

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

**MONDAY - MAY 22, 2017 - 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, May 22, 2017. At 6:00 P.M. the Board went into Executive Session #1 for the purposes of Personnel/Contractual Matters, Legal Advice and Student Release Requests. The Meeting was held at Allendale-Fairfax Middle/High School in the Multi-Purpose Room. The news media, WDOG and WIIZ Radio and the Barnwell Sentinel Newspaper were notified.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson Patricia Jenkins called the Meeting to Order at 6:00 P.M.

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

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

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION #1:** Ms. Robinson moved to go into Executive Session #1 at 6:02 P.M. for the purposes of Personnel/Contractual Matters, Legal Advice and Student Release Requests. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**OPEN SESSION:** Ms. Robinson moved that the Board return from Executive Session #1 at 7:14 P.M. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE:** led by AES Student Arianna Priester.

**APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS:** Chairperson Jenkins said the Board would continue discussions from the 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Session during Executive Session #2 later.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mr. Hall moved to approve the Minutes of Monday, April 24, 2017 Regular Monthly Meeting and Monday, May 8, 2017 Special Called Meeting. Ms. Robinson seconded. Ms. Robinson noted a correction on Page 2, Recognition of MLK Essay and Art Contest Winners should read the "Annual Unity Breakfast." The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – 3 MINUTES:**

Mr. Mark Lott said his topic was student achievement and from Post 607 he recognized students who went above and beyond, Canaan Ennis and Shania Green. Each student was presented a \$50 check. Three young men, Dakea Carter, Jerome Polite, III and Deion Priester attended Palmetto Boys State.

Ms. Shaquandra Dunbar, a parent said she has 2 children being promoted on the same day. One in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and the other in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. She asked if the school could change one of the dates.

Dr. Howell said it came to their attention at the Baccalaureate Program that 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders are graduating on the same date. But they will change this.

Ms. Tracy Sanders said her daughter was in a fight at the high school and got hit with some brass knuckles. What can she do about the situation? She has 10 days home. Dr. Howell asked Ms. Sanders to contact his office in the morning.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Mrs. Lillian Carter Lawton – SCEA Retired Distinguished Community Service Recipient:** Board Member Robinson said Mrs. Lawton is 94+ years old and in June she will be a National Distinguished Service Person, if she wins. On Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at AFHS a community wide celebration will be held for Mrs. Lawton. Mrs. Lawton is also a SC House of Representatives Distinguished Community Service Honoree.

**SCSBA Training Hours Report FY2016-17:** Chairperson Jenkins said the Board is required to get so many hours of training for education. Board thanks for your commitment and dedication.

**GOOD NEWS**

**Girls to Pearls and Boys to Gents:** spoke persons for the group were students Arianna Williams and Seneca Baines.

**Cadet Maitri Patel – Scholarship Recipient SC Society of the Sons of the American Revolution:** Maj. Howard said he has been with JROTC for 15 years and this is the first time they have received this award. The award is presented to only 20 cadets in the State. Maitri is a 10<sup>th</sup> grader, ranked in the top 5% of her class and has no discipline record. Her entry essay was entitled "How JROTC Prepared Me to Become a Better Citizen in the United States." The award is for \$500.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/Dr. Secaida D. Howell**

**AFHS Accreditation Status:** Dr. Howell said the denied accreditation status has been removed. AFHS will be put on advised or probationary status, because turning in some data deadline may have been missed.

**Summer Institute:** Dr. Howell said Summer Institute would be held for 3 days – June 6-8, 2017 for staff. Some of the topics to be discussed during Summer Institute include: 1) Classroom Management; 2) Student Engagement & Motivation/Differentiated Instruction; 3) Instructional Supervision: we must inspect what we expect and 4) Status of Projects and Grant Submissions/Reports.

**School Administrative Leadership:** Dr. Howell said the school principal is one of the deciding factors in student success, then the teacher. He will be moving forward to add more principals and administrators where needed

**Employee Conduct:** Dr. Howell said the main thing is to make sure the boys and girls are safe.

**Roles & Responsibilities of District Office Staff:** Dr. Howell said this coming year the District will have staff in place that are qualified and effective. Our staff in place is qualified and effective, but we will add to this.

**District Finance Office:** Dr. Howell said they are going through the budget process and had the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the 2017-2018 budget earlier tonight.

**Bus Transportation:** Dr. Howell said around the State this is an issue. The lack of bus drivers, we need at least 3 or 4 more. He will be putting out a campaign for more bus drivers and asking the community for help. If you know of someone looking for a job and has a good drivers license, driving bus is no easy task.

**Office of Food Service:** Dr. Howell said as a Board you asked him to take a look at some things and we are looking at this. We have had no complaints about the food. He has not had lunch with students, but he will.

