

**ALLENDALE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES – REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

**MONDAY – DECEMBER 17, 2012 – 5:30 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, December 17, 2012. At 5:30 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: Alonzo Frazier, Vice Chair
Timothy Hall
Willie Priester
Wilda Robinson, Chair
Valaree Smith, Secretary

FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE: Dr. Harold McClain, Superintendent
Kedra Rivers, Director of Personnel
Charles Tillotson, Director of Finance
Patricia W. Pringle, Recorder

BOYKIN & DAVIS, LLC: Attorney, Charles Boykin

CALL TO ORDER: Chairwoman Robinson called the Meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE: A Moment of Silence was held.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board went into Executive Session at 6:06 p.m. to discuss personnel.

OPEN SESSION: Mr. Priester moved that the Board return to Open Session at 7:22 p.m. Mr. Frazier seconded. The motion was approved by all.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mr. Hall moved to approve the Agenda as provided. Mr. Priester seconded. The motion was approved by all.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Priester moved to approve the Minutes of the November 19, 2012 Board Meeting. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by all.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Mark Lott said his topic is transparency/accountability. He said: 1) in the community the average African American males ages 14-20 are lost. The system is failing these young men; 2) the community has been kept in the dark about these young males by Administrators; 3) the District takeover was done for financial reasons; 4) he does not see many community members in the audience tonight; 4) suggested having settings where the Board goes out into the community to get the community more involved; 5) let the community and Board come together and get better results for the funds spent in the District.

CHAIR'S REPORT Chairwoman Robinson reported: 1) the Board and Administration will be looking at ways the District can have more participation from parents and community members; 2) they have looked at ways for them to tell their story in the community; 3) the community will be hearing more about these initiatives.

BOARD REPORT – SCSBA LEGISLATIVE & ADVOCACY CONFERENCE

Chairwoman Robinson reported: 1) senators and legislators talked about what will be coming in the next few weeks; 2) the Government may go over the fiscal cliff; 3) later on the Agenda is a Resolution from the NSBA about the cutting of the potential funds; the District is small and any cuts coming down would have a serious impact on the District; 4) the Resolution will sent to the local delegation.

GOOD NEWS

SFA (Success For All) Ambassador School – Allendale Elementary: Principal Leath reported the school was chosen as a model SFA school: 1) the school will be hosting visits from new and not so new SFA sites, they will visit AES and see how the program runs; 2) AES will be recognized at the SFA Conference and will be listed on the SFA Website; 3) Ms. Leath attributed the award to the hard work of staff. Present at the Board meeting were Ms. Harden who teaches in the SFA and Mr. Everett, Parent Liaison.

Clean Sweep Award – Mr. Tillotson presented the Clean Sweep Award to Ms. Leath, Principal of AES and Mr. Hemby, Principal of AFMS.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Discipline Reports: For information only. Mr. Frazier urged the Board and Superintendent to look into bullying and handle bullying in a proactive manner and let's address this issue.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Requested Facilities PowerPoint from Brownstone/MBAJ Team: Mr. Frazier asked for an explanation of the study and why it was done.

Facilities Studies Update – Mr. Tillotson answered Mr. Frazier’s question reporting: 1) last spring they analyzed the footprint of the District to make sure it was being cost effective in the way the District is operated; 2) in July the Office of School Transformation from the SDE looked at the student population; 3) experts took a look at the data to find out where the District is; 4) the SDE suggested the District “reduce its footprint”; 5) the District set up a review committee. Bids were submitted and the District went thru the normal procurement process; 6) Brownstone Group was chosen by the committee to conduct a comprehensive study and not use 10 year old data; 7) the Group conducted a review of each building, structural integrity, heating, A/C and plumbing, cost projection; the work has been completed, they have been to all the facilities; 8) District staff, administrators and principals will provide feedback; will get input from teachers and schedule a meeting with the community; 9) it has been a challenge to get everyone involved during the holidays; 10) he will get names from the Board of people from their Districts that would like to be part of the committee and have input; 11) in late January/early February Brownstone will make a recommendation or provide options on the findings in the report. Chairwoman Robinson asked what funding source paid for this. Mr. Tillotson said about \$200,000 was coming from a “sinking fund” left in the District in about 2008-2009.

Mr. Frazier said Brownstone should sit with the Board and talk about the presentation. And also the District should draft a letter to circulate and make sure the community knows what this is about. He is concerned about a leak he saw in the roof at AFHS while attending a School Improvement Council Meeting. Make sure the leak is taken care of because the District is repaying a Bond for repairing the roof at the high school. Mr. Priester directed the Board’s attention to page 6 of the Brownstone report which outlines the projected schedule of activities.

Requested Adult Education Enrollment: for information only. Dr. Francis said one document is missing from the packet. He will send the information out tomorrow.

MAP Update – Dr. Sherald, Atlantic Research Partners – (Dr. Sherald is out sick). The information will be reported on at the next Board Meeting.

