

**WIL LOU GRAY OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 12, 1990**

The Board of Trustees convened for a scheduled meeting at 6:00 p.m. on September 12, 1990, in the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School Research and Training Center. Trustees in attendance were: Dr. Louise Scott, Mrs. Olive Wilson, Mr. Frank Hart, Dr. Marvin Efron, Mr. DeVon Belcher, Mr. John Robinson, Mr. Vince Rhodes, Mrs. Mickey Lindler, Ms. Wilhelmina McBride, and Mrs. Elizabeth Thrailkill. Staff members present were: Dr. Mary Catherine Norwood, Mrs. Thelma Bailey, Ms. Gloria Lloyd, Mr. John King, Mr. Pat Smith, Ms. Deb Haney, Mr. Bob James, Mrs. Jane Zenger, Mr. George Smith, Mr. Mike Kelly, Mr. Johnny Bartley, and Mrs. Brenda Stork.

Dr. Scott called the meeting to order and at this time she stated for the record that the 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, The Journal of Lexington, and The Lexington Dispatch in Lexington.

Dr. Scott welcomed everyone. Dr. Scott called on Dr. Efron to introduce two guests. At this time Dr. Efron introduced the guests from South America. They were Mrs. Anna Maria Fernandez, an English teacher and Mrs. Stanza Weakmae, a School Psychologist.

Next, Dr. Scott recognized the Employee of the Month, Mr. Johnny Bartley. On behalf of the board, Dr. Scott congratulated Mr. Bartley. Mr. Bartley thanked Dr. Norwood and Ms. Haney. He said he was grateful to be a part of the Wil Lou Gray family and thanked the board for their support and appreciation.

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. Wilson. Dr. Scott recommended that the Board Calendar be added under New Business. The motion was passed.

Dr. Scott said a quorum was not present at the July board meeting. Therefore, the minutes they received for that meeting is for the record. Next, Dr. Scott called for approval of the May 16, 1990, Board Minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Hart that these minutes be approved 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 introduced a new staff member, Mr. Michael Kelly. Mr. Kelly came from the School for the Deaf and Blind and she said we were very fortunate to have Mr. Kelly on our staff. Mr. Kelly thanked the board and he said he was glad to be a part of the Opportunity School.

Dr. Norwood also informed the board that she had made a presentation to the Budget and Control Board. She said she has received feedback that the presentation went well.

Next, she called on Mr. Pat Smith to report on the mechanical system. Mr. Smith explained that Mr. W. O. Blackstone has notified us that asbestos containing materials were found in the pipe joints and on fire walls in the ceiling of our dormitories and that they could not proceed until it was removed. Mr. Smith has been in contact with Mr. Bill Clement, head of Agency Services. There appears to be an asbestos project fund which we can draw money from or the existing pipe could remain in the ceiling and could be worked around. It would cost approximately \$40,000 - \$45,000 to remove the pipe joint insallation. After a brief discussion among the board, Mr. Smith said this would be discussed further with the engineer's office.

Mr. Smith also said the lease agreement for the Federation of Older Americans requires board approval. Dr. Scott said this agreement was reviewed at the July board meeting. A motion was made by Mr.

Hart to approve this agreement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rhodes. The motion was passed.

Mr. Smith also said the board had previously requested information on a lease agreement with the S. C. School for the Deaf and Blind. He said he has contacted Property Management of the Division of General Services concerning an equitable lease arrangement. He indicated that most state buildings are leased for \$8.00 - \$9.00 per square foot. The two of our apartments in which the School for the Deaf and Blind are currently housed is approximately 852 sq. ft. He said he spoke with the School for the Deaf and Blind and this is not a grant project and would come out of their operational funds. Mr. Smith said that \$200 per month would cover their use of utilities. A motion was made by Mrs. Lindler to approve a lease arrangement with the S. C. School for the Deaf and Blind for \$200.00 per month. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilson. After some discussion among the board, the motion was passed.