**Renovation & Construction Projects:** Dr. Howell said the Board is looking at building an Early Childhood Center and a Track Field. We are still working with this and he has been in communication with the project director and site manager.

**Summer Hours:** Dr. Howell said summer hours are June 5 – August 4, 2017, Monday-Thursdays 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., with an abbreviated 30 minutes lunch. The District will be closed on Fridays.

**PERSONNEL – Ms. Rivers, Director of Personnel:** the Board will enter into Executive Session #2 for Personnel/Contractual Matters and Student Release Requests.

## **APPROVALS**

**2017-2018 District Calendar:** the Calendar will be presented at the June Special Called Meeting.

**Student Dress Code – Policy JICA – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Ms. Robinson moved to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Ms. Jennings seconded. Mr. Hall opposed. The motion passed with a 4-1 vote.

**District Wellness – Policy ADF – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Mr. Hall moved to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of the Policy. Ms. Robinson seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**Food Services – Policy EF-R 1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Mr. Hall moved to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of the Policy. Ms. Robinson seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**Student Release Requests:** this item will be discussed in Executive Session #2.

**Field Studies Request – AFMS Educational Discovery to Washington, DC, New York and Baltimore, MD – May 25-29, 2017:** Ms. Robinson said the intended date of the request is May 25<sup>th</sup>, which is Thursday, this is late coming to them. But she thinks it is an excellent trip. With the cost spreadsheet, students are being charged \$400 a piece. Principal Hall said yes, parents paid the fee. The other costs are coming from fund #371, end-of-year enrichment. Teacher, Ms. Priester provided the Board with an updated itinerary. Ms. Robinson moved to approve the request. Ms. Jennings seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**Field Studies Request – AFHS Premiere Beauty Show – Orlando, FL – June 3-5, 2017:** Mr. Hall moved to approve the request. Ms. Robinson seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**Field Studies Request – AFHS HOSA International Leadership Conference – Orlando, FL – June 20-25, 2017:** Ms. Robinson moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS –** Ms. Grant, Finance Director reported: 1) the total revenue \$10,883; page 4 the total expenditures as of April 30, 2017 is \$9,911,392 which is a surplus. The District did receive the Ad Valorem taxes; 2) page 11 is the budget change report thru the end of April 20, 2017. These are normal changes from one object to another – operations for repair; 3) where is the District, we have a surplus as of today; 4) see page 2 “#DIV/0!” in red, line items 118 and 188. The line items were not initially budgeted but there was an expenditure; 5) the Auditors will be in the District July 31, 2017; 6) \$4.6 million is the fund balance; 6) pages 12-14 are travel for the superintendent and board of education; 7) pages 15-17 are special revenue funds from the SDE and 8) the credit card provider had to be changed. The District now has a credit card.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Thursday – May 25, 2017 – Adult Education Graduation – AFHS Multi-Purpose Room – 6:00 P.M.

Wednesday – May 31, 2017 – AFMS Promotion Ceremony – 9:30 A.M.

Friday, June 2, 2017 – AFHS Graduation – 7:00 P.M.

Monday-Tuesday – June 12-13, 2017 – National Summit of Schools, Communities & Law Enforcement Conference – Columbia

Friday – June 30, 2017 – Little New Steps Graduation – Brandt Building – 6:00 P.M.

SCSBA – School Law Conference – August 19-20, 2017 – Myrtle Beach

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of the 2017-2018 Budget Board Workshop on June 5, 2017 at 5:00 P.M. AFHS Multi-Purpose Room

**Executive Session #2:** at 8:35 P.M. Ms. Robinson moved to go into Executive Session #2 for the items that were not handled in Executive Session #1. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**OPEN SESSION:** Ms. Robinson moved to come out of Executive Session #2 at 9:40 P.M. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Dr. Howell recommended a diagnostic investigation inquiry of the AdvancEd review. Ms. Robinson moved to approve the recommendation. Ms. Jennings seconded. Chairperson Jenkins, Ms. Robinson, Ms. Jennings and Mr. Hall moved to approve the recommendation. Ms. Russell opposed. The motion was approved by a 4-1 vote.

Dr. Howell recommended that 2 employees in the Finance Department Title's be changed with an increase in compensation. Ms. Robinson moved to approve the recommendation. Mr. Hall seconded. Chairperson Jenkins, Ms. Robinson, Ms. Jennings and Mr. Hall moved to approve the recommendation. Ms. Russell opposed. The motion was approved by a 4-1 vote.

Mr. Hall moved to approve the Student Release Requests. Ms. Jennings seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**ADJOURNMENT:** the Meeting was adjourned at 9:44 P.M.