

**GREENWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT 50**  
**Greenwood, South Carolina**

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees**  
**January 26, 2009**

Board Chair Debrah Miller called the regular meeting to order at 7 p.m. in the Board Room at the Genesis Education Center and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Board members present were Tony Bowers, LeVerne Fuller, Roy Hemphill, Tom Pritchard, Dan Richardson, Sheila Riddle, James Williams, and Claude Wright.

The following were notified of the date, time, place, and agenda of this meeting: *The Index-Journal*, Greenwood Today, Sunny 103.5, News Channel 7, *The Greenville News*, WLOS TV Channel 13, and Channel 4 News. Ms. Felicia Fitzmiller with *The Index-Journal* and Mr. Jonathan Graves with *Greenwood Today* attended the meeting.

There were no participants for *Public Forum*.

The *Minutes* of the December 15, 2008, Board meeting were approved as presented without objection.

The *Agenda* was adopted as presented without objection.

Dr. Johnson began the *Superintendent's Report* by recognizing Ms. Cyndi Storer, Principal of Westview Middle School, who commented concerning programs and activities at Westview. She also shared a video. Next, a video was presented recognizing Mr. Ronnie Swygert, automotive collision and repair instructor at the G. Frank Russell Career Center. The video highlighted Mr. Swygert's love for learning and teaching and the achievement of ASE certification for the automotive program at the Career Center. After Teacher Spotlight, Dr. Johnson and Board Chair Miller recognized the following twelve newly National Board Certified teachers: Melinda Austin (Oakland), Dianne Calvert (Merrywood), Bernetha Culbreath (Pinecrest), Shannon Cullens (Westview), Carolyn Fennell (Merrywood), Emily Garrett (Lakeview), Frances Hitt (Hodges), Carol Hopkins (Merrywood), Elizabeth Justesen (Lakeview), Jennifer Lindler (Woodfields), Felicia Miller (Pinecrest), and Linda Gail Moore (Merrywood). In recognition of Board Appreciation Month, Dr. Johnson expressed appreciation to the members of the Board for their commitment to helping students become productive citizens. In concluding the *Superintendent's Report*, Dr. Johnson reminded the Board members of the following dates: February 6, 2009 at 8 a.m. – legislative delegation meeting; February 27, 2009, at 7 a.m. – state of district address; and February 23, 2009, at 6 p.m. – test data review workshop. All meetings will be held in the Board Room at the Genesis Education Center, according to Dr. Johnson.

Under the second Information Item, *Early Childhood Registration*, Ms. Pat Ross, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, recognized Ms. Pearly Milton, Director of Elementary Education. Ms. Milton reported on the registration process for the child development and Montessori programs and stated that 109 students had been registered.

The next Information Item, *Family Literacy*, was also addressed by Ms. Milton. Ms. Milton noted that some of the opportunities provided by this program include group meetings on various topics and fun activities for parents and children.

Under the fourth Information Item, *Update on Magnet Programs*, Ms. Ross recognized Ms. Carrie Clowney, Magnet School Coordinator, who provided updated information on the ACTS (Arts, Communication, and Theatre School) and STEMS (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics School) programs. Information shared by Ms. Clowney included registration timelines and processes.

The fifth Information Action, *Community Meeting/Survey Update*, was presented by Ms. Ross and Mr. Randy Vaughn, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources. Ms. Ross provided a summary of the community meeting held on January 12, 2009, regarding the high school schedule options. Mr. Vaughn reported the results of the Greenwood 50 Funding Issues Survey (1378 respondents). Superintendent Johnson and Mr. Vaughn responded to questions and comments.

Under the sixth Information Item, *Facilities Update*, Dr. Gary Johnson, Assistant Superintendent for Business, commented concerning a plumbing failure at Springfield Elementary School. He then recognized Mr. Forrest King with Southern Management Group who provided an update on ongoing projects.

Under the final Information Item, *Financial Update*, Assistant Superintendent Johnson, briefly reviewed the clean audit findings over the last several years. Next, Assistant Superintendent Johnson reviewed the state budget cuts in the amount of \$3,330,106 for this school year. He also provided a summary of spending as of December 31, 2008, in the major expense categories.

The first Action Item, *Cabling Service Contract Award*, was presented by Assistant Superintendent Johnson. He presented the Administration's recommendation that the Board rescind the \$999,544 cabling solution contract approved for Network Controls and Electric at the December 2008 regular meeting of the Board. Mr. Bowers moved and Dr. Pritchard seconded a motion that the Board rescind the \$999,544 cabling solution contract approved for Network Controls and Electric at the December 2008 regular meeting of the Board. After Assistant Superintendent Johnson responded to questions and comments, the motion carried unanimously (9-0).

The second Action Item, *Bond Resolution*, was also presented by Assistant Superintendent Johnson. He presented the Administration's recommendation that the Bond Resolution authorizing General Obligation Bond sales not to exceed \$12,500,000 be approved as presented. Dr. Pritchard moved and Mr. Wright seconded a motion to adopt the Resolution authorizing General Obligation Bond sales not to exceed \$12,500,000. The motion carried (8-1) with Mr. Bowers, Ms. Fuller, Mr. Hemphill, Ms. Miller, Dr. Pritchard, Ms. Riddle, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Wright voting in favor of the motion and Mr. Richardson voting against the motion.

The third Action Item, *Board Flexibility Resolution*, was presented by Ms. Riddle. This resolution, according to Ms. Riddle, requests the General Assembly for prompt legislation to provide school districts with flexibility in programs to ensure no further erosion of instructional programs for students. Mr. Bowers moved and Mr. Williams seconded a motion to adopt the *Board Flexibility Resolution* as presented. After comments by Mr. Richardson regarding a possible resolution on flexibility with federal funds, the motion carried unanimously (9-0). (Attachment A)

The final Action Item, *Personnel Recommendations and Vacancies*, was presented by Mr. Vaughn. Mr. Hemphill moved and Ms. Riddle seconded a motion to approve personnel recommendations as presented. The motion carried unanimously (9-0). Mr. Vaughn then shared the Administration's *Priorities for Funding Reductions*: keep the interest of students at the forefront of every financial decision made, examine every item in the budget before eliminating the first teaching position, determine stringent protocols for fiscal management of the entire district, maximize the use of volunteers, and utilize energy savings districtwide through effective management practices.

Next, Mr. Bowers moved and Dr. Pritchard seconded a motion to enter Executive Session to consider a personnel matter. The motion carried unanimously (9-0).

The Board entered Executive Session at 8:35 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:47 p.m.

Board Chair Miller commented that a personnel matter had been considered during Executive Session and that no action was necessary at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m. without objection.

*Debrah Miller*

*LeVerne Fuller*

---

Debrah Miller, Chair

---

LeVerne Fuller, Secretary

*February 16, 2009*

---

Date Approved

nyt