

**REGULAR BOARD MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FLORENCE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. TWO
DISTRICT OFFICE**

July 23, 2012

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 Monday, July 23, 2012.

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

Call to Order

Mr. Raleigh O. Ward, Jr., called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. by welcoming the visitors. Mr. Johnny R. Jenkins, served as secretary.

Recognition of Visitors

Mr. Sullivan acknowledged **Hannah-Pamplico High School for being the Palmetto Gold and Silver Awards Recipient** for the 2011-2012 school year. A flag and two certificates from the State Board of Education and the South Carolina Department of Education were presented to the high school for this prestigious accomplishment. Mr. Gibbs explained how the high school qualified for the two awards. The high school met the criteria for both closing the achievement gaps between historically lower-and-higher demographic groups of students (gold award) and for being outstanding in their student academic performance (silver award). Mr. Ward also commended Mr. Gibbs and the high school for the Zero-Percent Dropout Rate and the positive article that was in the newspaper.

Mr. Sullivan recognized both **Hannah-Pamplico Elementary/Middle School** for being **Palmetto Silver Award Recipient** for the 2011-2012 school year. A flag and a certificate from the State Board of Education and the South Carolina Department of Education were presented to each school for this honor. Mrs. Carter explained how a school qualifies for a Silver Award (*If the school's absolute performance rating is above "School At Risk" for the most recent year, and its growth index is 92.20 or greater for three consecutive years the school will receive a Silver Award*). Mrs. Carter acknowledged that the teachers and students should be present for this honor. She informed the Board how the school was continuing to move toward a "student centered" classroom setting. For the 2012-2013 school year, the teaching staff will be engaging the students more, especially the middle school level. She stated the IPODS/IPADS initiative has been a success. She invited the

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Board to come and see how the students were using this equipment. On behalf of the Hannah-Pamplico Elementary/Middle School, Mrs. Carter thanked the Board. Mr. Ward stressed how important this prestigious honor was to the district and hopefully it will be published in the local newspaper for the community to read this exciting news. (Visit the State Department of Education's website at: <http://ed.sc.gov/agency/news/?nid=1792>)

Mr. Hyman informed the Board that the waiver for the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) has been granted for the State of South Carolina. The state will have to implement a new system of accountability that will award the schools and school districts with a letter grade of an A, B, C, D, or F based upon student achievement in English-Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, and high school graduation rates. He said positive things will be happening in early August because the school will be receiving their grade. Mr. Hyman will give the Board further information at a later date. The district will still receive a Report Card. Concerning the waiver, Mr. Hyman said he would have to research to see whether the waiver will be ongoing or will expire at a certain date. Mr. Sullivan said this will be an ever-changing document. Mr. Hyman stated there are positive influences with this new accountability factor in strengths via weaknesses. He expects more parental concern with the letter grades. He stated the NCLB accountability was "all or nothing"; whereas, with the new accountability factors, "you may not have met all the criteria, but you did make improvements."

Based on data received on August 3, 2012, concerning the new system of accountability, Mr. Hyman highlighted the supplemental services contracts. He stated there are two categories of schools if the school receives a grade of a C or D. The two are priority schools and focus schools. Mr. Hyman informed the Board if the school is categorized as a priority school it will have to continue providing school choice and supplemental services as we have done for the last several years. However, the new change is that supplemental services will have to be offered to every student not just children on free and reduced lunch. On the other hand, if we are categorized as a focus school we will have to do the same things as the priority school except we will have to offer supplemental services only to those students who are below standard on the PASS Test. Mr. Hyman feels we will not have to offer supplemental services and school choice. He stated since we do not have any other schools in our district, we will not be able to offer school choice. At this time, Mr. Hyman remotely sees us being categorized as a focus school and not a priority school. He stated the school district can select ten providers and no transportation will be provided. The district will not be a sole provider. Mr. Hyman is currently a member of the Title I Committee of Practitioners. He stated open public forums have been held at different locations around the state this past year so the public could make comments. Mr. Hyman stated the high school criteria in the past has been different from the elementary/middle criteria. But under this new accountability system, there are many similarities in the evaluation system. He stated there will be some funds available to help with this new system. He stated we are the third group to apply for the waiver. At this time, there is not a lot of data to compare this new accountability system nationwide.