Educator Evaluation and Support Guidelines – Mr. Schilit, Coordinator of Data, Evaluation and Testing reported: 1) grades of A-F will be assigned to teachers and administrators based on effectiveness; 2) the report was put out in June 2012 by the SDE – some things have changed since the document came out; 3) the report has been updated/enhanced and expanded; it is a draft and working document; 4) the growth piece is different – recognize student growth for evaluating principals and teachers; 5) page 5 outlines the goals of the SDE that will be reached by 2014-2015 and all schools in SC will be under this model; 6) FES and AFMS have been exposed to pieces of this evaluation instrument; 7) page 6 talks about performance standards (see page 18 for standards and key indicators); 8) the concern is that the A-F grade will travel with teachers and principals from district to district; 9) TOP (Teacher Observation and

Performance Scale) see page 8; 10) page 9 outlines the percentages, weight and scale for teacher evaluations; 11) page 11 outlines the weighed components for principals; 12) Boards can use these grades and weights when considering the renewal or nonrenewal of contracts for principals. Mr. Priester said the State Board of Education is not in agreement with this proposal. Mr. Schilit said the vote was 11-3 against the proposal. Mr. Frazier said the District is looking at how to evaluate teachers, but what about so many people telling teachers what to do, but in some situations they are not trained to do certain things. Look at adjusting the District to help teachers do a better job. He hears the comments of too many chiefs and not enough Indians.

APPROVALS

NSBA Resolution Regarding Sequestration: Dr. McClain said if Congress does not act on this and the Government goes off the fiscal cliff, this automatically triggers some cuts, about \$1.2 trillion in federal programs and funds lost in Title I. Mr. Priester said hearing about the information and reading the sample resolution he moved that as a Board they accept the Resolution and send it to the Legislations. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by all.

Speech/Debate Tournament – Gatlinburg, TN – February 21-24, 2013: Mr. Frazier asked about the meal cost to students. How will this be paid for? Mr. Youmans said Mr. Siren the Debate Coach funds the trip, but he does not have to. The cost for students, they are planning on paying for this and the District will not have to pay for transportation. Ms. Smith said there is no cost showing on this Form to the District. She would like to see where the District is picking up the meal costs for students. Mr. Frazier said if no questions were asked, the Form should be more clearly outlined. Ms. Smith asked about female chaperones for the trip. Mr. Frazier moved that the Board approve the trip. Mr. Hall seconded. Chairwoman Robinson asked if there was further debate or discussion. Mr. Frazier said the Form should be clear about what we are going to do. Dr. McClain said he will have the High School amend the Field Studies Request Form to show the school is covering the cost of meals. Chairwoman Robinson asked about the liability for the Board when the Coach pays for these items and disclaimers to protect the District. We may want to have Mr. Siren state something in writing or on the Form that he does not hold the District responsible or liable. Ms. Smith asked about female chaperones on the trip. Mr. Youmans said he will check and make sure a female chaperone will be attending. Chairwoman Robinson said Mr. Youmans is listed as the contact person in case of an emergency, but asked that other numbers also be listed just in case of an emergency. The motion was approved by all.

Waiver from Nelson, Mullins, Scarborough: this was discussed in Executive Session. Mr. Priester moved to honor the request from the law firm. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by all.

PERSONNEL: Ms. Rivers, Director of Personnel asked the Board to accept the recommendations made in Executive Session. Mr. Priester moved to accept the recommendations. Ms. Smith seconded. The motion was approved by all.

Mr. Frazier said in the community there is a perception that the District does not hire local people. He asked if the Board could create a data base of local people seeking jobs. He would like to see this data base created before the hiring season starts. Dr. McClain said the District has a listing of all people that applied and were hired from Allendale. Mr. Frazier said he is talking about a data base, look at the skill mix of local people and try to match people with positions.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Mr. Tillotson, Director of Finance reported: 1) this time of year revenues fall short of expenditures, which reflects the cash flow of the District; 2) as noted on the cover of information you received the District has received 90% payment on Tier 3 Funding in the amount of \$372,0000. On tomorrow or Wednesday the District should get December EFA funding which is about \$800,000; 3) the District is in good shape and the District is not borrowing on their line of credit, even though this is in place.

Budget Change Report – November 1-30, 2012: no changes in the month of November

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday – December 21st – ½ Day for Students – Last Day for Staff

Thursday, January 3, 2013 – 240 Day Staff Return

Monday, January 7, 2013 – Students & Teachers Return

Tuesday, January 8, 2013 – Chairwoman Robinson said the Superintendent has been asked to deliver a State-of-the-School District address at 6:00 p.m. Information will be forthcoming to the media.

SIG (School Improvement Grant) Dr. McClain reported on: 1) Tuesday, December 11 a team met with a team from the SDE; 2) the conversation centered around the SIG Grant and modifications made during the course of last year as it relates to FES and AFMS; 3) SFA (Success-For-All) continues in AES, but ended in FES and AFMS as of last school year; 4) the District went from a Transformation to Restart Model. The SDE said the District did not meet the criteria for the Restart Model; 5) the District modified the original Plan to meet the letter of the SIG guidelines to go forth; 6) a Plan will be submitted to the SDE and they will decide if this Plan adheres to the Federal regulations.

Chairwoman Robinson asked everyone to keep their thoughts and heart on the community in New Town because of the tragedy that occurred last Friday.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #2: Mr. Hall moved to go into Executive Session at 8:37 p.m. for the Superintendent contract review. Mr. Frazier seconded. The motion was approved by all.

OPEN SESSION: Mr. Priester moved that the Board returned to Open Session at 10:24 p.m. Mr. Frazier seconded the motion. The motion was approved by all.

Mr. Hall moved that the Allendale County Schools Board of Trustees vote not to extend Dr. Harold McClain's employment contract as superintendent beyond the conclusion of the June 30, 2013 school year. Mr. Frazier seconded. Chair Robinson, Mr. Frazier and Mr. Hall voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Priester and Ms. Smith voted against the motion. The motion was approved by a 3-2 vote.

ADJOURNMENT: The Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.