Mr. Smith distributed a list to the board from the Highway Department for those board members who wanted to sign up again this year for personalized license plates.

Next, Dr. Norwood said she hoped that the board members would get a chance to tour the child development center. She said she was very pleased with the staffing and intergenerational approach. Dr. Norwood said we were trying to get a Green Thumb Worker for the morning.

She also reminded the board that a dedication of the ropes course has been planned for October 10. A ceremony will be conducted with the Telephone Pioneers and she invited the board to attend.

At this time Dr. Norwood called on Ms. Haney for a report on in-depth training with the Youth Counselors. Ms. Haney said it was a busy summer. Activities included: Youth Counselors attended ten sessions on Alcohol and Drug Abuse; time was spent on campus with

a program called The Dysfunctional Child - The Dysfunctional Family; Youth Counselors attended a listening skills workshop and suicide prevention workshops, and a relaxation period has also been planned for students in the dorms at 9:30 p.m. each night. Programming was also done in the area of peer counseling. They also worked on team building/self confidence activities. Ms. Haney also said she will be attending a basic skills instructors workshop for Project Journey in Georgia. Ms. Haney thanked Dr. Norwood for the time this summer to train staff members in these areas. Dr. Norwood she was very pleased with the afternoon and evening program.

Dr. Norwood then called on Mrs. Zenger. Mrs. Zenger said the board had previously received information on some of the grants, however, since then two additional smaller grants were received. She explained they had applied for a sex equity grant of approximately \$18,000 and this grant has been approved. The other grant we received is alcohol and drug related in the amount of \$468.23. She said this money will be used for students attending Teen Institute.

Dr. Norwood said she received a letter from Jim Neal complimenting our students on their behavior who attended the retreat at White Oak with the prevention project. She said she was also pleased that we were in negotiations to bring aboard an intervention specialist paid for or contracted by SCADA. This would be a full time position on campus.

At this time Mr. George Smith reported that he has written a letter to Burger King in reference to placing in their trays the Opportunity School tray liner which the board previously received. He said he has not received approval from Burger King at this time.

Dr. Scott thanked Dr. Norwood for her report.

Dr. Scott said Mr. Walter Dahlgren had mailed a letter to Governor Campbell on August 21, 1990 resigning his position on this board. She said according to the statute that the board has proposed for

passage and the Governor would have the opportunity to fill an unexpired term. Dr. Scott said the board appreciates the work he has done for them. Dr. Efron made a motion that a letter be written on behalf of the board thanking Mr. Dahlgren for his contributions to the board and to the Opportunity School. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lindler. The motion was passed.

The next item on the agenda was standing committee reports. Mrs. Meadors was not present for the Foundation report. Therefore, Dr. Scott called on Mr. George Smith for an update. Mr. Smith said the brochures were in the process of being printed. He said he is also working on the goals and objectives of the foundation. Once this is completed, the solicitation will begin.

Next, Dr. Scott said Mrs. Meadors had the revisions on the information of the The Wil Lou Gray Award which were discussed at the retreat. At this time Dr. Efron reported he had been in contact with Mrs. Meadors on the information he received on a plaque. He reported to the board that he had talked with Jewelry Warehouse and he showed the board what they recommended for this award. Mr. George Smith recommended a bronze statute. Dr. Scott said the revisions on the Wil Lou Gray Award would be mailed to the board and they could make further recommendations at the next board meeting.

Dr. Scott then called on Ms. McBride for a report from the Budget Committee. At this time Mr. Rhodes said he felt it would be advantageous for the board to attend a seminar which is provided by Mr. Bill Putnam, former Director of Budget and Control Board. This seminar includes the budget preparation process and the do's and don't's in dealing with the General Assembly. Mr. Rhodes recommended that Dr. Norwood contact Mr. Putnam regarding this seminar.

