

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

**MONDAY – FEBRUARY 22, 2016 – 6:00 P.M.  
FAIRFAX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – GYM**

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Allendale County Schools Board of Trustees was held on **Monday, February 22, 2016**. At 6:00 P.M. the Board went into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Resignation and Student Release Requests. The Meeting was held at Fairfax Elementary School in the Gym. The news media was notified.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Vice Chairman Terry Hall called the Meeting to order at 6:04 P.M.

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

**ROLL CALL:** Alonzo Frazier  
Terry Hall, Vice Chairman  
Patricia Jenkins, Secretary  
Wilda J. Robinson  
Catherine Russell, Chairperson – Absent due to death in the Family

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Ms. Robinson moved to approve the Agenda as presented. Mr. Frazier seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION #1:** Ms. Robinson moved to go into Executive Session #1 at 6:05 P.M. for Personnel Resignation and Student Release Requests. Mr. Frazier seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**OPEN SESSION:** Ms. Robinson moved that the Board return to Open Session at 7:05 P.M. Ms. Jenkins seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**WELCOME – FAIRFAX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS**

Principal, Ms. Sheila Leath welcomed everyone to Fairfax Elementary. Under the direction of Music Teacher, Dr. Grant the students performed: *“Lift Every Voice and Sing,”* another selection by Swahili songwriter Roger Emerson, Join Together, and the last selection from the Wiz, *“Ease on Down the Road.”*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Ms. Jenkins moved to approve the Minutes of the Tuesday, February 9, 2016 Special Called Meeting and Monday, January 25, 2016

Regular Monthly Meeting. Ms. Robinson seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

### **BOARD REPORT – SCSBA 2016 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Mr. Frazier reported: 1) one of the presenters talked about community input during meetings, including students and parents and their thoughts of what is going on in the schools; 2) a Board Member from Clemson spoke about how children are not prepared to go to college and to be successful going to college. The dropout rate is high because students are not prepared; 3) Finance guru, Bob Davis suggested 30 questions boards should ask the finance director; talked about salaries for employees; one district made sure their staff was paid \$1 more than other districts; 4) the superintendent from Florence 1 talked about board members invite the superintendent up to their level, but the superintendent does not invite the board down to their level, and the process and procedures for governing the schools.

Ms. Jenkins: 1) Speaker, Marion Wright Edelman talked about resources and how it consists of the resources of time, data, people and using it effectively; 2) the Noah lesson from the Bible, don't get left by the boat and realize we are in the same boat, we want every child to be successful and don't be afraid of criticism, which challenges us to grow to the next level; 3) the Ark was made by professionals and the Titanic was made by amateurs; 4) make sure children are reading by the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade level. Parents read to your children every night.

Ms. Robinson: 1) Dr. Edelman from South Carolina said board members, educators, parents and community people talk about what to do about children, but must keep the babies in the middle of the table. The interest and the needs of the children should be the top priority; 2) Dr. Edelman has given her life to working with children of poverty.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

### **GOOD NEWS**

**Debate Team:** Mr. Bryan, Assistant Principal of AFHS said 6 students qualified to go to Gatlinburg, TN to compete during the February 25<sup>th</sup> competition. Seniors, S. Dunbar and M. Dobson flew to Boston, MA to compete in the Debate Tournament at Harvard. They competed in 6 rounds and won 2 rounds. Thanks to Mr. Siren for sponsoring the trip. Ms. Robinson thanked Mr. Siren for working with the children since she was in the District. He always keeps the children in the middle of the table. The District needs to have some type of special recognition for him in the future.

Superintendent, Mrs. Williams asked last years staff from FES to stand. She had a conversation with the SDE and there is good news, but the news is still embargoed. The news will be announced at next month's board meeting.

**POLLING SITE FOR THE WOODS PRECINCT:** Mrs. Williams said the old Allendale Elementary School was used for this purpose. Correspondence was mailed to the Voters Registration Office about the closing of this site.

Ms. Sonya Prince, Director of Voters Registration said they used the 301 Building for the last election since Allendale Elementary was closed. The change was approved by the office in Columbia, even though this is outside the line. Information informing people of the change was posted in the Barnwell newspaper, the local neighborhood paper, announced on the radio station and others helped get the word out. Signs were also posted at the old AES to let people know the precinct had moved.

### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEM**

**Discipline Reports:** For information only.

### **SUPERINTENDENT’S OFFICE**

**Report Cards:** Mrs. Williams reported this item was requested to be on the agenda. The information was available last month, but she did not hand the information out to the Board. Districts are not receiving grades and are not rated on state accountability. Last year testing was ACT Aspire, but SC-READ is the new test this year. So schools will be getting delayed grading on the report card. Right now the only thing on the report card is comments, graduation rates, life scholarship and the district profile. What is different is it is centered around the Profile of the SC Graduate.

**Budget:** Mrs. Williams said they are entering the budget season. They will be looking at coming up with timelines to discuss where they District is and look forward going into the 2016-17 budget. She will get the “wish list” from principals for consideration. They are not anticipating many changes to the upcoming budget.

### **Board Retreat – Saturday, March 12, 2016 – at 9:00 a.m. at the District Office:**

Mrs. Williams said she is looking for another location away from the Board Room. The Retreat is planned for 4 hours and if more time is needed they will schedule part 2. To be discussed is setting goals for the Board and items in place. Ms. Robinson asked about the agenda item for the Board. Mrs. Williams said she and Chairperson Russell are working on it, but it will mirror what was discussed at the last board retreat. Mr. Vince Ford, CEO of Richland County and renowned Board Member will be the facilitator. Ms. Robinson said Board Members should have input in what should be on the Board Retreat Agenda. She will discuss her concerns with the full Board. The Retreat is a Board Retreat. They were not involved in the planning of the Retreat. Mrs. Williams said Chairperson Russell gave the Board a form for input on items for the Retreat.

### **APPROVALS:**

**Student Release Requests:** Ms. Robinson moved that the 3 Student Release Requests be approved. Ms. Jenkins seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**PERSONNEL:** Ms. Rivers, Director of Personnel asked the Board to accept the resignation presented in Executive Session. Ms. Jenkins moved to approve the recommendation. Mr. Frazier seconded. Mr. Frazier said the community has been upset for years about hiring locally. He would like to have more conversation about this and a community conversation. Ms. Jenkins said they could discuss the “Exit Policy”, how employees leave the District. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Ms. Grant, Director of Finance said information was in the Board Packets.

**Board Meeting Cover Letter – February 22, 2016**

**Budget Change Report – January 31, 2016:** Changes in the General Fund Budget moving funds from one object or function.

**Operating Statement – January 31, 2016**

**School Board Travel Expense – February 2016**

Mr. Frazier said he would like the Superintendent and Finance Director to have a conversation with finance guru Mr. Davis about the 30 questions for finance director.

Ms. Robinson said she would like to have some documents provided to the Board in hard copies so they can make notes and to review.

Ms. Grant gave the Board Risk Assessment documents and said the SCSBIT will be doing a walk-thru.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**2 Day at the Capitol – Wednesday, March 16, 2016 (Allendale) or May 11, 2016**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION #2:** Not needed

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 P.M.