

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

**MONDAY – JANUARY 25, 2016 – 6:00 P.M.**

**ALLENDALE-FAIRFAX MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL – MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM**

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Allendale County Schools Board of Trustees was held on Monday, January 25, 2016. At 6:00 P.M. the Board went into Executive Session to discuss Personnel/Employee Agreement, Insurance and Superintendent Contracts. The Meeting was held at Allendale-Fairfax Middle/High School in the Multi-Purpose Room. The news media was notified.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson Russell called the Meeting to Order at 6:05 P.M.

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

**ROLL CALL:**

- Alonzo Frazier
- Terry Hall, Vice Chairman
- Patricia Jenkins, Secretary
- Wilda J. Robinson
- Catherine Russell, Chairperson

**FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE:** Superintendent Leila W. Williams  
Angela Grant, Director of Finance  
Kedra Rivers, Director of Personnel  
Patricia W. Pringle, Recorder

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION #1:** Ms. Jenkins moved to go into Executive Session #1 at 6:07 P.M. for Personnel/Employee Agreements, Insurance and Superintendent Contracts. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**OPEN SESSION:** Ms. Jenkins moved that the Board return to Open Session at 7:05 P.M. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mr. Hall moved to approve the Monday, December 14, 2015 Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes as stated. Ms. Jenkins seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH**

Superintendent Mrs. Williams said January is School Board Recognition Month and the schools will make presentations and say thanks to the Board for their hard work and dedication.

Mr. Robinson, AFLC thanked the entire Board and said his Board Member was Ms. Jenkins. He thanked her for making sure the students have all the resources needed and to be successful in life. He said Little New Steps also contributed to the token of appreciation for Ms. Jenkins.

Ms. Green, AES said Prof. Robinson was their Board Member and she was presenting an elegant basket for an elegant lady. Thanks for all you do to support the District and the schools.

Ms. Green presented on behalf of Ms. Hall/AFMS to Board Member Mr. Frazier a beautiful basket and an Outback Restaurant gift card.

Ms. Leath, FES thanked Board Chair Russell for coming over last week for lunch and she had a special surprise delivered to her job. Students made special cards and banners. Thanks for all the late night and early morning phone calls. Thanks for all you do for everyone in Allendale County Schools.

Mr. Baines, AFHS said their Board Member was Mr. Hall. He asked all the HS students in the audience to stand. He presented Mr. Hall with a gold and black tie, other nice goodies and an Outback gift card. He thanked Mr. Hall for his dedication and for traveling with them last week.

Superintendent Mrs. Williams said all Board Members had a bag in their seat from the District Office and they also received a pin.

Ms. Russell recognized Mayor Riley from the Town of Fairfax.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Theresa Faust a parent asked what is the Policy for visiting your child's school and classroom. It is different at each school. When she tried to visit her child at AFMS she was told she had to make an appointment. Superintendent Mrs. Williams asked Ms. Faust to give her a call on Tuesday.

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Use of Public Funds

**Board Retreat/Work Session:** the Work Session is scheduled for Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> starting at 9:00 a.m. They are working on getting a facilitator.

#### **GOOD NEWS**

**AFHS Football Team:** Coach Ford said it was a tough and long season. This was the worst team they had in the last 3 years, but they were tough and closer and it's not the team that is the most talented, but the team that puts it all together. They stayed positive and it paid off. Coach Ford asked the Football Team to stand.

**GA/SC Border War Participant:** Coach Ford said Shaquille Elmore played in the North/South All-Star Game and the Border Bowl.

**CSRA Athlete Participants:** Coach Ford said Deon Priester and D'Najee Whosendove were on television last Thursday night. These guys were in the top 26 players and it is an

honor to attend the CSRA Dinner. They have good grades, are good kids and good athletes. They also received rings at the Awards Banquet.

