

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees
January 28, 1975

The Board of Trustees met in a called meeting on Wednesday, January 28, on the campus of the school. Those present were: Dr. H. B. Webb, presiding; Mr. W. Melvin Brown, Jr.; Dr. Marvin Efron; Dr. J. Carlisle Holler; Mr. James McClary; Dr. James F. Miles; Reverend James B. Mitchell; Mr. Clarence S. Rowland, Jr.; Dr. Wil Lou Gray and Dr. J. T. Willis.

Reverend Mitchell led in the Invocation. The proposed agenda was approved. The minutes were approved as printed and mailed to the Trustees.

Dr. Holler, Chairman of a special committee on nomination of trustees, reported that there were no new developments on the nominations submitted to the Legislature during the 1975 session of that body. The Board passed a motion requesting the special committee continue to work with the Legislature in getting the nominations submitted by the Board elected by the Legislature.

Dr. Holler, Chairman of the Endowment Committee, reported that the Deputy Attorney General, Mr. Ken Woodington, and attorneys for the Guinyard Estate had worked out a compromise of \$20,000 for the Opportunity School's share in the Guinyard Will. Dr. Holler reported that the Endowment Committee had had a telephonic conference and voted to recommend to the Board of Trustees that the compromise be accepted. Two thousand five hundred dollars of this compromise was for the Opportunity School's claim to its share of property on Hampton Street in Columbia. Also, the compromise is to make provision for the administrators of the Still Hope Foundation to give a letter of guarantee to the Opportunity School that it will not be a party to any other lawsuits. The Board voted to accept the compromise with the proviso as stated. The Board authorized Dr. Webb, Chairman, to sign the letter of compromise. Dr. Holler informed the Board that there is still a question as to whether or not the school will be brought into a suit against one of the heirs in the estate by other heirs of the estate. The Board voted to commend the Endowment Committee for its action. Also it requested Dr. Willis to write the Deputy Attorneys a letter of appreciation for their effort in the matter. Dr. Holler reported that he had stated to one of the heirs in the estate that the Board would be willing to name a scholarship after Dr. Bruce Guinyard.

Dr. Gray reported that progress was being made on the game, Palmetto Patriots, and it would be ready for market in the very near future. The problem now confronting the school is the marketing of the game.

Dr. Miles reported that the special committee on naming buildings had met and had considered several names for buildings that had been suggested by people who have either had a long time association with the school or who had been long time friends of the school. The committee is still considering these suggestions and did recommend additional suggestions. He reported that the committee recommends that the Board name the school the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School and the Administration Building be named the William T. Lander, Jr. Administration Building. The Board passed a motion naming the school and building as recommended by the committee.

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:00 PM. After lunch, Dr. Willis was asked to make his recommendations to the Board concerning the NAPCAE Report. After brief background information concerning the report of the NAPCAE Committee, he made recommendations as were printed and given to each member of the Board. A copy of

his recommendations is attached hereto:

Recommendation 1: A motion was passed by the Board to accept Recommendation 1 and that the contractual arrangement be reviewed by the Education Committee of the Board of Trustees each year.

Recommendation 2: Was accepted with a request from the Board that Dr. Willis give further thought to particular target populations that the school might possibly serve in the years ahead. He is to report back to the Board at a future meeting on this recommendation.

Recommendation 3: The Board recommended that it be given further study.

Recommendation 4: Dr. Willis informed the Board that Recommendation 4 had already been implemented. He stated that the girls accepted the Honor Dormitory program but the boys refused it. The staff will continue to study the feasibility of honor dormitories.

Recommendation 5: The Board voted to ask a member of the staff and a student to set in on each Board meeting. They will be present for routine matters and will then be excused.

Recommendation 6: Dr. Willis reported that Recommendation 6 had already been implemented and the staff would continue to work on improvement of its extra curricular activities program. This was accepted as information.

Recommendation 7: He reported that Recommendation 7 was being carried out through various programs in the school and that these programs were adequate. The Board accepted this as information.

Recommendation 8: He stated that Recommendation 8 was simply another way of stating Recommendation 6. The Board accepted this as information.

Recommendation 9: Dr. Willis told the Board that unless they desired some change in the present educational objectives that the school would continue with the goals and objectives as stated by the Board of Trustees and printed in the Board manual. The Board voted to continue with the present educational goals and objectives. The Board asked Dr. Willis and staff to work closely with the State Department of Education on our educational program.

Recommendation 10: Dr. Willis' reaction to the NAPCAE recommendations was that we have no choice in implementing or in not implementing the Carnegie Unit Credit Program. This was mandated by the 1973 Legislature, Section 21-50. The Board voted to accept this as information.

Recommendation 11: Dr. Willis reported that standards are a result of credit program discussed in recommendation 10 and that they are mandated by the Legislature. The Board accepted this as information.

Recommendation 12: Dr. Willis stated that thought would be given to

trying to secure the services of volunteers to work with the students at various periods throughout school year during which periods of time the teachers would be involved in in-service training. The Board accepted this as information.

Recommendation 13: Dr. Willis reported that the Trustees are currently meeting on a quarterly basis and this is often enough. The Board voted to continue to meet quarterly.

Recommendation 14: Dr. Willis recommended that the present committee structure is adequate for effectiveness. The Board voted to keep its committee structure as is at the present time.

Recommendation 15: Dr. Willis recommended that the school seek development of programs jointly with the State Department of Education, the University of South Carolina, and other governmental units. The Board voted to instruct Dr. Willis to move ahead in development of joint programs whenever possible.

Recommendation 16: Dr. Willis reported that he would be glad to meet with his counterpart in the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation and any other potentially cooperative agency in regular meetings or in special meetings. The Board voted to recommend that Dr. Willis meet with appropriate officials of any agency which can use the services of the school.

Dr. Miles asked some questions about the Director's Annual Report for 1975. He questioned the statement that students upon entrance tested out at 2 1/2 years below the grade level that they had completed in public school. Dr. Willis responded by saying that this was rather common knowledge and was of concern to educators all over the state as being true of many students regardless of the school in which they were enrolled. Dr. Miles also stated his concern that the school is keeping the students only five months on the average. Dr. Willis responded that this was a concern to him and to the staff and that they would welcome any suggestions as to how these students might be encouraged to stay in school longer.

The Board voted to adjourn.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees
FROM: J. T. Willis
DATE: January 30, 1976

I appreciate the presence of those of you who were in attendance at the called meeting of the Board on Wednesday. It was a long meeting, and I think a beneficial one.

Enclosed herewith is a copy of the minutes of the meeting. While a motion may not be printed exactly as was stated, the intent of the printed motions is the same. It is not easy to understand all that is said through a tape recorder - especially when the recorder is several feet from the person speaking.

I appreciate the confidence that was demonstrated by your vote to adopt most of the recommendations that I made. I encourage you to continue to study the NAPCAE Report for possible other action in the months ahead.

Enclosed herewith are copies of policies that the Board has adopted subsequent to the time that you accepted the Policy Manual. The intent of the policy is the same as that you adopted, but the wording has been edited to conform to the grammatical construction used elsewhere in the manual.

The policy on Firearms and Weapons was proposed at the meeting of the Board on November 19, 1975 to be voted on at the meeting on March 10, 1976. It, along with the others, has been prepared and holes made on the pages so that they may be inserted in the manual.

J. T. Willis, Ed. D.
Director

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