

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

**MONDAY – NOVEMBER 22, 2010 – 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, November 22, 2010. 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: Terry Hall, Vice Chair
Cheryl Mole, Secretary
Willie Priester
Valaree Smith

ABSENT: Charlie Cave

FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE: Dr. Harold McClain, Superintendent
Dr. Gail Mitchell, Director of Instructions
Ms. Kedra Rivers, Personnel Director
Mr. Kevin Robinson, Director of Finance
Patricia W. Pringle, Recorder

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Hall called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

INVOCATION: The invocation was given by Mr. Priester.

OATH OF OFFICE – NEW BOARD MEMBERS: Mr. Priester moved to amend the agenda to move Oath of Office – New Board Members and Approval of Agenda to item #1. Ms. Mole seconded. The motion was approved by acclamation.

ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS: Dr. McClain presided over the Election of Board Officers. He asked for nominations for Board Chair. Ms. Smith moved to nominate Mr. Willie Priester as Board Chair. Mr. Priester seconded. Ms. Mole moved to nominate Mr. Terry Hall for Board Chair. Mr. Hall seconded. Ms. Smith and Mr. Priester voted for Mr. Priester as Chair. Ms. Mole and Mr. Hall voted for Mr. Hall as Chair. The vote was 2-2. Mr. Priester moved to table the Election of Board Officers until the 5th member of the Board was present. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by acclamation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: This item was moved to #1.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Priester moved to approve the Minutes of the Monday, October 25, 2010 Regular Monthly Meeting. Ms. Mole seconded. The motion was approved by acclamation.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Parent, Ms. Ingar Ferguson read and said she was paraphrasing a letter to the Board. She expressed concerns that her son was placed in the Advanced Scholars Math program at the Middle School, but not in English, despite the fact that he received A's in all his classes. Under the Freedom of Information Act Ms. Ferguson requested a copy of the procedures, screening and placement of children in the program and a copy of Ms. Meredith Cooler's credentials.

GOOD NEWS

Fairfax Elementary School – AYP: Dr. McClain recognized Mr. Chandler, Principal of FES, the faculty and staff for their accomplishment in achieving Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). Mr. Hall congratulated Mr. Chandler on making AYP on his first year and thanked them for all their hard work.

Clean Sweep Award: Mr. Harney awarded the Clean Sweep Award to the 301 Campus. Ms. Edna Youmans accepted on behalf of the campus.

Board of Education

Report on SCSBA Risky Business Seminar – November 17-19, 2010: Mr. Hall said the main highlight of the conference was teamwork and the concept of everyone working together to make sure the schools are safe and keeping Workers' Compensation cases to a minimum. He said one session discussed making personnel decisions in a major budget crisis. Districts should look at the RIF Policy in these days of budget cuts. Another session talked about cyber bullying. This is very serious in the cyber and real world, and how schools deal with this when it happens away from school using communication devices that belongs to the school. Mr. Hall said the District should look at the policy on this and know when law enforcement should be contacted. Educate the staff and students on this, have a bullying seminar ASAP and have a sign-in sheet so when students attend the District can know they attended.

SCSBA Board Member Data Sheet: Please complete the data sheet and return it to the Board Recording Secretary to return to the SCSBA.

SCSBA 2011 Boardmanship Institute Calendar of Events: For information only.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

Discipline Reports: For information only.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

School Report Cards – Principals: Dr. McClain said all schools have received their Report Cards – except the high school which should receive their Report Card in about a month or so.

Mr. Chandler, Principal FES said some of the things they have implemented are: PASS after school for grades 3-5; remediation 3 days per week; current staff members teach in the program 2 weeks in November and 2 weeks in December and use small groups for instruction using the computer lab. Also they used PBIS funds for lots of incentives, students went on trips once per month.

Ms. Leath, Principal AES gave each Board member a handout and said unfortunately they did not meet AYP but it is not a total wash. They met AYP for Reading but not for Math. They must put more emphasis on Math. For Math they met 3 out of the 6 objectives. They have a plan in place, have identified the number of students they need to move to meet AYP and they know the names of these students. They are targeting these students and will also have an afterschool program for students in grades 3-5 using data driven materials. They will utilize the Success For All (SFA) programs in Reading and Math, step up to the plate and will continue to work hard.

