

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

**MONDAY – NOVEMBER 17, 2014 – 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 17, 2014. At 6:00 P.M. the Board went into Executive Session to discussion Personnel. The Meeting was held at Allendale-Fairfax High School in the Multi-Purpose Room. The news media was notified.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Alonzo Frazier  
Terry Hall  
Patricia Jenkins  
Wilda Robinson  
Catherine Russell

**FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE:** Dr. Walter L. Tobin, Interim Superintendent  
Kedra Rivers, Director of Personnel  
Angela Grant, Director of Finance  
Patricia W. Pringle, Recorder

**CALL TO ORDER:** Dr. Tobin, Interim Superintendent presided and called the Meeting to order at 6:11 p.m.

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

**OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEW BOARD MEMBERS:** Dr. Tobin administered the Oath of Office to Ms. Catherine Russell while her husband held a Bible. He also administered the Oath of Office to Ms. Patricia Jenkins. Her husband and mother held a Bible.

**RECOGNITION OF SUPERINTENDENT ELECT:** Dr. Tobin said the Allendale County Schools Board of Trustees went through the process of selecting a permanent superintendent. Ms. Leila Williams, Superintendent Elect was introduced.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY REPRESENTATIVE HOSEY:** Rep. Lonnie Hosey asked the Allendale County Schools Board Members to come forward and he presented a check for \$150,000 for Phase I of the Track Project. Rep. Hosey said it was a pleasure to work with the General Assembly, Senate and House of Representatives to get these funds for ACS. He credited Board Chairperson Robinson for her expertise in writing grants and said this caught the attention of the committee. These funds are for the track team. The students drive to Denmark to practice, and this caused some to say they need to do something about the long drive for students. Phase II is going on and other things will be happening.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION #1:** Ms. Robinson moved to go into Executive Session at 6:21 p.m. for Personnel. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

**OPEN SESSION:** Ms. Robinson moved to come out of Executive Session at 7:09 p.m. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Ms. Robinson moved to approve the Agenda as presented. Under approval Blue Ribbon Schools Initiatives is the trip to Disney World. Mr. Frazier seconded. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

**ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS:** Dr. Tobin outlined the duties of the office for Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary. He opened the floor for nominations for Chairman. Ms. Robinson nominated herself as Chairperson. Mr. Frazier nominated Mr. Terry Hall for Chairperson. Ms. Jenkins, Mr. Hall and Mr. Frazier voted to approve Mr. Hall as Chairperson. Ms. Robinson and Ms. Russell voted for Ms. Robinson. Mr. Hall was elected as Chairperson by a 3-2 vote.

Chairperson Hall read the duties of Vice Chairman and called for nominations. Mr. Frazier nominated Ms. Patricia Jenkins. Ms. Robinson moved the nominations come to a close. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Chairperson Hall called for nominations for Secretary. Mr. Frazier nominated Ms. Russell. Ms. Russell declined. Ms. Robinson nominated herself. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Chairperson Hall asked for approval of the Minutes. Ms. Robinson moved to approve the Minutes of the Allendale County Schools Board of Trustees Regular Monthly Meeting of October 27, 2014 as presented. Mr. Frazier seconded. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

#### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEM**

**Discipline Reports:** For information.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE**

**SC Supreme Court Decision:** Dr. Tobin said the information was in the Board's packet. The SC Supreme Court ruled in favor of schools like Allendale. This has been 26 years in the making. The winner here is the student's of those Districts. He heard from reporters in Columbia and Charleston asking what the decision met for Allendale. Former Board Chairperson Robinson addressed the significance of this decision for Allendale County Schools in an interview with the TV station from Columbia.

**Breath of Freedom by Jonathan Green:** Dr. Tobin presented (from Childs and Duff) a portrait and said it is in keeping with what happens in the above court case. He said the portrait will be hung in the District Office and he will try to get copies for the schools as part of a history lesson for students. Ms. Robinson said she was at a workshop and

Jonathan Green also had a book of the Gullah History and culture and she would like to see the book in the schools libraries.

