

MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2006, 6:30 P.M.
BRADLEY LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Muscogee County School District was held on Monday, October 16, 2006, 6:30 p.m. in the conference room at the Bradley Library.

The following Board members were present: Mary Sue Polleys, Chairman, James Walker, Vice Chairman, Brenda P. Storey, Philip T. Schley, Patricia Hugley Green, Fife M. Whiteside, John Wells, Naomi Buckner and Joseph Roberson.

Others present: John A. Phillips, Jr., Superintendent of Education, Greg S. Ellington, Legal Counsel, Robin Pennock, Del Parker, Don Cooper, Eddie Obleton, Peggy Connell, Myles Caggins, Billy Kendall, Harry Franklin and other representatives from the media.

Dr. Polleys called the meeting to order with an invocation. The pledge to the flag and the character education word was led by students from Key Elementary School. Dr. Polleys recognized visitors in the audience to include the wife and daughter of Mr. Lonnie Jackson.

The Board recognized Ms. Lisa Goodwin, Deputy City Manager and Mr. Howard Pendleton who introduced Youth Advisory Council members and advisors. The Board also recognized those schools cited as 2006 Georgia Single Statewide Accountability Systems; Britt David, Columbus High, Shaw High, Clubview and Waddell and ABCD Award winner Wiley Waters.

Dr. Phillips informed the Board of an update from the New Report Card. It was presented by Carol Bradshaw.

Dr. Polleys called on Allison Savage who requested that the Board consider building an auditorium for Northside High School. Dr. Schley noted that the Administration is in the process of researching funding for this project. He also noted that once an auditorium is built on the site it would serve not only Northside High but also North Columbus Elementary and the new middle school no. 5.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Roberson, the Board unanimously approved official actions taken at the regular Board of Education meeting held on Monday, September 18, 2006.

Upon motion of Mr. Roberson, seconded by Dr. Schley the Board unanimously voted to modify the agenda to include an addendum item.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Dr. Schley, the Board unanimously appointed Sonja Coaxum to the position of principal at Muscogee Evening School.

Mrs. Green made a motion, seconded by Ms. Buckner to establish a Citizens Advisory Committee to review the state curriculum and attendant guidelines for the Bible as Literature elective. Ms. Buckner, “What is being suggested is that there is a committee from the community to review the Bible class and make some suggestions the same as the Construction and Sex Advisory Committee, is this correct?” Dr. Polleys, “Yes, this is being suggested.” Mr. Roberson, “I want to encourage the Board to vote for it. An idea was for a fifteen member citizens review and not to in any way to discourage or detain the legislation and course from going forth. It is to involve the public. We don’t want to just be open to the public but, we want to allow the public to be a part of the process. We are a government of the people and whenever we are doing something where there are so many religious communities. We have clergy groups that have called me and they want to be a part of this. To look at the curriculum, to look at the qualifications for the teacher and like Dr. Schley said to look at the age level for this course.” Dr. Schley, “I agree. My problem is, I don’t think that a committee can do much until we get information down from the State as to what they are recommending what we are to do. That’s why I can’t vote for this.” Mrs. Green, “You’re right Dr. Schley, the State has not done anything but, unfortunately we are here with this curriculum even though the State has not set up a curriculum for us to follow. It’s just an opportunity for us to reach out and embrace collaboration with the community that we know is essential. We know that successful school districts around the country have deliberate and consistent community support and this is just another opportunity to embrace that.” The vote was (3) affirming, (Green, Buckner, Roberson); (5) opposing, (Wells, Storey, Whiteside, Walker, Polleys) and (1) abstaining, (Schley).

Upon motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the renewal of the payroll and personnel system software package provided by Integral Systems, Inc., in the amount of \$79,800.00.

Upon motion of Dr. Schley, seconded by Ms. Buckner, the Board unanimously approved a statement of intent regarding the purchase of playground equipment at the schools. The Board of Education will cease to provide matching funds. Nothing in this statement of intent would preclude a PTA or other group from spending funds to improve playgrounds.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Roberson, the Board unanimously awarded a contract in the amount of \$14,110.00 to PRI Youth Development Institute to provide services for Title I schools that have been identified as In Need of Improvement for two or more years.

Upon motion of Mr. Roberson, seconded by Ms. Buckner, the Board unanimously approved Financial Statements for two months ending August 31, 2006.

Upon motion of Mr. Roberson, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board approved a purchase order to Logicalis, Inc., \$37,200.00 for computer equipment at ten school locations. Mr. Whiteside noted, “With Logicalis, Inc. being the vendor on the State bid list and so as to be consistent, I’m going to vote against this because, I think \$37,000.00 is above the threshold and which we ought to be using procurement for technology rather than going to the State bid list.” The vote was (8) affirming and (1) opposing, (Whiteside).

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Roberson, the Board unanimously approved a purchase order to Cisco Systems, \$14,466.67 for the annual renewal cost of switch and router maintenance including upgrades.

Upon motion of Mrs. Green seconded by Ms. Buckner, the Board approved a purchase order to Virtucom in the amount of \$43,245.12 to replace computer equipment for the Project Lead the Way Magnet Program at Northside High School. The vote was (8) affirming and (1) opposing, (Whiteside).

Upon motion of Ms. Buckner, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board approved the purchase of computers for itinerant special education teachers with FY03 SPLOST funds and, pending approval, advanced approval of purchase orders that will be generated after an exact number of desktop and laptop computers is determined. The total cost not to exceed \$51,458.00. Mr. Whiteside noted, "If this passes, I will reimburse the school district for my wife's computer who is affected by this." The vote was (8) affirming and (1) abstaining, (Whiteside)

Upon motion of Dr. Schley, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board approved the following consent agenda items:

- Human Resources Report/Professional and Classified (Appendix A)
- Collaborative Agreement GA Department of Labor's Vocational Rehab Program
- New budget for Title I FY07, \$11,205,919.00
- Workers' Compensation settlements, \$100,000; \$22,500, \$25,000
- Rothschild Trust Funds, \$5,405.00; \$687.00 for program at Rothschild Middle
- Budget adjustment FY07 Capacity Grant, \$6,665.00, Woodall Program
- Budget adjustment Professional Learning, adjustment
- Budget adjustment Chattahoochee Valley Regional Library System, \$111,904.00
- Grant, FY07 SED K-8 Reading & Math, \$10,800, Woodall Program
- Grant, Title V Part A Innovation of NCLB, \$60,236
- Grant, Title II, Part A Improving Teacher Quality, \$2,081,796.00, NCLB
- Grant, Title I-C Migrant Education Program, FY07, \$17,040.00
- Grant, Georgia Power New Teacher, Kendrick, \$1,000.00
- Financial Assistance, \$4,062.22
- Audit of Financial Statement of 1997 SPLOST Capital Projects
- Sales Tax Construction Program Report
- Report on Transfer from FY03 SPLOST Critical Needs
- FY97 Sales Tax Construction Program Report
- Report on Transfers from Capital Projects and Debt to SPLOST Fund
- Report of Change Orders/Changes in Project Contingencies
- Status Report for Projects under construction
- Report on System-wide Technology Plan
- Report on Forecasted Revenue Collections
- Report on Transfers from Capital Projects Funds
- Grant, National Football League Youth Football, \$7,000, Carver High

Dr. Polleys noted meeting dates for the Board to conduct a Construction meeting and a work session for Eastwood Academy.

Dr. Polleys noted that there would not be an executive session.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the regular October meeting of the Board.

Greg S. Ellington
Legal Counsel