

WIL LOU GRAY OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 13, 1982 MEETING

The Board of Trustees convened its meeting on Wednesday, October 13, 1982 at 6:30 p.m. in the Archives Room of the William T. Lander Administration Building. Trustees in attendance were: Dr. Marvin Efron, presiding; Mrs. Patricia Bowers; Ms. Mary Mack; Mrs. Hannah Meadors; Dr. James F. Miles; Mrs. Elizabeth Thrailkill; and Mrs. Jack Wilson. Also present were: Dr. Robert C. Fulmer, Secondary Supervisor-State Department of Education; Dr. Milton Kimpson, Executive Assistant-Governor's Office; Ms. Deborah Haney, Dean of Women, Mrs. Bonnie Foster, teacher; Mrs. Thelma Bailey, Principal; Mr. Pat G. Smith, Director of Facilities and Supportive Services; Mr. George M. Smith, Student Recruiter; Mr. John King, Director of Fiscal Affairs; Ms. Gloria Lloyd, Personnel Specialist; Dr. Jonnie Spaulding, Director of Student Development; Mr. Vince Rhodes, Vocational Rehabilitation; Mr. Stephen Osborne, State Personnel; Mr. Salvatore A. Fede, Superintendent; and Mrs. Patricia Robbins, Secretary to the Superintendent. Mrs. Anne T. Boyce, Mr. James McClary, Mr. Clarence Rowland, Dr. Louise Scott, and Mr. Karl Segelken were absent.

Dr. Efron welcomed all to the meeting. Dr. Miles gave the invocation.

Mrs. Meadors moved that the agenda be adopted as printed by the Board of Trustees. Motion seconded by Mrs. Wilson. Approved.

Dr. Efron asked if there were any changes to the September 8, 1982 board minutes. There were none. Mrs. Wilson moved that the minutes be adopted as printed. Ms. Mack seconded the motion. Approved.

Mr. Fede then presented the Superintendent's report and asked Mrs. Foster to brief the Board on the State's Carolina Healthstyle Program. The handout related to the program was provided to the board members.

Mrs. Bailey and Mrs. Foster then presented the school Advisory Council report. They indicated that Mrs. Foster had been elected Chairperson, Reverend James Taylor, Vice-Chairman and Secretary is Mrs. Dale Bosworth. They also indicated that a needs assessment survey is being prepared and might possibly be ready prior to the next board meeting. She also stated that she would include copies of the minutes in mailing out needs assessment. Mrs. Bailey highlighted some of the activities in which teachers and students were participating.

Dr. Spaulding reported that, with the help of Miss Sanders, guidance counselor, Mrs. Betty Armstrong, secretary and Mrs. Cathleen Fede, volunteer, our psychologist, Mrs. Virginia Taylor, has been able to identify 150 students eligible for Title I funds by the October 1 deadline. This count will establish funding for the Title I program for School Year 1983-84. Dr. Spaulding directed attention to the enrollment statistics contained in folders.

Mr. Fede then asked that the board consider a request from Mrs. Moore that the dinner for the Christmas program include families of students, faculty and staff. Dr. Efron asked if there is sufficient money for this request. Mr. Fede replied that he would not otherwise have made the recommendation.

Mrs. Bowers, at Ms. Haney's request, discussed the possibility of the school's sponsoring a float in the Cayce-West Columbia Christmas Parade. Questions were asked concerning cost and if sponsorship is appropriate. The board expressed interest but asked that further information be provided. Dr. Efron stated that a decision to sponsor the float is an administrative decision. A short discussion followed concerning the Explorers overnight encampment on October 15 at Camp Barstow. An invitation was extended to all board members to join the activity.

Mrs. Bowers presented the minutes of the Coordinating Committee of September 29, 1982 and supplementary report stating the purpose of the committee and areas of concern. Those two reports are attached. Mrs. Bowers asked that the board be given a monthly written report of disciplinary actions.

Mr. King then presented the budgets for fiscal year 1982-83 and for 1983-84 and indicated that there was only one change from the previous budgets for those fiscal years. The change is that necessitated by the state mandated 4.6% budget cut back. After some discussion, Dr. Miles moved that the budgets be accepted. Seconded by Mrs. Wilson. Approved. Discussion followed concerning the monthly expenditure report and it was suggested by Dr. Efron and Mrs. Thrailkill that the format to this report be changed to include all funds rather than just state and institutional funds and that the three be incorporated into the whole.

Mr. Fede presented information regarding an additional allotment of Vocational Education funds, \$10,000, which is being used to purchase equipment and supplies. He brought the board up to date on the status of the Affirmative Action Plan and the status of the agencies' actions to implement the state's mandated Employee Performance Management System (EPMS). All first line and second line supervisors have received the training and we are awaiting approval on the teacher evaluation forms and procedures before we complete the training for the remaining employees.

Mr. Fede brought the board up to date on a letter before the Budget and Control Board requesting \$5000 to install range hood fire extinguishers in the cafeteria and a fire alarm system in the Vocational Education Building. It was also reported that the specifications for the dormitory mattresses were at General Services and would be let for bids shortly.

Fiscal and Personnel: Mrs. Meadors indicated that all matters pertaining to Fiscal and Personnel Committee had already been reported on by the Superintendent.

Public Relations Committee: Mr. George Smith discussed various actions he is taking to obtain carpeting for the school and his efforts to secure donations from Park Seed Company for the library.