**Literacy/Reading Programs** – Ms. O’Banner, Read to Succeed (R2S) this document changes every day. The outlined: 1) the mission is to make sure a systemic approach to reading to make sure students are college and career ready; 2) statewide 602 literacy coaches are being trained; 3) support and monitor summer reading camps; 4) coordinating with the Office of Educator Services to approve reading courses for state endorsement or certification; 5) developing a statewide system for reading coaches; 6) Legislation says if student’s don’t pass reading/literacy test, they will be retained in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade; 7) some of the roles of the reading coaches is to assist in writing school and or district reading plans; learn about and discuss the SC Literacy and competencies for coaches and teachers and plan and teach demo lessons.

Mr. Frazier asked what have Ms. O’Banner found that the District needs at this point. Ms. O’Banner said Professional Development and build teacher capacity at least 1-1/2 hours, guided reading which requires you to have all the other things in place for students to sustain a 20 minutes reading block. He also asked about the school to prison complex, and the program talks about 3<sup>rd</sup> graders being proficient or fail. Ms. O’Banner said if you have a solid early childhood program, she has been working with teacher candidates for the past 20 years and they are not prepared for what is happening in the classroom, it is a rude awaking for the teacher. They are going to change the requirement so the rigor is there. The 600 coaches throughout SC will go a long way to doing this. Mr. Frazier said Allendale is getting young teachers, what are we going to include to bring them on board at the very beginning. Ms. O’Banner said a program is in place for new teachers, the added component is where the Coaches spend a lot of time with new teachers. And the New Teacher Academy will work well with this.

**Limitless Learning 1-to-1 Initiatives:** Ms. Jamison, Technology Director said the information was in the packet. She outlined: 1) how the SDE Digital Device Pilot Grant came about; 2) the grant stipulation – establish rules and policies that provides for the reasonable care and safety of the materials and for abuse and destruction; 3) why pay an insurance company to insure the device against breakage. Surrounding district are using a self-insurance \$50 iPad insurance fee; payment in full before students receive the iPads and the District is willing to work out payment plans with parents about \$10 per week; covers 2 breakage claims; 4) the District can also charge parents \$25 instead of \$50; 5) the 3<sup>rd</sup> option for parents is students can check out the iPad every morning and turn it in each afternoon, but if they break the iPads they would still have to pay the breakage fee; 6) have a payment plan for parents with several children, \$50 for the first child and \$25 for each additional child; 7) after collecting the self-insurance funds the District would have funds for iPad repairs and replacement, so a fund would be in place to provide iPads as needed and purchase apps as needed; 8) or the District could use the funds to purchase the next greatest or updated iPad; 9) the iPad rollout/bash is scheduled for January 3-5, 2015. Ms. Robinson asked about the protective cases. Ms. Jamison said they are looking at auto-box cases and gripping case which they saw at the Ed-Tech Conference. Ms. Robinson asked if the iPads would have some type of tracking in-case it is lost or stolen. Ms. Jamison said the District will have a feature on the iPads that can be used to render

