

MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 16, 2008, 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, June 16, 2008, 6:30 p.m. in the conference room at the old Bradley Library.

The following Board members were present: James Walker, Chairman, Cathy Williams, Fife M. Whiteside, Patricia Hugley Green, Brenda Storey, John Wells, and Joseph Roberson.

The pledge of allegiance was led by the Spencer High School JROTC.

Upon motion of Mrs. Williams seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously excused Dr. Schley and Ms. Buckner from the regular meeting.

Mr. Walker announced that the Board will convene in another room for an executive session regarding a legal matter.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mrs. Williams, the Board unanimously voted to go into executive session for the legal matter.

Upon motion of Mrs. Williams, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously voted to come out of executive session and the regular board meeting resumed.

Others present: John A. Phillips, Jr., Superintendent of Education, Jorge Vega, Legal Counsel, Eddie Obleton, Robin Pennock, Peggy Connell, Myles Caggins, Don Hall, Don Cooper and Billy Kendall.

The Board recognized visitors in the audience. The Board read a Senate Resolution for Dr. Pennock who will be retiring June 30, 2008.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Roberson, the Board unanimously approved official actions held at the May 19, 2008 regular board meeting, called meetings held on May 17 and June 2.

The Board recognized Joshua McKoon on the public forum.

Dr. Phillips asked that a part of the system-wide insurance contract be re-bid. He asked that the Board approve GSBA Risk Management Fund for property and casualty but re-bid the excess workers compensation claims portion. Mrs. Storey made this as a motion, seconded by Mr. Wells. The vote was (4) affirming (Storey, Wells, Walker, Green) and (3) abstaining, (Whiteside, Williams, Roberson). Dr. Phillips explained that the property and casualty expires at the end of the month and there is an urgency to get this approved. Mr. Whiteside made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Williams to re-consider the vote and take items as separate items. The vote was (6) affirming and (1) abstaining, (Green).

Mr. Whiteside made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Williams to award a contract in the amount of \$749,843.00 to GSBA Risk Management Fund for property and casualty insurance. The vote was unanimous.

Upon motion of Mr. Whiteside, seconded by Mrs. Williams, the Board unanimously approved the re-bid of the excess workers compensation claims. The vote was unanimous. Dr. Phillips noted that the Board has until October to award a contract for this portion of the insurance.

Mr. Whiteside, “This is a follow-up to a conversation we had at the committee meetings. We have had a problem with consistency in how we deal with votes on issues at the committee or workshop. That’s kind of played out in a couple of different ways. We have had occasions where items are on the agenda and not voted on and then there are times things are on the table and moved forward to the board. I want to ask this question directly. Is it my understanding that it is the firm’s reading of our policies that if an item is on the agenda for the committee meetings and there is no vote taken that it would automatically at the request of the Board member advance to the board table?” Mr. Vega, “The policy says that any board member can ask that an item be placed on the agenda. If an item is not voted on, it is not prohibited from being considered by the board at its’ regular meeting. If an item is addressed in committee and voted down, that particular item cannot be brought to the board. But, if it’s not voted on then that item is not prohibited from being brought forth to the Board at the meeting.” Mr. Whiteside, “Even though it is not voted up, it can come to the Board?” Mr. Vega, “The policy is very clear that a board member can request that an item be placed on the agenda so that those items can be voted on by the Board.”

Upon motion of Mrs. Williams, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the adoption of the FY09 General Fund Budget.

Upon motion of Mrs. Williams, seconded by Mr. Roberson, the Board unanimously approved the resolution setting the millage rate for FY09.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Roberson, the Board unanimously approved the FY09 Revenue budget for 2003 SPLOST.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Roberson, the board unanimously approved the Chattahoochee Valley Regional Library Budget for FY09.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Roberson, the Board unanimously approved the School Nutrition budget for FY09. Mr. Whiteside, “As I understand it and it was a very well intended project and I commend those folks who tried to do it but, we lost a little less than half a million dollars for the breakfast for all and that was covered out of the fund balance in school nutrition. Is this correct?” Mr. Wells, “I have seen some signs that are in front of the schools that say, Breakfast for All so we need to get the signs up.”

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Storey, the Board unanimously approved the Capital Projects Fund budget.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mrs. Green, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Robin Shader as Chief of Public Services for the Chattahoochee Valley Library System.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously approved the engagement letter from Robinson Grimes as the audit firm.

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Roberson, the Board unanimously approved financial statements.