The next item on the agenda was a report from the Policy Committee. Mrs. Wilson reviewed with the board the following policies: File BBD,

Board-Superintendent Relations; File JBD, Notice of Absences and Excuses and Policies ACA, ACB, and ACC Research and Training Center Operational Policy. After board discussion, Policy BBD was amended. Dr. Efron made a motion that policy BBD be approved for a first reading as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rhodes. The motion was passed. Next the board discussed policy JBD. This policy was also amended by the board. A motion was made by Dr. Efron to approve policy JBD for a first reading as amended. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilson. The motion was passed. Policy ACA, ACB, and ACC were the next policies discussed by the board. Revisions were also made to policy ACA and ACB by the board. A motion was made by Mrs. Wilson to approve policy ACA and ACB as amended and policy ACC for a first reading. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rhodes. The motion was passed. These policies will be amended and presented to the board at the November board meeting for a second reading.

Dr. Scott called for a report from the Personnel Committee. Dr. Efron reported the personnel actions were previously mailed to the board. In addition to these reports, Dr. Norwood reported that Mr. Kenneth Blakeley, Youth Counselor, resigned. Also, a replacement for Mr. Whitaker was hired, Mrs. Chestnut. He then made a motion that these personnel actions be ratified at this time and approve the hiring of Mr. Mike Kelly. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rhodes. The motion was passed. A copy of the personnel actions is attached and becomes a permanent part of these minutes. This concluded the committee reports.

The next item on the agenda was the discussion of the statute under Old Business. Dr. Scott informed the board they previously received the revised copies of the statute. Dr. Scott reviewed the statute as follows: Sections 59-51-10, 59-51-20, 59-51-30, 59-51-40, and 59-51-50. In Section 59-51-10 there were no further revisions. Section 59-51-20 was amended. Section 59-51-30 was amended by the Attorney General's Office. Section 59-51-40 was amended. There were no further revisions in Section 59-51-50. Mr. Rhodes made a

motion that the statute above be approved as revised. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilson. The motion was passed.

Dr. Scott said she received a reply from Mr. John Cone from the S. C. School Boards Association in reference to the services this board does not receive from the state School Boards Association. She said she still has concern about the board not being able to participate in a lot of their activities.

Under New Business was the approval of the operating budget for the current year. Dr. Scott called on Mr. King. Mr. King said the board previously received a budget report and he reviewed same. A copy of this report is attached and becomes a permanent part of these minutes. A motion was made by Dr. Efron to approve the budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rhodes. The motion was approved.

The next item on the agenda was the approval of the School Improvement Report. Dr. Norwood said the board was provided with a copy of this report in their folder. She said the School Improvement Council met yesterday and they are in their third year of the school improvement cycle. Mr. Rhodes made a motion that the School Improvement Report be approved as presented. Mr. Hart seconded the motion. The motion was passed. Mr. Rhodes thanked the staff for the hard work they have done.

Next Dr. Scott called for approval of the Board Calendar which was previously provided to the board. After some board discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Lindler that the January board meeting be changed from January 9 to January 18th and 19th for the extended board meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilson. The motion was passed. It was also suggested that Mr. Putnam be scheduled to talk with the board at this time.

Dr. Scott also said it was the concensus of the board this summer to move the July 11th board meeting to the Friday night of the July

retreat, July 26, 27, and 28, 1991. It was also suggested that this meeting be held at the Waccamaw House. Dr. Efron recommended and it was the general consensus of the board that the Superintendent and the Chairman be empowered to select the location for the retreat.

The next item of business was the election of officers. Mr. Hart made a motion to re-elect the present slate of officers. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rhodes. The motion was passed and at this time the board voted by written ballot. The same slate of officers were re-elected.

Next on the agenda was Executive Session. Dr. Scott stated the purpose of the Executive Session to consider a personnel request and other personnel matters. A motion was made by Mrs. Wilson to move into Executive Session.

After executive session, a motion was made by Mr. Hart to move out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilson. The motion was passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Rhodes that there be no change in the job description of the Psychologist I, Marge Sanders. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Thrailkill. The motion was passed.

A motion was made by Dr. Efron for the board to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilson. The motion was passed.

The board adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mickey Lindler