Ms. Fludd, Principal AFMS said they are working diligently to make AYP. Several things are in place: a proposal for afterschool tutoring in January and working with the SFA program; incorporated a Math remediation and intervention program where students are getting additional Math skills to increase Math scores; working on a common planning time and department planning time and collaborate to create lesson plans to address students needs. On Mondays they will be reviewing the MAP and SFA data and Tuesdays doing curriculum and instruction and on Wednesdays meet for Team meetings. They have identified the students that need to move to meet AYP.

Mr. Youmans, Principal AFHS said they have not received their Report Card but should in January. We know where our strengths are which is the Math Dept., with the International Teachers this is the strong point. They must look at the graduation rate, track all the students in the 9th grade year, and track students that come and go. Students that drop out they are trying to get them back in school or enrolled in Adult Education. Mr. Everett has been helping with going to their homes and knocking on their doors. Math teachers are trained in the I-Can Learn. Their motto is “hard work pays off and team work makes the dream work.” So they are looking for a successful year at AFHS. They had a drastic increase in the number of students passing HSAP on the first attempt.

Instructional Update – Dr. Mitchell, Executive Director of Instructions thanked FES for making AYP and meeting 13 out of 13 objectives and AFHS for increasing the number of students by 10% passing HSAP on the first attempt. Dr. Mitchell outlined steps the District is taking to improve student achievement and ensure that all schools make AYP. She said based on research by Ron Edmonds the following strategies and practices are proven for successful schools: 1) gaining control of the school environment; 2) focused curriculum; 3) using data; 4) professional development planning and 5) parent involvement. Allendale County Schools has incorporated PBIS, recruiting highly qualified teachers and using MAP testing and data. Dr. Mitchell outlined Marzano Instructional Strategies that Work: 1) identifying similarities and differences; 2) summarizing and note taking; 3) reinforcing effort/providing recognition; 4) homework and practice; 5) non-linguistic representations; 6) cooperative learning; 7) setting objectives/providing feedback; 8) generating/testing hypothesis and 9) questions, cues and advance organizations. The Board received a handout on the information presented.

AFHS Track Field Project: Dr. McClain said a couple of months ago the Board approved collaboration for the development of a track field at AFMS. He presented a rendering of the track for Allendale County Schools and the community. The proposed project cost about \$1.5 million and is to be paid for thru private donations. Everyone in the community can contribute to this endeavor. It will provide a track for the track team, another recreation outlet for the community at large, also proposed a new field house, concession stand, baseball and softball fields and a tennis court to be refurbished. They are looking for generous donators.

Parent Visitation Procedures: Dr. McClain reported this is for information only.

PERSONNEL REPORT: Ms. Rivers, Personnel Director asked the Board to terminate the employment of GB, which is not final or binding on the Board. Ms. Mole moved to accept the recommendation to terminate employee GB. Mr. Priester seconded. The motion was approved by acclamation.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Budget Change Report – October 1-31, 2010: Mr. Robinson, Finance Director said the information was in the Board packets and is for information only.

Budget Report by Function – October 1-31, 2010: Mr. Robinson reported on page 1 the revenue is \$377,504 and year-to-date \$1,490,668. The next 6 pages of the report are expenditures by function in summary format. On page 6 the current expenditure is \$961,811 and year-to-date \$2,749,605. Expenditures for the month of October are listed by line item. Mr. Priester asked if the District had been informed of further budget cuts at this juncture. However, but looking at this coming year what percentage – based on finance research could the District take and not be drastically hurt with only half the budget year left. Mr. Robinson said if they received a cut from

the State – due to the flexibility the State has provided with State funds to transfer funds in the general fund, the District would be able to sustain a cut. The issue is not this year but next year. They have enough flexibility for this year, but next year this will be difficult once they lose the stimulus funds. The lower the buffer goes the more difficult it will be in the next fiscal year. Ms. Mole said they need to work on a RIF Plan for next year. Mr. Robinson said he and Dr. McClain are working on this. The Auditors will return to the District in early December.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday, December 13, 2010 – Regular Monthly Meeting

Christmas Holidays – December 20, 2010-January 3, 2011

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.