the iPad useless. She will have the serial numbers of all the iPads and they have communicated with pawn shops that if they buy stolen iPads they are wasting money. Mr. Frazier asked Ms. Jamison to talk about training on the student and teacher levels. Ms. Jamison said there has been on-going staff development for teachers using Apple iCloud storage and teaching teachers how to place the syllabus. The students will not have a problem catching on. They are ahead of the staff. Chairman Hall asked who will purchase the app to track lost or stolen iPads. Ms. Jamison said if the District buys the apps it will cost less using Mobile Device Manager. He asked about the roll out date of January 3 and 5<sup>th</sup>. Will you have enough time to have them ready by January 5<sup>th</sup>? Ms. Jamison said they are working hard to do this. The Grant does not stipulate a date, but the District chose January because it starts the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. And she is not sure if and when the State will come and say show us what you have done with the money. We want to be good stewards of the State's money. Chairman Hall asked if Technology has talked with districts that have iPads and looking at the pros and cons. Ms. Jamison said yes, they are not re-inventing the wheel. Other districts have shared with them how they are doing. January 3<sup>rd</sup> is a Saturday and the 5<sup>th</sup> is Monday, they will be asking volunteers to come and help with the effort. Ms. Jenkins asked about monitoring sites kids visit. Ms. Jamison said the District will use Lightspeed filter. If students get on the internet on the iPad at home it must come back thru the District's filter. Ms. Robinson asked how soon would the elementary schools have their iPads. Ms. Jamison said this has not been determined by Apple. Option 1 is the \$50 fee. Option 2 is \$25 up front. Option 3 is the iPad remains in the building and don't go home. Chairman Hall said he likes option 3. In January parents will be coming out of the Christmas holidays and may not have money. School is also going into the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the year. Ms. Robinson said she understands Mr. Hall's rational for this. But the technology is in-bedded. It's like saying children will have homework, but you can't take your book home. This will extend their learning beyond the classroom. In our homes educational technology is limited, but this ties to the curriculum. Mr. Frazier said option 3 is better for him now. The District is going into the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, do the roll out in-house and if the schools feel comfortable let the students take it home during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. Dr. Tobin said if we do option 3, let them take it home, if they break them, charge them the \$50. Pay if you break the iPad, he feels strongly about the students having the iPads. Mr. Frazier said what about students who don't have Wi-Fi or internet connection. Ms. Jamison said they cannot get on the internet, but they can use the iPad, they can do what they have done on paper, on the iPad. Ms. Jenkins said students should be able to take the iPads home and not have disruption in the educational process. Teach the students about responsibility and ownership. The fee will help with this. Ms. Russell said she likes Option 2, after the Christmas holidays most parents don't have the money. Mr. Frazier moved to approve Option 2 with the Board being able to come back and change the fee from \$25 to \$50. Ms. Jenkins seconded. Ms. Robinson said clarify that the 2015-2016 school year fee would be \$50. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

**Blue Ribbon School Initiatives:** Dr. Tobin said the Board approved this at the last meeting and they are still working out the details. The Steel Band is going to Disney World with the potential of a performance. He is meeting with Mr. Bart Teal on Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. The Field Trip form has been submitted because the trip is out-of-state;

the exact number of students, staff and chaperones will be provided. The trip is December 2. Ms. Robinson moved that the Board approved the trip as presented with further information to be determined and included. Mr. Frazier seconded. Ms. Robinson said at the October Meeting the Board agreed to proceed with the process. This is not just a trip, but an educational experience for our children. Mr. Frazier asked if the Board have to look at providing funding. Dr. Tobin said the District will provide some funding maybe Professional Development Funding or funds from the Biomass folks. Mr. Frazier said the Steel Band going to Disney World is not insignificant, but we want the children to be better readers. They saw some amazing things when they saw the presentation in Columbia. Ms. Robinson said she would like to see some potential money sources in writing. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

**Facilities Project:** Dr. Tobin said the Board asked for information and a lot of information is at the table tonight. This is an update and they are meeting with Mr. Lawrence on Wednesday to look at the Special Education classes. He will be at the next Board Meeting.

**Healthy Learners Support:** Dr. Tobin said the Board gave Healthy Learners \$15,000 and Ms. Pauling-Jones wrote to thank the Board for their donation.

#### **APPROVALS:**

**Act 155 – Student Petitions:** Dr. Tobin said 5 new individuals were approved this month. Ms. Robinson moved to accept the recommendation from the Administration in reference to Act 155. Mr. Frazier seconded. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

**PERSONNEL:** Dr. Tobin said there are no personnel recommendations tonight.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Ms. Grant, Director of Finance said the information was in the Board's packets. There are no variances at this time.

The Audit Team has completed most of the work on the District's audit.

CSI does not generate a fund balance printout. The District's fund balance is still at \$4.6 million dollars.

**Budget Changes Report – October 1-31, 2014:** funds were transferred to purchase radio equipment for AFHS; a plumbing issue at the 301 Building and for technology travel.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

SCSBA Legislative Advocacy Conf. & Business Meeting – December 5-7, 2014 – Hilton Head

Board Workshop Tuesday, November 18, 2014 – 6:00 p.m. at the District Office.

**Executive Session #2:** Ms. Robinson moved to go into Executive Session #2 for the purpose of personnel at 8:35 p.m. Mr. Frazier seconded. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

**OPEN SESSION:** The Board returned to Open Session at 10:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Meeting was adjourned at 10:02 p.m.