

CHESTERFIELD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR SESSION
DECEMBER 10, 2007

PRESENT – BOARD MEMBERS: Mr. Jerry D. Holley, Chairman; Mr. James N. Sweeney, Vice-Chairman; Mr. William B. Watson, Secretary; Mrs. Kimberly T. Burch; Mrs. Linda Blackwell Frasier; Mr. Wesley R. Miles; Mr. Council Porter; and Mr. Chad L. Vick

ABSENT – BOARD MEMBER: Mr. Steven W. Humphries

PRESENT – STAFF: Williams, Frank Patterson, Watson, Sowell, Redfearn, Huntley, Frances Patterson, Gordon and Buck

NEWS MEDIA: Joy Huntley, *The Link*
Susan Gilmour, *WCRE*
John Davis, *The Progressive-Journal*
Bob Sloan, *The Chronicle/Advertiser*

VISITORS: Area Citizens and School District Auditors

Chairman Holley called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the District Office and welcomed those present. A motion was made by Mrs. Burch, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously, to enter executive session to discuss student, personnel and contractual matters. The board returned to open session on a motion by Mrs. Burch and second by Mrs. Frasier. There being no public comment, the board proceeded with its regular agenda.

Mr. Sweeney delivered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Mr. Holley recognized all visitors and members of the press.

Mr. Sweeney moved, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously, to add student matters to the second executive session and move the personnel report to follow the second return to open session.

A motion was made by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Sweeney and carried unanimously, to approve the minutes of the board meeting held November 12, 2007.

Superintendent Williams and board members congratulated Chesterfield High football coach Steve Taneyhill and the football team for winning the State 1A Division championship.

Dr. Williams recognized Long Middle School Assistant Principal and Cheraw High Coach Jack Van Deman who was recently inducted into the S.C. Track and Cross Country Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Curriculum Director Redfearn congratulated Raymond Cassidy who was recently recognized by the State Department of Education as an outstanding adult volunteer at Cheraw Primary School.

Mrs. Redfearn congratulated the following district spelling bee winners: First Place – Marissa Johnson, McBee High; Second Place – Farrah Byrd, Plainview Elementary; and Third Place – Logan Stamey, Cheraw Intermediate.

Jamie Spencer, District National Board Coach, presented awards to the following teachers who have recently attained National Board Certification: Robert Bollier and Janice Moore, Cheraw High; Margaret Humphrey, McBee High; Gail Terry, McBee Elementary; Angela McLain, Pageland Elementary; and Anna Hancock, Petersburg Primary.

Long Middle School teacher Malia Dunn, a National Board Certified teacher and State Farm Liaison to the National Board for South Carolina, reviewed the Take One! Program which is a new opportunity from the National Board. Ms. Dunn reported that the district has received a partial grant for teachers, and there are currently 21 teachers participating in the program.

Vice-Chairman Sweeney expressed appreciation to WCRE Radio for providing local football game coverage during the regular season and the playoffs.

Mrs. Frasier commended Central High Principal J. R. Green who recently participated in a Saturday session of a “boys to men” organization involving 225 people.

Mr. Holley congratulated McBee High CATE instructor Pat Earle who was recently selected as one of the top five rural educators in the nation.

Mr. David Myers and Mr. Robert Jordan, Certified Public Accountants, Hill & Jordan, LLC, presented the 2006-2007 audit report. Mr. Myers reported that the general fund balance had increased by \$283,955 as of June 30, 2007. He noted an overall clean report and expressed appreciation to all school district staff and the School Board for the opportunity to provide the audit. Superintendent Williams and Finance Director Watson commended the Finance Department and all employees who have worked hard to operate within the budget and generate a fund balance in a difficult financial year.

Finance Director Watson presented the monthly financial report.

Ms. Watson recommended approval of budget adjustments exceeding \$5000 for November. Mr. Vick moved, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously, to approve the adjustments as attached.

