

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

**MONDAY – JUNE 27, 2011 – 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, June 27, 2011. 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, Vice Chairman
Cheryl Mole
Willie Priester, Chairman
Valaree Smith, Secretary

ABSENT Terry Hall

FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE: Dr. Harold McClain, Superintendent
Charles Harney, Executive Director of Operations
Kedra Rivers, Director of Personnel
Kevin Robinson, Interim Finance Director
Patricia W. Pringle, Recorder

BOYKIN LAW: Charles Boykin, Esq.
Reagan Flemming, Esq.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Priester called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m.

INVOCATION: The invocation was given by Mr. Cave.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Cave moved to approve the Minutes of the May 28, 2011 Regular Monthly Meeting. Ms. Mole seconded. The motion was approved by all.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Priester said he received 1 public comment form for a student release request. He said this issue will be addressed under item #10 (student release requests) by the Superintendent.

PRESENTATION – ATTORNEY BOYKIN & DAVIS, LLC: Mr. Boykin gave a presentation on “*Board Member Roles and Responsibilities and FOIA*”. The Board, the public and the news media received a handout of the presentation. Mr. Boykin said he would entertain questions from the Board, community and public.

Chairman Priester asked to add Personnel Report to the Agenda. Ms. Mole moved to amend the Agenda to include Personnel Report. Mr. Cave seconded. The motion was approved by all.

SCSBA and NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION: Board Member Training Hours is for information only.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Discipline Reports: For information only.

DRAFT 2011-2012 Regular Scheduled Board Meetings: For information only.

SUPERINTENDENT’S OFFICE:

ACS Written Corrective Action Plan – Special Education: Dr. McClain said this is for information only. The District was cited for the lack of service provided to an individual student. This was brought to the District’s attention and a Corrective Action Plan is in place for this student and how these citations were addressed.

Ms. Smith asked about the Board Meeting schedule presented earlier. She said May 28, 2012 is Memorial Day. Dr. McClain said they will look at this and make the adjustments.

Electric & Gas (SCE&G) Comparisons – Mr. Harney said last year the District saved about \$51,000. The elementary schools were not on line until January with energy savings. This year the District is looking at about \$18,000 in additional savings based on the cost of electricity. If electricity goes up they will look at in terms of energy used not dollars paid.

Five Struggling School Districts Seek Help: for information only. Dr. McClain said many times they have tried to balance the budget, but we are not on an island by ourselves. Five school districts sought help from the Legislators. The current government is not very school friendly.

Student Release Request: Dr. McClain said the attorney just talked about the laws and statues that must be followed and he talked about the Roles and Responsibilities of the school board. Board members in the legislative role must do due diligence. Based on a recommendation from the attorney he asked the parents to – the attorney created a form to make sure the District is doing their due diligence – come by and pick up a copy of the form, complete the form and get it back to the District. A special meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 12th just to deal with

parents requesting their children to be released from Allendale County Schools. All of the information required is on the form, it is a simple form. After discussions/questions from the parents, Ms. Smith called a point of order – they have not allowed conversations back and forth in the past. If parents have questions they should call the superintendent at his office. Application letters of release will be available on Wednesday, June 29, 2011. Forms should be returned to the District office by July 6th and the meeting will be held on July 12th at 6:00 p.m.

Title I Application Process – Mr. Harney, Executive Director of Operations said the information was included in the Board’s packets. He presented a Power Point presentation and highlighted: 1) the new grant is \$1,316,018.00 and a carryover of about \$698,000; 2) proposed activities listed for each school; 3) the high school was added last year as a Title I school – they do dual credit high school and college credit courses; 4) all the elementary schools are in improvement status; 5) summer school for 2-8th grades. Chairman Priester asked if there are any ideals for projections for Federal funding – State funds are slow to return. Where does the District stand? Mr. Harney said if the economy improves more dollars should be allocated. Dr. McClain said there was some cuts and reduction in the Secondary Schools Act that funds Title I. Some people feel like too much money is being spent in public education. Everything is on the table. Mr. Harney said the funds the District is getting is a little less than last year.

Boys and Girls Club of Southern Carolina – MOA: Dr. McClain said the Board entered into an MOA for the Boys and Girls Club to operate. The facility needs a new roof and they have found a donator willing to put a new roof on the building, but the donor wants a little longer than a year MOA agreement. He sees no reason to upstage the program once it is established in that facility. He suggested doing the MOA for 5 years instead of annually. Ms. Smith asked if the MOA is with the Boys and Girls Club only and the District. Dr. McClain said yes, if the club ceases to exist the District still owns the building. Chairman Priester wanted to make sure the District does due diligence with the MOA and want to ensure an arena is provided for the students but it must protect the District also. They want 20 to 25 years for the MOA – but with something that carries that much weight look into it further. Dr. McClain said if they allowed something that allows the District to review the contract every 5 years is reasonable. Ms. Mole moved to table the item until further investigation is completed. Add this item to the July 12th Board Meeting Agenda. Mr. Cave seconded. The motion was approved by all.

PERSONNEL REPORT: Ms. Rivers, Personnel Director asked the Board to accept the recommendations discussed in executive session. Ms. Mole moved to accept the recommendations discussed in executive session. Mr. Cave seconded. The motion was approved by all.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

3rd Reading of the 2011-2012 Budget: Mr. Robinson, Interim Finance Director said there are no changes to the budget since the 2nd reading. Mr. Robinson said on page 4 of the slide: all the school districts have an option to pay the teachers step increase, but if there is no increase for teachers then there is none for administrators. The only increase would be for promotion or certification. Mr. Cave moved to accept the 3rd reading of the budget as received regarding the budget. Ms. Mole seconded. The motion was approved by all.

Funding Flexibility Form: Mr. Robinson said in the packet is the funding flexibility form – a tool given to districts by the State to move funds among the various State funds. 1st column is the State funds being used to transfer money from. 2nd column is a requirement of state listing total allocations for the year; 3rd column is the amount being transferred from the grants in the 1st column and the 4th column is where the money is being transferred to. The transfer requires Board approval and must be done by June 30th. The request is being done at this point because it is hard to tell beforehand how much money they have before the transfer. Ms. Mole moved to approve the Funding Flexibility Form for 2011-2012. Mr. Cave seconded. The motion was approved by all.

Budget Changes Report – May 1-31, 2011: Mr. Robinson said this report is for information only.

Budget Report by Function – May 1-31, 2011: Mr. Robinson said the 1st page is revenue in the general fund which is \$306,917 and year-to-date is \$11,035,549. The following 6 pages are the summary report of expenditures in the general fund by function for May and year-to-date. On page 6 the current expenditures are \$896,386.75 and year-to-date \$9,400,522.49.

Ms. Smith said on page 6 is this the balance for the rest of the year. Mr. Robinson said this is money that is available for the end of May. In June you will have another regular month and inclusion of salaries for 9 months employees for the summer months. What comes in during June is higher than the typical months. And some bills will not come in until June and this will be included.

Dr. McClain said Mr. Robinson has graciously extended himself to work with the District from afar until a replacement can be found. Ms. Smith asked if this position has been advertised. Dr. McClain said yes.

Chairman Priester asked to have the Boys and Girls Club MOA on the July 12th Board Agenda. And have the attorney advise them on the agreement.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Cave moved to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Ms. Mole seconded. The motion was approved by all.