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The definition summary is as follows for priority school and focus school:

Priority School Definition Summary:

A priority school must be at least one of the following:

1. Among the lowest five percent of Title I schools in the State based on both achievement and lack of progress of the “all students” group;
2. A Title I-participating or Title I-eligible high school with a graduation rate less than 60 percent over a number of years; or
3. A currently-served Tier I or Tier II School Improvement Grants (SIG) school

Focus School Definition Summary:

A “within-school-gaps” focus school must:

1. Be a Title I school;
2. Have the largest gaps in achievement, or at the high school level, in graduation rates, between subgroups within the school; and
3. Have had a lack of progress over a number of years of the lowest achieving subgroup or subgroups in terms of proficiency on the statewide assessments or, at the high school level, graduation rates.

A “low-achieving-subgroup” focus school must:

1. Be a Title I school;
2. Have one or more subgroups with low achievement or, at the high school level, low graduation rates; and
3. Have had a lack of progress over a number of years of the lowest achieving subgroup or subgroups in terms of proficiency on the statewide assessments or, at the high school level, graduation rates.

Note that an SEA might consider “school-to-State gaps” to meet this definition.

A “low-graduation-rate” focus school must:

1. Be a Title I school;
2. Have had a graduation rate less than 60 percent over a number of years; and
3. Not be identified as a priority school.

Note that all schools that meet this definition must be identified as focus schools.

See Reference:

(http://ed.sc.gov/agency/lpa/documents/Demonstrating_Schools_Meet_ESEA_Flexibility_Updated_04_16_2012.pdf)

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Mr. Sullivan gave tribute to the dedication in honor of **Dr. W. L. Coleman** of the new **Florence County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) station** in Pamplico. The dedication ceremony took place on Friday, July 20, 2012, at 10:30 a.m. The station remained open for tours until noon. A copy of the invitation was passed around for the Board to view. Dr. Coleman acknowledged the late Mr. Tom Haines who ran the local EMS in Pamplico for years. Mr. Sullivan also acknowledged how the Florence Two Board was instrumental in approving for the Florence County EMS Mobile unit to be set up at the old middle school. Dr. Coleman has been practicing in the medical field for many years in the Pamplico area.

Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Thadis D. Calcutt, Jr., and seconded by Mrs. Elleveen T. Poston to accept the June 25, 2012, minutes as written. The motion carried unanimously.

Communication to the Board

Mr. Sullivan presented the Board with the **2010-2011 Dropout Rate of Hannah-Pamplico High School** being **0.0%**. He reviewed the newspaper article, as well as, how the high school is ultimately responsible for making sure the students meet graduation requirements. Mr. Sullivan commended the high school for student tracking. He also invited the Board to review the full report online.

Mr. Sullivan reminded the Board about the upcoming **SCSBA School Law Conference** set for August 25-26, 2012, in Charleston at the Marriott Hotel. The deadline for registration is August 8, 2012. A copy of the agenda is on file in the Superintendent's office. (*See the 06/25/2012, Board Minutes*)

Mr. Sullivan presented the Board with the **Florence County School District Two Induction - First Year Teacher Course Syllabus**. He stated all administrators will take part in this course for first year teachers. He told the Board he expects this to be a large class for the 2012-2013 school year.

The Board was informed that the **2012-2013 Registration** is scheduled for students as follows: August 8, 2012 - Seniors - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and August 9, 2012 - Grades K-11 - 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Instructional fees will be \$30 for the high school and \$20 for the elementary/middle school. Parking decals for the high school will be \$15.00. The first day for students is August 20. Mr. Ward recommended that the graduation information be given out during registration. The registration dates will be published in the local newspaper and on the district website. A copy of the registration schedule is on file in the Superintendent's office.

