday, May 22, 2016 – AFHS Baccalaureate Ceremony – 4:00 PM

Friday, May 27, 2016 – AFHS Graduation

Thursday, June 2, 2016 – Staff Recognition Day – AFHS – 8:00 AM

End-of-Year – Honors and Awards Programs – Calendar

Ms. Robinson announced the Promise Zone Meeting scheduled in Allendale on Tuesday, May 24, 2016 starting at 10:00 AM at the Brandt Building.

Mrs. Williams said the first Budget Workshop is scheduled for Thursday, April 28, 2016 at 6:00 PM at District Office.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION #2:** Ms. Jenkins moved to go into Executive #2 for Personnel/Contract at 8:50 P.M. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**OPEN SESSION:** Secretary, Ms. Jenkins reported Ms. Robinson moved to come out of Executive Session #2 at 9:55 P.M. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

No action was taken on the item discussed in Executive Session #2.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Meeting was adjourned at 9:55 P.M.