

CHESTERFIELD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR SESSION
JANUARY 11, 2010

PRESENT – BOARD MEMBERS: Mr. Chad L. Vick, Chairman; Mrs. Kimberly T. Burch, Vice-Chair; Ms. Shannon M. Polson, Secretary; Mr. Wesley R. Miles; Mr. Council Porter; Mr. Jamie D. Wayne; and Dr. James C. Williamson

ABSENT – BOARD MEMBER: Mr. James N. Sweeney

PRESENT – STAFF: Williams, Patterson, Green, Sowell, Watson, Wallace, and Buck

NEWS MEDIA: Robert Monnie, *The Link*
Susan Gilmour, *WCRE*
Charlotte Berger, *The Chronicle/Advertiser*

VISITORS: Area Citizens

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vick at 4:00 p.m. at Cheraw Primary School.
- II. **Executive Session/Return to Open Session:** Upon a motion by Mrs. Burch, seconded by Dr. Williamson, the board entered executive session to discuss personnel and contractual matters. The board returned to open session upon a motion by Mrs. Burch and second by Dr. Williamson.
- III. **Call to Order/Welcome:** Chairman Vick called the regular session to order and welcomed all visitors and members of the press.
- IV. **Invocation/Pledge:** Mrs. Burch gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- V. **Approval of Agenda/Minutes:** By consent, the agenda was approved as presented, as well as minutes of the December 14, 2009, board meeting.
- VI. **Special Recognitions:** Superintendent Williams, on behalf of CCSD, expressed appreciation to school board members for their determination in focusing on the students' education, health, well-being and safety during this difficult economic situation. He noted that January is School Board Recognition Month.

Assistant Superintendent Green congratulated Cheraw Primary Principal Gracyn Jackson and her staff for being selected as one of ten schools in South Carolina to receive Exemplary Writing recognition. Mrs. Jackson also recognized teachers Shari Stubbs and Pam Walter, who have been chosen to serve as assessors for the Writing Improvement Network.

At this time, Cheraw Primary School presented Dr. Williams a cake in honor of his recent birthday.

- VII. Board Comments:** Chairman Vick congratulated board member Jamie Wayne who was recently recognized by the Carolina Panthers as one of ten Youth Football Coaches of the Week for his hard work and dedication to young people and his volunteer efforts with the McBee youth football program.

Mr. Vick also recognized Cheraw Advisory Council Chairperson Odessa Jackson who was in attendance at the board meeting.

- VIII. Financial Report:** Finance Director Watson presented the monthly financial report. Upon a motion by Mr. Porter and second by Mr. Miles, the board unanimously approved the attached budget adjustments exceeding \$5000.

Ms. Watson introduced Sharon Hubbard, the new district accountant.

Discussion followed regarding 2009-10 state budget cuts. Ms. Watson indicated that the district received a 4% cut at the beginning of the year which amounted to \$800,000, and a 5% cut recently in the amount of \$1.2 million, for a total of \$2 million since July 1. The base student cost has been reduced from \$2034 to \$1764. Ms. Watson noted that the district enrollment has dropped by 100 students which amounts to another \$200,000 loss. Superintendent Williams reported that the first cut was absorbed with employee furloughs and other cost-saving measures. The administration will study the situation and continue to cut back on travel, supplies, substitutes, etc.

- IX. Personnel Report:** Upon a motion by Mr. Miles and second by Mrs. Burch, the board unanimously approved the attached Personnel Exhibits A and B as recommended by Personnel Director Sowell.

- X. Curriculum Report:** Upon a motion by Mr. Miles and second by Ms. Polson, the board unanimously approved first reading of the revision of Board Policy IKAA, Tests and Examinations, as recommended by Assistant Superintendent Green.

- XI. Superintendent's Report:** Superintendent Williams reminded board members of a revision in the school calendar changing January 15 from an in-service day to a furlough day for employees. January 18 is the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Dr. Williams also noted the following district events: January 12, 5:30 p.m., CRMS, District Spelling Bee; January 19, 5:00 p.m., Mayflower Restaurant, Academic Bowl Banquet; and January 28, 6:00 p.m., NETC, National Technical Honor Society Induction Ceremony.

Board members were informed that CCSD is participating with other districts in the S.C. Department of Education application for a federal Race to the Top grant funded with stimulus funds. While South Carolina is applying for \$300 million, the grant amount could range from \$60 million to \$175 million. Participating districts would receive half of the state grant amount. The purpose of the program is to reform education by improving educator effectiveness and providing intensive support and effective interventions to turn around low-performing schools.

XII. Chairman's Comments: Chairman Vick reminded board members to let the Superintendent's office know by January 15 if they wish to attend the SCSBA Convention February 18-21. He thanked Cheraw Primary Principal Gracyn Jackson and her staff for hosting the board meeting and the other Cheraw area schools that participated in the board tour prior to the meeting.

XIII. Contractual Matter: A motion was made by Dr. Williamson, seconded by Mr. Miles and carried unanimously, to accept the recommendation of the administration to grant a request from the Town of Chesterfield to transfer ownership of the following school district property where wastewater lift stations are located to the Town: Chesterfield-Ruby Middle School – 0.03 acre and Chesterfield High School – 0.06 acre.

XIV. Adjournment: Upon a motion by Mrs. Burch and second by Mr. Porter, the board adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

XV. Media Notification: The media was previously notified of this school board meeting.

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