

**REGULAR BOARD MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FLORENCE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. TWO
DISTRICT OFFICE
November 29, 2011
7:00 p.m.**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Florence County School District No. Two was held in the District Administrative Office of Florence County School District No. Two on Tuesday, November 29, 2011.

Those present: **Mr. Thadis D. Calcutt, Jr.**
 Dr. W. L. Coleman
 Mrs. Mona Lisa M. Andrews
 Mr. Johnny R. Jenkins
 Mr. Lawrence S. Kennedy, Jr.
 Mr. Raleigh O. Ward, Jr.

Absent: **Mrs. Elleveen T. Poston**

Call to Order

Mr. Thadis D. Calcutt, Jr., called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. by welcoming the visitors. Dr. W. L. Coleman, served as secretary.

Recognition of Visitors

There were no special recognitions.

Minutes

A motion was made by Dr. W. L. Coleman and seconded by Mr. Lawrence S. Kennedy, Jr., to accept the October 24, 2011, minutes as written. The motion carried 6-0.

Communication to the Board

Mr. Sullivan informed the Board that the December Board Meeting will be held on **December 8, 2011**, at the Railway Restaurant in Lake City beginning at 6:30 p.m. The Board was asked to turn in their menu choices after tonight's meeting. He reminded the Board members they were responsible for payment of their spouse/guest's meal.

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Mr. Sullivan presented the Board with information on the **S. C. Annual School Report Card Summary** for Hannah-Pamplico Elementary/Middle School. The information presented showed the following three-year comparison:

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (Grades PK-5)			
YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	AYP STATUS
2011	Average	Good	Not Met
2010	Average	Average	Not Met
2009	Average	Average	Not Met

MIDDLE SCHOOL (Grades 6, 7, 8)			
YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	AYP STATUS
2011	Below Average	Below Average	Not Met
2010	Average	Average	Not Met
2009	Below Average	Below Average	Not Met

HIGH SCHOOL (Grades 9-12)			
YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	AYP STATUS
2011	Average	Good	Not Met
2010	Average	At-Risk	Not Met
2009	Average	At-Risk	Not Met

Mr. Sullivan highlighted the growth rating with the Board on the report card. He informed the Board that the principals will give a more detailed presentation at their January 23, 2012, Board Meeting. He emphasized to the Board that the schools were working extremely hard on the AYP status. He stated due to a decrease in teaching experience, financial cutbacks, and an increased enrollment in classes, the district would need to refocus their teaching strategies. However, he told the Board how he was extremely proud of grades 9-12 growth rating of “Good” for 2011. Mr. Sullivan informed the Board that they could request a copy of the Annual District Report Card in their follow-up packet.

Mr. Hyman also informed the Board that new innovative state-approved programs were being implemented at the schools, for example, single-gender grouping and specialized instruction programs for special needs students. He has witnessed positive results with these new programs. Mr. Hyman stated, even though the bar is continuously being raised, our teachers are working hard at being creative. He said he expects to see a positive impact with the Apple IPOD initiative, single-gender group, and SRA instruction. He stressed to the Board that it will take some time, but the district is on the right track. Mr. Hyman welcomed the Board to ask any questions concerning the programs and he invited the Board to visit the WAR Room at Hannah-Pamplico Elementary/Middle School. He stated the room has received state recognition. He said the room highlights everything about test scores and how Hannah-Pamplico Elementary/Middle School will meet AYP - it shows the current level of each individual child, as well as, what we need to do to help him/her progress

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to the next level. He encouraged the Board to go by and talk to Mrs. Debbie Carter, Mr. Legrande Richardson, Mrs. Sherry Barnhill, or Mrs. Angela Tanner. Mr. Calcutt reminded the Board about last year's visit with the State Department and how the person was complimentary of what we were doing to educate our students. A three-year data tracking spreadsheet for grades 3-8 will be compiled and placed in the Board follow-up packet. (*See 11/22/10, Board Minutes*)

Mr. Sullivan presented the **Graduation Rates** for Florence County school districts as follows:

	2011	2010
Florence One (Florence)	78.6	74.6
Florence Two (Pamplico)	80.5	71.0
Florence Three (Lake City)	88.1	84.7
Florence Four (Timmonsville)	80.3	82.4
Florence Five (Johnsonville)	84.9	84.8

Mr. Sullivan was happy to see the graduation rate increase by 9.5% from 2010 to 2011. He reminded the Board that students can legally drop out of school at the age of 17; however, the district tries to counteract the dropout rate by encouraging students to enroll in the Adult Education Program. Mr. Hyman stated the graduation rate has also improved due to the Credit Recovery Program and the high school maintaining a comprehensive tracking of students once they leave the district. Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Hyman commended Sgt. Gillens for his assistant this year at the middle school. The Administration feels early recruitment of students for the JROTC Program will also play a key role in increasing the graduate rate.