**MLK Essay Winners:** Ms. Robinson said Ms. Willa Jennings the Executive Director of the Allendale County Democratic Party could not attend tonight's Board Meeting. Each year the Democratic Party hosts the Unity Breakfast. Ms. Robinson said this year they had 113 essay entries and 39 Art exhibits from grades Pre-K thru 12<sup>th</sup>. Each of the 15 winners was presented with a gift card from Hardee's in Allendale. They had 11 winners from the Art exhibit entries. During the Unity Breakfast the Art work was displayed in the Commons Area of the High School. These winners also received a gift card from Hardee's. The Allendale County Democratic Party is not just about politics but also making the community a better place. Ms. Robinson thanked the Superintendent, Board Chair, Board and Principals for their support and the faculty and staff.

### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**Discipline Reports:** For information only.

**SC Statement of Economic Interest – Filing Electronically Only:** the deadline to file is March 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE**

**District Volunteer Program:** Dr. Beckett, Director of Title I said Volunteer Orientation was held in September 2015. They received 13 applications and 6 showed up. All volunteers must go thru a comprehensive background check. In January 2016 they received 16 applications but only 7 participated in orientation. Mr. Hall asked if Coaches who work in the District, but are not District employees required to attend training. Ms. Williams said she would check on this.

**Apple Connect:** Ms. Jamison, Director of Technology said the Board received a list of activities in the Board packet. She had a joint meeting with Apple on goals and objectives. The contractors are in to complete the wireless at AES, took those access points live and will be fine-tuning these to have optimal coverage. FES wireless is being installed. Several planning conference calls are scheduled to talk about professional development and having these the week of Summer Institute. They are working on universal mounts at AES to install the projectors and not have cables going across the work. March 21<sup>st</sup> will roll out Mac Air Books to teachers.

**Savannah River Rural Health Network:** Mrs. Williams said she was asked to provide a letter of support. School based telehealth programs have become popular in rural areas. You can dial up and speak face-to-face with doctors. Several rural districts are using this. For students who need to see a specialist travel can be difficult. The District is partnering with the Savannah River Rural Health Network. She hopes this grant is awarded. Many rural areas are losing their hospitals.

**Governor's Budget Proposal:** Superintendent Mrs. Williams said Governor Haley is proposing the following: a) an increase in the base student costs; b) an increase in dollars for school buses. Some of our school buses are very old; and c) an increase in salary for bus drivers. These proposals must go before the Legislature, House and Senate.

**South Carolina Homeschool Association:** Mrs. Williams reported a total of 7 students being homed schooled thru this association.

**SDE Updates:** Mrs. Williams reported districts are getting more information on the dates for State testing. She received information today on the type of test items, test blueprints and how they will be graded. The SC Ready test will not be timed, information on accommodation and pencil/paper administration of the test.

Ms. Robinson said in the report the Governors Budget proposal talked about school buses. She has had concerns from bus drivers that the District did not have enough substitute drivers. They were having problems getting off for a day and they suggested the bus aides be trained. Mrs. Williams said she met with bus drivers last week to have some dialogue and give some suggestions. She also spoke with Ms. Brooker to contact the Training Office for training during the summer months. Also about getting the Para-pros trained and athletics. About 4 bus drivers are needed right now. Many bus drivers are doing double and triple runs. Mrs. Williams said she appreciates their dedication and sacrifices on getting the students to and from school. All surrounding districts are having the same problems.

