

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL

Minutes of Meeting May 20, 1970

The meeting was presided over by Chairman of the Board, Rev. M. B. Webb. The Rev. James B. Mitchell gave the invocation. Two new members of the Board were introduced and welcomed: Dr. Marvin Efron and Mr. Clarence S. Roland, Jr. Others present were: Dr. Cyril B. Busbee, Mrs. David R. Coker, Mr. Sam H. Jones, Mr. R. H. Smith, Dr. Oliver Thomas, Dr. James F. Miles, Dr. Wil Lou Gray and Superintendent Mike P. Caskey.

The minutes of the Board meeting on January 15th were read and approved.

Mr. T. J. Bissett, of LBC & W Architects, presented plans to the Board, including pictorial illustrations, of proposed housing for personnel who should live on campus because of the nature of their work. Plans are to erect five houses of three bedrooms, one four-apartment complex, and renovate the present homes of the Superintendent and Principal, as illustrated. After consideration by the Board, Dr. Thomas moved that the proposed plans be approved and that the details be worked out by the Building Committee of the Board and the Architects. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Coker and passed by the Board.

Superintendent Caskey read letters from Dr. Cort Flint and Mr. Ben ~~U. Bunting~~, the latter of which indicated that Mr. Glenn Turner would provide the \$50,000.00 in July for the proposed special summer school for talented, but needy, adults.

Mr. Raymond G. Halford, of the South Carolina Attorney General's office, discussed with the Board a proposed "Letter of Agency" for completing the trust agreement for investment of Opportunity School Scholarship Trust Funds by the Trust Department of Citizens and Southern National Bank, as authorized by the Board of Trustees. Mr. Smith moved that the Executive Committee of the Board be designated in the "Letter of Agency" to work with the Trust Department and to execute the agreement. Dr. Efron seconded the motion and it passed.

Mrs. R. A. (Lucille) Fletcher was introduced to the Board. She presented a proposal that the Opportunity School provide basic education for about 60 youths, ages 16 - 18, on a continuing basis, dependent upon re-

newal after the first session, from about June 22 to July 19, 1970, for which the Opportunity School would be paid \$12.00 per week per student by the National Youth Club II. This is a program of the United States Department of Labor, administered by the Columbia Youth Committee, a private group. The working agreement will be executed by Mrs. Fletcher and Superintendent Caskey. Dr. Efron moved and Mr. Smith seconded the motion that the Opportunity School provide basic education, as proposed, for the National Youth Club II group. The motion passed.

Dr. Miles moved that Superintendent Caskey proceed with plans for the one-month summer school, this summer, to be financed with \$50,000.00 (the annual interest on the \$1,000,000.00 gift by Mr. Glenn Turner) and that the school program for the next Fiscal Year be tailored, budget-wise, to accommodate the 1970 summer school. Dr. Efron seconded the motion and it passed.

Mrs. Coker moved that the Superintendent have a stepping stone added to the Opportunity School Hall of Fame honoring former Superintendent, William T. Lander. Dr. Efron seconded the motion, and it passed.

Superintendent Caskey indicated that, during the next Fiscal Year, he would become 65 and that he would like to retire on June 30, 1971. Dr. Efron moved and Mr. Jones seconded the motion that a retirement party be planned next spring honoring Superintendent Caskey. The motion passed.

Dr. Gray reported that 1971 will be the 50th anniversary of the Opportunity School and indicated that appropriate plans be made for this celebration.

Mrs. Coker moved that Principal James Truett Willis be designated as Superintendent-elect, to assume the position July 1, 1971. Reverend Mitchell seconded the motion and it passed.

Discussion ensued regarding the transition period between now and July 1, 1971, in which the consensus was that Superintendent Caskey would assist Superintendent-elect Willis in assuming his added responsibilities during this period, as Superintendent Caskey gradually relieves himself of his responsibilities. The need was stressed that the Administration work with the Executive Committee of the Board, concerning all major decisions, during this interim period. It was pointed out that all administrative decisions are subject to approval or disapproval by the Board. Superintendent Caskey was praised for his contributions to the school and the Board expressed its thanks for his many services.

Upon a question from Dr. Efron, Chairman Webb asked the Secretary to notify an existing committee of the Board charged with the responsibility for recommending to the Board appropriate names for Opportunity School buildings.

Superintendent Caskey presented the Board with a written General Report for 1969 - 1970.

The Board adjourned at about 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James F. Miles

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Secretary of the Board

JFM/hmm