

GREENWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT 50
Greenwood, South Carolina

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
September 21, 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, Roy Hemphill, Tom Pritchard, Sheila Riddle, James Williams, and Claude Wright. Board members LeVerne Fuller and Dan Richardson were absent.

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

There were no participants for *Public Forum*.

The *Minutes* of the August 17, 2009, Board meeting were approved as presented without objection.

The *Agenda* was adopted as presented without objection.

Dr. Johnson began the *Superintendent's Report* by showing an *Opening-of-School Video* which highlighted students and activities on the first days of the 2009-2010 school year. Dr. Johnson then recognized Ms. Debra Green, Principal at Merrywood Elementary School, who introduced Ms. Alice Dorn, School Improvement Council Representative. Ms. Dorn proceeded to share information regarding the many learning opportunities and the inviting learning environment for the students at Merrywood. Her presentation was followed by the showing of a video that emphasized Merrywood's Motto – *Coming Together to Support One Another and the Students*. Next, Dr. Johnson and Board Chair Miller presented Ms. Green with the *Red Carpet Award* which recognizes a school's emphasis on being family friendly and having excellent customer service. Plaques were then presented to Mr. Brad Nickles, Principal at Emerald High School, and Ms. Beth Taylor, Principal at Greenwood High School, in recognition of Emerald and Greenwood High being selected as *Palmetto Gold and Silver Awards Program Showcase Schools*. According to Dr. Johnson, the purpose of the Showcase project is to provide a platform for schools to document positive experiences and successful educational programs. The next recognitions were *Board Member Recognitions*. The following Board members were recognized for achieving one of the six levels in the Boardmanship Institute of the South Carolina School Boards Association (SCSBA) which emphasizes board member and leadership training: Mr. Hemphill – Level 1, Ms. Riddle and Mr. Wright – Level 2, and Board Chair Miller – Level 4. In concluding the *Superintendent's Report*, Dr. Johnson recognized Ms. Nelva Temple, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent/Board, for her 28 years of service to the District that included 20 years of service to the Board and Superintendent.

Under Information Item B., *Integrated District Calendar*, Superintendent Johnson recognized Mr. Zachary Lloyd, Network Systems Specialist, who provided an overview of the functions of the integrated calendar on the website.

Under Information Item C., *Junior Scholars and Gifted and Talented Programs*, Ms. Pat Ross, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, recognized Ms. Cathy Chalmers, Magnet School Program Coordinator, who provided information on the Spring 2009 STAR (Standardized Testing and Reporting) Performance Task Assessment noting the increase in the number of students qualifying for Gifted and Talented services based on STAR Performance Tasks. Ms. Chalmers also shared logistical data for Junior Scholars Participation Qualifiers and noted the more even distribution of the achievement levels at the three middle schools.

Under Information Item D., *Magnet School Events*, Ms. Chalmers referred to a calendar of events for the ACTS (Arts, Communication, and Theatre School) program and for the STEMS (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics School) program and invited Board members to attend these events.

Under Information Item E., *Student Transfers*, Mr. Gerald Witt, Assistant Superintendent for Administration, presented a summary of the 2009-2010 student transfer requests processed through September 15, 2009. The information shared by Mr. Witt included in-district and out-of-district transfers and releases to other school districts.

Under Information Item F., *Flu Update*, Dr. Gary Johnson, Assistant Superintendent for Business, recognized Ms. Nancy Moore, Lead Nurse, who reported that absences had leveled off as of Day 24 regarding the H1N1 flu. She also noted that the seasonal flu has not hit yet and that District nurses continue to emphasize the importance of good hygiene. In concluding the flu update, Ms. Moore commented that the flu vaccine would be administered to employees at no charge in October.

Under Information Item G., *Financial Update*, Assistant Superintendent Johnson informed the Board that the District has been verbally advised that there will be approximately a 4 percent cut in state funding. He noted that administrative recommendations will be presented to Board concerning how to best absorb this cut when written notification is received from the State. Assistant Superintendent Johnson responded to questions.

Under Information Item H., *Facilities Update*, Assistant Superintendent Johnson recognized Mr. Forrest King with Southern Management Group who provided an update on ongoing projects along with a budget update for each project.

Under Information Item I., *South Carolina School Boards Association (SCSBA) Legislative Advocacy Meeting – Thursday, October 1, 2009, 6 p.m.*, Board Chair Miller invited Board members and anyone else who is interested to participate in this meeting which will be a live teleconference and will be held in the Board Room at the Genesis Education Center.

Under Action Item A., *2009-2010 Board Priorities and Superintendent Goals*, Board Chair Miller reviewed the 2009-2010 Board Priorities and Superintendent Goals as presented at the August 17, 2009, Board meeting as an information item. Mr. Wright moved and Dr. Pritchard seconded a motion to approve the 2009-2010 Board Priorities and Superintendent Goals as presented. The motion carried unanimously (7-0). Next, Superintendent Johnson reviewed Proposed Administrative Strategies as related to the Board Priorities and Superintendent Goals for 2009-2010 via a power point presentation.

Under Action Item B., *Personnel Recommendations and Vacancies*, Mr. Witt presented personnel recommendations. Mr. Bowers moved and Ms. Riddle seconded a motion to approve personnel recommendations as presented by the Administration. The motion carried unanimously (7-0). Mr. Witt also provided an update on existing vacancies.

Mr. Bowers moved and Dr. Pritchard seconded a motion to enter Executive Session to consider contractual matters. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

The Board entered Executive Session at 8:20 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 9:18 p.m.

Board Chair Miller stated that no Board action was necessary.

The meeting adjourned without objection at 9:19 p.m.

Debrah Miller

LeVerne Fuller

Debrah Miller, Chair

LeVerne Fuller, Secretary

10/19/09

Date Approved

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