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Report of the Superintendent

Mr. Sullivan gave the **Finance/Budget Update**. He stated the general fund will change for the 2012-2013 beginning in July/August. He handed out a copy of the updated cashflow sheet with a revenue balance of \$2,219,759.82 as of June 30, 2012. He also presented the Board with a Draft 8 reflecting a \$39,251.31 deficit, along with the 2012-2013 Education Finance Act (EFA) Projection of \$2,012 Student Base Coast with 88.26% State Support. He stated there will be a Draft 9 generated this week. At this time, the administrators and teachers will receive a 2% increase, along with a one step increase. The classified staff will get their five days added back into their salaries, along with a step increase if applicable. Mr. Sullivan informed the Board that under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), you can request to see all salaries more than \$50,000. At this time, under the FOIA, Dr. W. L. Coleman is requesting to see a range of all salaries that are more than \$50,000.

Old Business

After Mr. Sullivan gave the updates on **Policy JJE/JJE-R - Student Fund-Raising Activities**, a motion was made by Dr. W. L. Coleman and seconded by Mr. Johnny R. Jenkins to accept 1st Reading of this policy. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of this policy is on file in the Superintendent's office. *(See the 06/25/, 2012, Board Minutes)*

New Business

A motion was made by Mr. Lawrence S. Kennedy, Jr., and seconded by Mrs. Elleveen T. Poston to accept the resignation of **Ms. Eltina Y. Dublin**, a Continuing Business Education Teacher at Hannah-Pamplico High School. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the resignation is on file in the Superintendent's office.

A motion was made by Dr. W. L. Coleman and seconded by Mr. Thadis D. Calcutt, Jr., to employ **Mr. Calvin L. Johnson** as an Induction Business Education Teacher at Hannah-Pamplico High School. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the recommendation is on file in the Superintendent's office.

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Mr. Sullivan offered to the Board as information the following:

1. **2012-2013 Student Insurance** - reminded the Board that the student insurance will cover 80% usual customary at a cost of \$14,600 (Last year 100% usual customary coverage was \$17,087). This insurance will be primary for those who have state assistance and secondary for those who are covered by their parent/guardian insurance. *(See the 2/27/12, Board Minutes)*
2. Architectural Book - a copy was given to each board member.
3. **Ellie Becoat, III** - He will be honored with the Betty Ann Darby Scholarship Reception on Tuesday, July 24, 2012, at 6:00 p.m. at the Dozier Munn Library. Ellie will be attending Francis Marion University this fall.
4. **Mrs. Sharon Ellison** - Mr. Sullivan informed the Board that Mrs. Sharon Ellison will be assisting at the district office until further budgetary decisions are made.
5. **CDEPP Program** - decline in the number of students enrolling in the program. He also stated the funds have dropped from \$4,218 to \$3,628. He said we may be looking at one class, whereas, we have two teachers and two aides at this time. He said the district will send out some fliers to churches to recruit 4K students.
6. **Two Classroom Additions** - Mr. Sullivan gave an update on the project. He stated that the punch list will be on August 6 and the OSF will be on August 15. He said the project is currently at the furniture and wiring stage. He told the Board contingency stands at \$9,702 from the original amount of \$20,000 before value engineering - a total of \$2,306 has been approved as change orders. He also said the Brick Masonry Class will extend the stonework sidewalk project. Mr. Sullivan said a dedication of the building is tentatively scheduled for September. *(See 09/28/09, 02/22/10, 03/22/10, 06/28/10, 08/23/10, 09/27/10, 10/25/10, 03/28/11, 08/22/11, 09/26/11, 10/24/11, 11/29/11, 12/8/11, 01/23/12, and 02/27/12, Board Minutes)*
7. Out-of-District Travel - August 2012

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

There were no documents mailed to the Board after the June 25, 2012, Board Meeting or prior to the July 23, 2012, Board meeting.

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Adjournment

At 8:07 p.m., Mrs. Elleveen T. Poston made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Thadis D. Calcutt, Jr. The motion carried unanimously.

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 8:07 p.m.

Mr. Raleigh O. Ward, Jr.
Board Chairman

Mr. Johnny R. Jenkins
Secretary