Mr. Sullivan presented the Board with the **S. C. Education Oversight 2011 SAT Results**. This was an analysis of the 2011 SAT Results as of November 2011. The test assessed the students in three areas: critical reading, mathematics, and writing. Nationally, the mean or average score of seniors taking the test declined by six (6) points in 2011, while the number of seniors taking the test increased by 6.4%. South Carolina saw a decline of seven (7) points in the mean score and an increase of 1.8% in the number of seniors taking the test.

Mr. Sullivan informed the Board of the **Education Funding Editorial - ROAR, SCSBA, SCASA, SCASBO**. This was a response to an opinion column appearing in The State newspaper on Sunday, November 13, 2011, by Dr. Michael Fanning, a spokesperson for the Reduce Our Awful Rates (ROAR) organization. The information that Mr. Sullivan presented to the Board described both the pros and cons of different educational organizations ((Reduce Our Awful Rates (ROAR), South Carolina School Boards Association (SCSBA), South Carolina Association of School Administrators (SCASA), and South Carolina Association of School Business Officials (SCASBO)) on the South Carolina Education Finance Restructuring Act verses Comprehensive Tax Reform. The act addresses the restructure of state funding for public schools within the existing tax system, whereas the comprehensive tax reform addresses the elimination of various tax exemptions. Mr. Sullivan encouraged the Board to attend the upcoming session with Mr. Scott Price, SCSBA, Childs & Halligan, P.A., and other educational entities at the 2012 Annual Convention.

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Mr. Sullivan invited Mrs. Mona Lisa M. Andrews to give the Board a summation of the **Business Leaders Summit on Early Childhood** which was held on November 15, 2011, at the Southeastern Institute of Manufacturing and Technology in Florence, South Carolina. Mrs. Andrews said the summit was very beneficial. She stated the key issues were: (1) How can we get businesses engaged in local education? (2) How can we become an advocate for early childhood education? She emphasized if we don't catch the children at the beginning we will lose them toward the end because many children are not receiving preschool entrance. The Board wanted to know what impact has the Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) Program and other local Early Childhood Programs has had on our students. Mr. Hyman plans to compile data on these students who are now entering the 4th and 5th grade. Mr. Hyman said it is amazing what is required of the 4K Program. He stated we have not turned away any of our students. Mr. Hyman and Mr. Sullivan commended the alliance of Florence District Two and the Pee Dee Action Agency Head Start Program. They stated without this coalition, the district would not be able to serve a large population of Pre-K students. The keynote address at the summit was entitled, "Developing a Competitive Workforce Through Early Childhood Investments." It was presented by Ms. Nora Moreno Cargie, Director of Global Corporate Citizenship.

Mr. Sullivan highlighted the session entitled, **Athletics/Activities The Front Porch of Your School** of the South Carolina School Boards Insurance Trust (SCSBIT) Risky Business Meeting held October 19-21, 2011, in Myrtle Beach, South, Carolina. Mr. Tim Flannery, CMAA Assistant Director, National Federation of State High School Association (NFHS) was the presenter of this session. He gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the challenges that school athletic programs face and how training of coaches will help minimize negligent and inappropriate behaviors and provide students who participate a positive and educational experience. Mr. Sullivan said he has informed Mrs. Gwen Hampton, SCSBA Director of Leadership Development, to have Mr. Flannery back for the 2012 Annual Convention in February.

Report of the Superintendent

Mr. Sullivan reminded the Board of the upcoming **Legislative Advocacy Conference** to be held December 2-4, 2011, at the Crowne Plaza in Hilton Head, South Carolina. **Mr. Thadis D. Calcutt, Jr.**, will serve as the Delegate for Florence County School District Two. He told the Board to let Mr. Calcutt know if they had any issues they would like to vote on, be discussed or transmitted from the Legislative Advocacy Meeting.

Mr. Sullivan reminded the Board of the upcoming **2012 SCSBA Annual Convention (February 23-26, 2012)**. He asked the Board to let him know who plans to attend the convention so appropriate reservations can be made. Mr. Sullivan also informed the Board that the Rhythmic Raiders did not make the cut for the SCSBA Student Performances. He said they will continue to work hard for future auditions.