As requested by the School Board, Ms. Watson reported on what it would cost to pay bus drivers who also hold other positions in the schools at their higher pay rate. The total estimated cost, including overtime and substitute pay, is \$212,000. Mr. Sweeney suggested that the matter be placed on the January agenda. Mr. Vick requested a recommendation from the administration. Superintendent Williams noted that any increase during this school year would have to come from the fund balance.

Food Services Supervisor Gordon reported that she would recommend a lunch price increase for 2007-08 in order to cover the increased cost of food, gasoline, etc. She reviewed a list of non-expendable equipment that needs to be replaced in several cafeterias at a total cost of approximately \$137,000. In order to purchase the needed equipment, Mrs. Gordon proposed a cap of \$80,000 on the amount of indirect cost funds and a cap of \$80,000 on the cost of employee benefits which are transferred from food service accounts into the district general fund annually. She requested the use of school district funds to purchase a new food steamer and oven which is needed immediately for Central High School. A motion was made by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mrs. Burch and carried unanimously, to use approximately \$27,000 of district funds to purchase a new food steamer and oven for Central High School.

Curriculum Director Redfearn reviewed school report card information. She noted that seven schools increased their absolute ratings.

Mr. Vick moved, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously, to approve second reading and final approval of Board Policies AC, IHAK, and IJAA/IJAA-R, as attached.

Superintendent Williams recommended that the school district participate in a county “reverse 911” service, along with other government agencies, at an annual cost of \$5000. The service would allow the district to notify parents and employees of schools closings and other emergencies by telephone at the rate of 1000 calls per minute. A motion was made by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Sweeney and carried unanimously, to participate in the “reverse 911” service at an annual cost of \$5000 as recommended by Dr. Williams.

Board members were reminded that the January 14 board meeting would be held at Cheraw High with the regular session beginning at 4:30 p.m. Board members will tour the Cheraw area schools prior to the meeting beginning at 1:30 p.m.

Dr. Williams noted that students would attend the new Edwards Elementary School beginning January 7, 2008. An open house will be held Sunday, January 6.

Board members were given winter sports schedules and recent Academic Bowl results. Dr. Williams indicated that the Academic Bowl banquet would be held January 28 at 5:30 p.m. at the Company Store in McBee.

Superintendent Williams indicated that Jerry Sullivan was recently appointed by the Legislative Delegation to fill a vacancy on the McBee Advisory Council. He noted that because of new legislation, each Advisory Council has two new seats to be filled. Recommendations for these seats will be forthcoming.

Board members who wish to attend the SCSBA Annual Convention February 28 – March 2, 2008, should contact the Superintendent’s office.

A motion was made by Mrs. Burch, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously, to enter executive session to discuss student, personnel and contractual matters.

The board returned to open session on a motion by Mrs. Burch and second by Mr. Vick.

Personnel Director Sowell recommended the attached personnel exhibits. Exhibit A was approved on a motion by Mr. Vick, seconded by Mrs. Burch and carried unanimously. Mrs. Frasier moved, seconded by Mrs. Burch and carried unanimously, to approve Exhibit B. Exhibit C was approved on a motion by Mr. Vick, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously. Mrs. Burch moved, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously, to approve Exhibit D. A motion was made by Mrs. Burch, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously, to approve Exhibit E. Exhibit F was approved on a motion by Mrs. Burch, seconded by Mr. Vick and carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Vick and seconded by Mrs. Burch that the Board sustain the administration’s determination concerning student X’s appeal. The motion failed by a vote of 3 – 4 with Mrs. Frasier, Mr. Porter, Mr. Sweeney and Mr. Watson opposed. Mr. Sweeney moved that the Board overturn the administration’s decision concerning the appeal of student X and that student X be permitted to enroll in the courses/program at issue, effective January 7, 2008, as well as any other who may have been adversely affected by the recent change. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Frasier and failed in a tie vote of 4 – 4 with Mrs. Burch, Mr. Holley, Mr. Miles and Mr. Vick opposed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m. on a motion by Mrs. Frasier and second by Mr. Vick.

The news media was previously notified of this School Board meeting.

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