## **APPROVALS**

**Field Studies Request – Battle of the Bands, Atlanta, GA – January 30, 2016:** Mr. Hall moved to approve the request. Ms. Jenkins seconded. Ms. Robinson said this request is an excellent opportunity for students but they are just receiving the request. Several years back they asked Administrators to get the requests to the Board in a timely manner. The request is almost incomplete. Please share our concerns with the principal and the person making the request. Mr. Frazier said he likes staff and children going on these trips but they need to be completed in a timely manner. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**Field Studies Request – Extension Activity for Anne Frank – Augusta, GA – February 24, 2016:** Ms. Robinson moved to approve the request as presented. Mr. Hall seconded. Mr. Frazier said it looks like the entire school is going. Teacher, Ms. Brown said they are taking the entire 8<sup>th</sup> grade class and about ten 7<sup>th</sup> graders are also going. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**Field Studies Request – Bob Haynes Track Meet, Jacksonville, FL – March 18-20, 2016:** Ms. Jenkins moved to approve the request. Mr. Frazier seconded. Ms. Robinson said the request is very professionally submitted, typed and they see exactly what the students will be doing. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**Field Studies Request - Education Discovery in Washington DC in May:** Mrs. Williams said the Middle School wanted to get the Board's approval before they started all the planning. This is 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip. Ms. Brown said they are looking at about 45 students attending the trip. Mr. Hall asked what determines which students attends. Ms. Brown said discipline and on a first-come, first-served basis. Ms. Robinson asked what type of fundraisers will be held. Ms. Brown said they would meet with parents, who may have to pay a fee and get ideas from them. Mr. Hall asked if this is an annual or one time trip. Ms. Brown said they hope they are trying to start a tradition. He suggested doing an 8<sup>th</sup> grade only trip and then the 7<sup>th</sup> grade can start raising funds in advance. He asked AFMS to consider this. Mr. Frazier said if the students come up with a short fall in funds and they come to the Board in enough time the Board will consider giving them some help. Ms. Robinson asked if State Funds were available for this. Mrs. Williams said Principal Hall is talking with her State Priority Funds person. Ms. Robinson moved that the Board tentatively approve the trip with room for amendments or changes. Mr. Frazier seconded. She amended the motion to the Board approve the proposal to study the possibility of a trip to Washington, DC for the Middle School students. Mr. Frazier seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**Debate Team Competition – Smoky Mountain Invitational – Gatlinburg, TN – February 25-27, 2016:** Mrs. Williams said the Board would receive additional information on the trip via email. Seven students will be attending and 3 chaperones and 1 is a female. They have completed the District Vehicle Request Form. Ms. Robinson moved that the Board approve the trip to the Tennessee Invitational with the understanding that the Board will get the complete packet via email. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**PERSONNEL:** Ms. Rivers, Director of Personnel asked the Board to approve the resignation discussed in Executive Session. Ms. Jenkins moved to approve the recommendation for K.S. Mr. Hall seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Ms. Grant, Director of Finance reported the information was in the Board's packet.

**Cover Letter**

**Operating Statement**

**Board Travel Statement**

**Budget Change Report:** Ms. Grant said the District received the RFQ for services for the Track and Field – see the cover letter. February 2<sup>nd</sup> they will conduct interviews and the District can select a candidate or not select a candidate. Then the District can decide to move forward, getting drawings and what the District's budget will be. Mr. Frazier asked about getting a grant from USDA for a 75 to 25 match. Ms. Grant said the District is in the process of closing the other 8 grants from the USDA and getting ready to receive the funds for those 8 projects. Mrs. Williams said the District could not submit a grant to the USDA until we know what the costs will be for the track. Mr. Frazier said 2 years ago Ms. Robinson wrote a proposal and this could be part of the grant, which was for the

community. If we are handling our money right we should be able to get additional funds from the Legislature. The Fund Balance of \$4.63 million dollars, 98% balance, we should not be using any of this money. See Operating Statement. Ms. Grant said this is not the Fund Balance, but Local Revenue.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SCSBA Annual Conference – Myrtle Beach – February 18-21, 2016**

**February 22, 2016 – Regular Monthly Meeting – Fairfax Elementary School**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION #2:** Mr. Hall moved to go into Executive Session #2 for Personnel Matters at 8:15 P.M. Ms. Jenkins seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**OPEN SESSION:** The Board returned to Open Session at 8:55 P.M. Ms. Jenkins moved to amend the Residency Clause in the Superintendent Contract. Mr. Hall seconded. Ms. Jenkins, Ms. Russell and Mr. Hall voted in favor of the motion. Ms. Robinson opposed the motion. Mr. Frazier abstained. The motion was passed by a vote of 3 approving the removal of the Residency Clause.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Meeting was adjourned at 8:57 P.M.