Mr. Sullivan informed the Board that the **REMS Grant Functional Exercise** is scheduled for Thursday, December 1, 2011, from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the J. Paul Truluck Middle School Gym. Personnel from Florence County School Districts 1-5 and EMS/Fire Department First Responders will be participating in the exercises. This will be the final activity to close out this grant.

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Mr. Sullivan presented the Board with an update of the **Pee Dee Art News**. This is a monthly newsletter highlighting upcoming Fine Arts events in the area. The Board will continue to receive the newsletter via email.

Mr. Sullivan distributed to the Board a copy of the **Finance Update**. The 2011-2012 Cashflow Sheet as of November 29, 2011, shows a balance of \$1,223,114.67. Mr. Sullivan stated the cashflow was good and the district was waiting on the Homestead Exemption funds. He stated the Education Finance Act (EFA) numbers will decrease due to a drop in student enrollment figures. He said the district will be reviewing the teacher pay scale for the upcoming school year.

Old Business

A motion was made by Mr. Raleigh O. Ward, Jr., and seconded by Dr. W. L. Coleman to accept 2nd Reading of the following policy updates:

- a. **BCB** - Board Member Conflict of Interest
- b. **EBBA** - Prevention of Disease/Infection Transmission
- c. **GBEA** - Staff Ethics/Conflict of Interest
- d. **GBGA** - Staff Health
- e. **JICFAA** - Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying
- f. **GCO/GCO-R** - Evaluation of Professional Staff

The motion carried unanimously. Copies of these policies will be forwarded to the South Carolina School Board Association to be codified and returned to be placed in the Board Policy Manual. Copies of the policies are on file in the Superintendent's office.

New Business

A motion was made by Mr. Raleigh O. Ward, Jr., and seconded by Dr. W. L. Coleman to award the low bid offer to All Quality Construction Company for \$520,000 with the stipulation to reduce the bid based on value engineering for the Hannah-Pamplico High School Career and Technology Education (CATE) Project. Mr. Sullivan will continue to consult with Mr. Charles Hyman, Mr. Timothy Gibbs, and Mr. Jimmy Wilhide concerning the construction project. Mr. Sullivan stated the district is still researching ways to reduce the cost due to changes and updates in building codes and redesign of the project since 2009. He reminded the Board that the remaining amount of the \$600,000 will go toward the infrastructure, i.e., computers, furniture, and wiring. The **CATE Bid Opening** was held on **November 21, 2011, at 2:00 p.m.** The sealed bids were received at the District Office and was publicly opened and read immediately after the 2:00 p.m. deadline. All Quality Construction Company is located in Lake City and has completed past building projects for the district, to include, construction of the field house, renovation of the vocational building, and the remodel of the Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) building. The motion carried 6-0. A copy of the bid information is on file in the Superintendent's office.

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Mr. Sullivan reminded the Board that Mr. Jack Holt will have the **Audit Presentation on January 23, 2012.**

The following documents were mailed to the Board on **November 16, 2011**, as information.

- 1. Board Minutes - October 24, 2011 [Please Review]**
- 2. 2011 Varsity Basketball Schedule [Wallet-Size]**
- 3. REMINDER - Policy Updates & Tuesday Board Meeting (11-29-11)**
- 4. October 24, 2011, Board Agenda Amendment**
- 5. Dorchester District Two - Endorsing Comprehensive Tax Reform & ROAR**
- 6. 2012 Primary and General Elections Information**
- 7. Out-of-District Travel - November 2011**
- 8. HPEM Calendar of Events - November 2011**
- 9. HPHS Calendar of Events - November 2011**
- 10. 2012 SCSBA Calendar of Events**
- 11. Raider Red Zone Football Club Meeting - November 28, 2011**

Copies of these documents are available in the Superintendent's office.

Adjournment

At 8:10 p.m., Dr. W. L. Coleman made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Johnny R. Jenkins. The motion carried 6-0.

In accordance with the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-89 (d), as amended, the following have been notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting: Morning News, Florence County School District No. Two, Faculty, Staff, Parents, and Administrators of Florence County School District No. Two.

There being no further business to discuss, on motion duly made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Mr. Thadis D. Calcutt, Jr.
Board Vice-Chairman

Dr. W. L. Coleman
Secretary