Mrs. Green made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Storey to approve the demolition of the old Rigdon Road Elementary School building. Mrs. Williams, “I want to reiterate my concerns since I have not received the information that I requested. I ask that this item be tabled for 30 days so that I can be better educated to the process that we went through, the determination that was arrived at and the costs involved. This is my motion.” The motion was seconded by Mr. Whiteside. The vote on tabling the motion until a date certain was (5) affirming and (2) opposing, (Wells, Storey).

Upon motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Roberson, the Board unanimously approved the dedication plaque for the new Education Services Center.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously approved the new High School Graduation Policy.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously approved the workers’ compensation law firm.

Mrs. Storey recognized Mr. and Mrs. David Tanish for their donation to Fox Elementary.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously approved the following consent agenda items:

- Human Resources Report
- CTAE Consolidated application
- Budget adjustment, 21st Century, \$288,292.00
- Budget adjustment, Department of Technology, system-wide technology purchase, \$121,240.00
- Budget adjustment, Plant Services, consolidate funds, \$80,000.00
- Budget adjustment, Woodall, Federal
- Budget adjustment, GLRS, State Personnel Development, \$7,608.00
- Budget adjustment, GLRS, Discretionary, \$10,000.00
- Grant, Lowe's Toolbox for Education, \$5,000.00
- Grant, Title IID, \$280,776.00
- Grant, Georgia Virtual School, \$1,525.00
- Grant, Learn and Serve, \$7,000.00, Allen
- Grant, Woodall, FY08 State, \$30,006.00
- New budget, CTAE Program Improvement carry-over funds, \$77,748.00
- New budget, Allotment for Pre-K Classes in 32 Pre-K Classes
- Contract awarded, School Nutrition Program, Bread Re-Bid
- Contract awarded, Transportation, Angel Trax, \$75,000.00, provide, recorders, cameras, etc.
- Contract awarded, Transportation, FleetPride, \$75,000.00, brakes and parts for heavy duty equipment
- Contract awarded, Transportation, G&P Body Shop, \$50,000.00, repair damaged school buses
- Contract awarded, Transportation, Interstate Batteries, \$26,000.00, system-wide batteries

- Contract awarded, Transportation, Napa-AutoZone, \$95,000.00, small vehicle parts
- Contract awarded, Transportation, OEM Parts, \$230,000.00, bus parts
- Contract awarded, Transportation, Transco, \$20,000.00
- Purchase order, Columbus Public Library, 3M Library Systems, \$55,529.00
- Purchase order, Department of Technology, Mainline Information Systems, \$215,405.45
- Purchase order, Department of Technology, ProSys, \$17,823.56
- Purchase order, Department of Technology, Columbus State University, \$58,200.00
- Purchase order, Department of Technology, Smart Boards Multi Media Services, \$91,182.00
- Purchase order, Department of Technology, Virtucom, \$116,814.00
- Purchase order, Financial Services, System-wide Fuel, \$211,453.59
- Purchase order, Plant Services, sewer repair, \$4,000.00, Darton Roofing and \$4,775.00, Jenkins, Inc.
- Purchase order, Plant Services, emergency vandalism repair, Holbrook Service, \$26,965.00
- Purchase order, Plant Services, Georgia Trane, \$32,127.00
- Purchase order, Plant Services, Motorola, \$24,888.60
- Purchase order, Plant Services Tennant/Nobles, \$36,129.19
- Purchase order, Print and Mail, postage, U.S. Postal Service, \$20,000.00
- Purchase order, Reading Literacy, Destiny Software Renewal, \$125,835.02
- Purchase order, Research Accountability, Harcourt Assessment, \$23,000.00
- Purchase order, Thinkronize netTrekker D.I., system-wide technology, \$121,240.00
- Donation, Mr. & Mrs. David Tanish, \$500.00 for Fox Elementary School to support childhood literacy
- Donation, Community Foundation, \$2,000.00, Fox Elementary, reading books for the school library
- Renovation of Athletic Facility at Hardaway High
- Financial Assistance, \$2,110.00
- Audit of Financial Statement 1997/2003 SPLOST Capital Projects
- Sales Tax Construction Program Report
- Change Orders/Changes in Project Contingencies
- Transfer from FY03 SPLOST Critical Needs
- System-wide Technology Plan
- Forecasted Revenue Collections
- Transfers from Capital Projects Fund
- Status Report for Projects Under Construction
- Analysis of 2003 SPLOST NPR Fund

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously voted once again to go into executive for a student appeal and a legal matter.

Upon motion of Mrs. Storey, seconded by Mr. Wells, the Board unanimously voted to come out of executive session.

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