

**WIL LOU GRAY OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINUTES OF JANUARY 11, 1989**

The Board of Trustees convened for a scheduled meeting on January 11, 1989, following a reception honoring Dr. Norwood in the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School Research and Training Center. Trustees in attendance were: Dr. Louise Scott, Mrs. Hannah Meadors, Dr. Marvin Efron, Mrs. Elizabeth Thrailkill, Mr. Vince Rhodes, Ms. Wilhelmina McBride, Mrs. Mickey Lindler, Mrs. Olive Wilson, Mrs. Linda Sledge, and Mr. Walter Dahlgren. Staff members present were: Dr. Mary Catherine Norwood, Mr. Bob James, Mrs. Jane Zenger, Ms. Gloria Lloyd, Mr. John King, Mr. Pat Smith, Mrs. Cheryl Brackett, Ms. Millercin Weeks, Mrs. Carolyn Taylor, and Mrs. Brenda Stork.

Dr. Scott called the meeting to order and at this time she stated for the record that notice of the meeting was provided to the public in conformance with the requirements of the S. C. Freedom of Information Act, Section 30-4-80(d) of the S. C. Code of Laws, 1976 as amended. Notice of the meeting was published in The State Newspaper and The Columbia Record in Columbia, The Journal in Lexington, and The Lexington Dispatch in Lexington.

Dr. Scott welcomed everyone. On behalf of the board she said the reception went well and expressed appreciation to the staff for their efforts in preparing for this occasion. Dr. Norwood also expressed her appreciation to the Board and to the Wil Lou Gray staff for the reception.

Dr. Scott then called for approval of the agenda. A motion was made by Mr. Rhodes that the agenda be adopted as written. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lindler. The motion was passed.

The next order of business was approval of the minutes of the November 2 and December 10, 1989 board meetings. Dr. Efron made a motion that the minutes be accepted as written. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilson. The motion was passed.

At this time Dr. Scott called on Dr. Norwood for the Superintendent's Report. Dr. Norwood said departmental reports were previously mailed to the board. However, she called on Mr. James to discuss additional information. Mr. James distributed copies of the 1989 baseball schedule. He explained that some of the out-of-town games would require the students to leave school before 3:00 p.m. After some discussion among the board, it was the general consensus of the board that it would be an administrative decision to let students dismiss early for pending ball games as necessary. Mr. James also informed the board of an all-clear status on the State Department of Education accreditation.

Next, Ms. Weeks briefly discussed enrollment. She said the total enrollment is presently 128. 15 are expected to register on Monday. Approximately 15 applications are being processed. Mr. Rhodes asked how many students were enrolled in vocational training. Ms.

Weeks said 75 - 80%. There were no further questions from the board concerning departmental reports.

At this time Dr. Norwood presented to the board her vision statement of the Opportunity School. Matters of special concern she addressed to the board included the following:

1. Increase enrollment and communicate the present mission of the school.
2. Evaluating our programs, methods of delivery and staff training needs.
3. Review and update job descriptions and assignments to assure the strongest and most efficient services to students.
4. Plan and monitor a more specific budget.
5. Study facility usage.
6. Increase community/business involvement.
7. Improve communication procedures to build team work.

In the longer term, Dr. Norwood further explained, the school must establish the following:

8. Be a productive innovator serving the needs of clients. This will require, in addition to all the items above, a willingness to do research, an openness to experimentation, a willingness to submit to retraining, and a commitment to unprejudiced evaluation of all efforts.

9. Provide leadership in a cooperative manner.

This was the conclusion of Dr. Norwood's vision statement. The board thanked Dr. Norwood for her report.

Dr. Norwood said she met with Mr. Dusenbury at Vocational Rehabilitation. She said she felt they have a good relationship and will work cooperatively. This concluded the Superintendent's Report.

