

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

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees**  
**December 15, 2008**

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, Dan Richardson, Sheila Riddle, and Claude Wright. Board member James Williams arrived after the meeting had been called to order; Board member LeVerne Fuller was absent.

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 November 17, 2008, Board meeting were approved as presented without objection.

Under *Adoption of Agenda*, Mr. Bowers moved and Mr. Wright seconded a motion to amend the agenda to include a special presentation by Dr. Joe Patton under the Superintendent's Report and to amend the agenda to include Cabling Proposals as Action Item VI. E. The motion carried unanimously (7-0). Without objection, the *Agenda* was adopted as amended.

Dr. Johnson began the *Superintendent's Report* by recognizing Dr. Joe Patton with GLEAMS. Dr. Patton presented Board Chair Miller with an award from the SC Community Action Partnership recognizing the Board for significantly enhancing programs of community action in contributing to making people self-sufficient and independent. Next, Dr. Johnson recognized Mr. Rex Coates, Director of the Greenwood Early Childhood Center, who shared information regarding the students and programs at the Center, along with a slide presentation. Dr. Johnson also recognized Ms. Jeneen Webb under Teacher Spotlight for her after-school work at Westview Middle School. In concluding his report, Dr. Johnson reminded the Board of mid-year graduation scheduled for January 15, 2009, at 5:30, at Greenwood High School.

The second Information Item, *Schedule Options*, was addressed by Ms. Pat Ross, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, and Ms. Shirley Boyce, Director of Secondary Education. Ms. Boyce presented an overview of several schedule options that are being explored in an effort to reduce costs during the 2009-2010 school year. In responding to comments, Superintendent Johnson noted that a plan has not been adopted and that there will be opportunities for input from parents.

Next, under the third Information Item, *Facilities Update*, Dr. Gary Johnson, Assistant Superintendent for Business, commented concerning lines that have been cut at construction sites this school year and then recognized Mr. Forrest King with Southern Management Group who provided an update on ongoing projects.

Under the fourth Information Item, *Financial Update*, Assistant Superintendent Johnson, provided information regarding the budget cuts thus far this school year and stated that there would be additional cuts.

Under the final Information Item, *2008 Financial Audit Report*, Assistant Superintendent Johnson recognized Mr. Chuck Talbert with McAbee, Talbert, Halliday and Company who summarized the 2008 audit findings for the District and for the G. Frank Russell Career Center. Both audits resulted in clean unqualified opinions according to Mr. Talbert. Mr. Talbert along with Assistant Superintendent Johnson responded to questions and comments.

The first Action Item, *G. Frank Russell Career Center Board Member*, was presented by Board Chair Miller. She stated that the Board needed to appoint one Board member to serve on the G. Frank Russell Career Center Education Advisory Council. Mr. Bowers nominated Mr. Williams to serve in this capacity and Dr. Pritchard seconded the nomination. Since there were no other nominations, Mr. Bowers moved and Mr. Hemphill seconded a motion to close the nominations. The nominations were closed and Mr. Williams was unanimously (8-0) elected to serve on the G. Frank Russell Career Center Education Advisory Council.

The second Action Item, *Board Legislative Contact*, was also presented by Board Chair Miller. She stated that it was necessary for the Board to appoint a member to serve as the legislative contact through the South Carolina School Boards Association (SCSBA). Mr. Williams nominated Ms. Riddle and Dr. Pritchard seconded the nomination. Since there were no other nominations, Mr. Bowers moved and Mr. Hemphill seconded a motion to close the nominations. The nominations were closed and Ms. Riddle was unanimously (8-0) elected to serve as the Board's legislative contact through the SCSBA.

The third Action Item, *Program of Studies*, was presented by Assistant Superintendent Ross. Ms. Ross noted that there were not any significant proposed changes, however, any schedule change for the 2009-2010 school year would necessitate revising some pages of the document. She also commented that the Curriculum Committee had met and reviewed the proposed changes. Board Chair Miller noted that, according to Board Policy BG, two readings are required to adopt policy. Mr. Bowers moved and Mr. Williams seconded a motion to waive second reading of the *2009-2010 Program of Studies* and to adopt on first reading. The motion carried (7-1) with Mr. Bowers, 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. Next, Mr. Bowers moved and Mr. Richardson seconded a motion to adopt the *2009-2010 Program of Studies* as presented. The motion carried unanimously (8-0).

The next Action Item, *Personnel Recommendations and Vacancies*, was presented by Mr. Vaughn. Mr. Bowers moved and Mr. Richardson seconded a motion to approve personnel recommendations as presented. The motion carried unanimously (8-0). In regard to personnel reductions and budget issues, Mr. Vaughn informed the Board that the District is working to equalize and balance personnel districtwide as best as possible considering budget issues.

The final action item, *Cabling Proposals*, was presented by Assistant Superintendent Johnson. He presented the Administration's recommendation to accept the proposal from Network Controls and Electric (NCE) of Greenville, SC, in the amount of \$999,544 for the provision of cabling solutions in support of the construction projects at Greenwood High, Emerald High, Hodges, Lakeview, Oakland, and the new Mathews Elementary schools. Mr. Bowers moved and Dr. Pritchard seconded a motion to accept the Administration's recommendation as presented. After Dr. Johnson responded to questions and comments concerning the proposals, the motion carried (7-0-1) with Mr. Bowers, Mr. Hemphill, Ms. Miller, Dr. Pritchard, Ms. Riddle, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Wright voting in favor of the motion and Mr. Richardson abstaining.

Next, Mr. Williams moved and Mr. Bowers seconded a motion to enter Executive Session to consider a student matter. The motion carried unanimously (8-0).

The Board entered Executive Session at 9 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 9:48 p.m.

Board Chair Miller commented that a student matter had been considered during Executive Session. Mr. Richardson moved and Dr. Pritchard seconded a motion to allow the student to return to the alternative program second semester and enroll in and successfully complete the Cornestone program. The motion carried (6-1-1) with Mr. Bowers, Mr. Hemphill, Ms. Miller, Dr. Pritchard, Mr. Richardson, and Mr. Wright voting in favor of the motion, Mr. Williams voting against the motion, and Ms. Riddle abstaining.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m. without objection.

Debrah Miller

LeVerne Fuller

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Debrah Miller, Chair

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LeVerne Fuller, Secretary

January 26, 2009

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Date Approved

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