Dr. Efron stated that a profit of \$117.48 had been reported from canteen sales. He suggested that this might be a source of funding for the school's entry in the Cayce-West Columbia Christmas Parade.

Dr. Efron then pointed out that at the next meeting, since it is an even year, the election of officers must take place.

Student Services: Mrs. Bowers stated that she is working on the Alumni Christmas dinner and program and will present plans to the board as they are finalized. She asked Mr. Fede to arrange for the Alumni Association to meet at the school on Monday, October 25, 1982 at 7:00 p.m.

Education Committee: Mrs. Wilson stated that most items discussed by that committee had been covered. She referred to an earlier determination by the board that administrative personnel be used as substitutes and recommended that this be implemented rather than using the "buddy system".

Mr. Fede indicated his intention to recommend that the board consider approval of the hiring of substitutes and reinstatement of staff travel.

Dr. Efron informed the board that he and Mrs. Wilson will attend the School Board's Association Convention on October 21-24. Mrs. Taylor will represent Mr. Fede at that meeting. Mrs. Thrailkill pointed out that we had not been listed as a member in the School Board Journal. Mr. Fede said he would look into that.

Dr. Efron then presented the chairperson of the Search Committee and indicated that Mrs. Wilson had been selected because she had previous and considerable experience with the Opportunity School, was wife of a former director, had considerable experience on the Board, and had served on a previous search committee.

Mrs. Wilson reported that she had formed four subcommittees to facilitate work of the Search Committee. The committees are:

1. Announcement: Chairperson: Mrs. Bowers; Members Dr. Fulmer and Dr. Miles.
2. Applicant Screening: Chairperson: Dr. Scott; Members: Mrs. Boyce, Mr. Segelken and Mr. Rhodes.
3. Applicant Interview: Chairperson: Ms. Mack; Members: Mrs. Meadors and Dr. Kimpson.
4. Applicant On-Site Visitation: Chairperson: Mrs. Thrailkill; Members: Mr. Rowland and Mr. McClary.

With the appointment of each committee, Mrs. Wilson gave a brief outline of the duties for which the committees would be responsible.

Dr. Efron at that time requested that the Board approve the draft of a letter to the Budget and Control Board requesting an additional \$2500 to defray the costs of the Search Committee. Mrs. Thrailkill moved that this action be taken. Seconded by Mrs. Meadors. Approved.

Dr. Efron indicated that he would like board permission to appear before the Ways and Means Committee to ask for an increase in salary for the incoming agency head. He indicated that this increase in salary would be used to pay the fair-market-value rent for the agency head's house and would serve as an inducement. He pointed out further that Mr. Fede had been promised the use of the house and a car but that these benefits had not been realized, in his case.

Mrs. Meadors moved that Dr. Efron be empowered to assume this investigative role. Seconded by Mrs. Wilson. Approved.

Mr. Fede stated that if the salary of the agency head is to be increased to cover the cost of campus housing, then salaries of those personnel required to live on campus and give on-call service should also be considered for such a raise.

Mrs. Wilson and Dr. Efron then jointly established the dates for subsequent actions. These dates are: November 15 (announcements prepared and Board meeting), December 8 (Board meeting), December 15 (cut off for applications), January 12 (screening completed and Board meeting), February 9 (interview task completed and Board meeting), March 2 (on site visitations completed), March 9 (announcement of new agency head and Board meeting).

Mrs. Thraikill asked that she be permitted to invite other board members to assist with the on-site visitations.

Mrs. Wilson asked about the use of a telephone credit card.

Mr. Pat Smith indicated he would provide Mrs. Wilson with information concerning use of a credit card.

Dr. Efron then asked Dr. Fulmer to discuss the school laws and SC statutes as they pertain to qualifications and role of the superintendent.

Dr. Fulmer gave that information.

Dr. Efron then proposed that the Board consider changing the name of the agency head from Superintendent to Director because the term Director has historical significance for the Opportunity School and is more closely identified with the head of state agencies. Dr. Efron also stated that our new agency head should not only be a good administrator, but also should understand state government and be able to deal in that area. He then asked Mr. Rhodes to give the board the benefit of his experience.

Mr. Rhodes, using the late Mr. Lander as an example, supported Dr. Efron's proposal that an educator is needed. He cited the dinner to the Senate as an example of how acute the need for an administrator with political expertise is. Public relations with the State House is necessary.

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Mrs. Thraikill, at this time, stated that we should utilize the available expertise and knowledge, citing Dr. Spaulding as an example, and complement these skilled personnel with the new agency head.

Dr. Efron then asked Dr. Fulmer to check on the procedures to change the DMP to reflect no specific requirements as to degrees or certifications for the agency head.

Mrs. Bowers moved that the Board implement actions to change the DMP. Seconded by Mrs. Wilson. Approved.

Dr. Efron stressed that if applicants do not require a superintendent's certificate the search for a director will be less limited and those who are otherwise qualified will not be excluded.

Dr. Fulmer, at this point, encouraged that the new director at least be eligible for the permit now outlined in the DMP as an alternative to the superintendent's certification.

Dr. Efron indicated that the Search Committee should have more flexibility and that he was not in favor of retaining that requirement and asked for a vote by the members. The removal of requirements was approved by a majority vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.


Mrs. Patricia Bowers
Secretary, Board of Trustees