Dr. Scott then called on Mr. King for a budget report. Copies of the following budget reports were previously mailed to the board and Mr. King discussed these reports with the board. Copies of these reports are attached as a permanent part of these minutes. There were no questions from the board.

Dr. Scott next called for Committee Reports. In reference to the Personnel Report, Mrs. Thrailkill explained that a copy of this report was previously submitted to the board for their review. She said she was submitting these Personnel Actions to the board for their approval. A motion was made by Mrs. Lindler that the board implement the Personnel Actions as recommended by the Personnel Committee. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilson. The motion was passed. A copy of the report is attached and becomes a permanent part of these minutes.

There were no reports given from the Program Committee or the Budget Committee.

Next, Dr. Scott called on Dr. Efron for the Ad Hoc Committee Report on Policy Revisions. Dr. Efron explained that the board had several draft policies in their file for first reading as follows: Employment of Staff, File CGD, Reclassifying Employees, File GBJ, and Employee

Employment Outside of the Agency, File GBRG. Method of Election, File BBAA (Rescinding BBAA Issued 5/86) was also submitted for board approval. After some discussion among the board the following motions were made to approve the above policies:

A motion was made by Mr. Rhodes and seconded by Mrs. Lindler to approve File CGD, Employment of Staff, for first reading. The motion was passed.

A motion was made by Mrs. Wilson and seconded by Mrs. Meadors to approve File GBJ, Reclassifying Employees, for first reading. The motion was passed.

A motion was made by Dr. Efron and seconded by Mrs. Wilson to approve File GBRG, Employee Employment Outside of the Agency, for first reading. There was some discussion among the board concerning this policy. Dr. Norwood suggested to the board that she would provide the board with a report on any outside employment. The motion was passed.

A motion was made by Dr. Efron and seconded by Mrs. Wilson to approve policy Method of Election for first reading as amended. The motion was passed.

In reference to a policy on Conduct Of Board Meetings concerning a no smoking rule for board members and others in attendance during board meetings, it was the general consensus of the board for board rule.

Dr. Efron said Mrs. Wilson will be chairing the Policy Committee.

Dr. Scott said there was a need for policies for the Research and Training Center.

Concerning policies/by-laws for the Foundation, Mrs. Thraikill suggested keeping this information in a separate notebook. Mr. George Smith said he would provide the board with a copy.

The next order of business was old business, disposition of the old barracks building. Mr. Pat Smith said he needed the board's permission to move the building. After some discussion among the board, a motion was made by Mrs. Meadors to give the school permission to remove the pipes so the building could be moved. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilson.

In reference to the next item under old business, status of board travel, a copy of this report was provided to the board. Mrs. Thraikill requested review of past board minutes concerning use of board travel funds.

Dr. Norwood reminded the board of the At Risk Youth National Conference in Charleston on January 29 - February 1. The Opportunity School's presentation is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on January 30. She also reminded the board of the S. C. School Boards Association Legislative Reception and Governor's Conference on Education January 24th and 25th at the Radisson Hotel in Columbia. Several board members expressed their interest in attending.

Next, the board discussed the date for the legislative bar-b-que. The dates of April 25th or April 26th were suggested. A motion was made by Dr. Efron that the bar-b-que be held on April 26th. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilson. The motion was passed.

At this time it was recommended that a study of facility usage be conducted on the Opportunity School. Two members of the board were appointed to serve on this committee. They were Mr. Rhodes and Mrs. Wilson.

The next item on the agenda was the briefing by Dr. Norwood on the cooperative efforts with DSS project. After a brief discussion among the board, it was the general consensus of the board for the administration to work with DSS in establishing cooperative programs of students under our administrative standards.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Rhodes to move into executive session to discuss personnel matters. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilson. The motion was passed.

After executive session a motion was made by Dr. Efron for the board to move out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilson. The motion was passed. No action was needed.

A motion was made by Mrs. Wilson for the board to adjourn. The

motion was seconded by Dr. Efron. The motion was passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mickey Lindler

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