

Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School

Board of Trustees

Minutes of Meeting on March 8, 1978

The regular bi-monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees convened at 12 o'clock noon at the Dill D. Beckman Comprehensive Facility for lunch. After a delicious lunch and a tour of the colorful facilities, the Board adjourned to re-convene at 1:45 p.m. in the conference room of the William T. Lander Administration Building. Trustees present were: Dr. J. C. Holler, presiding; Mrs. Anne Boyce, Dr. Marvin Efron; Mr. James McClary; the Rev. James Mitchell; Mr. Clarence S. Rowland, Jr.; Dr. Louise Scott; Dr. M. B. Webb; and Mrs. Olive Wilson. Dr. J. T. Willis was also present.

Dr. Holler called the meeting to order.

Dr. Webb lead in the invocation.

The agenda for the meeting was adopted as printed and mailed to the members of the Board.

The minutes of the meeting of the Board on January 11, 1978, were adopted with one correction. Mrs. Jack Wilson's name was inadvertently left off from the list of those attending the meeting.

Dr. Willis gave a report on the Guidance and Personal Adjustment Program in operation in the school. A copy of the report is appended to the minutes of the meeting. Several members of the staff assisted in writing the report and were in attendance at the meeting to discuss the report and answer any questions about the program. Many questions were asked and much discussion ensued about the guidance program and the students today compared with those of just a few years ago.

Dr. Holler expressed appreciation to the staff for the report and for meeting with the Board to discuss the report.

Mr. McClary reported for the Building and Grounds Committee. He read a letter from Mr. Tom Gorham of the Division of General Services. The letter informed the school that a sprinkler system was not required by law in any of the present facilities of the school. This was in reply to an inquiry from the Board of Trustees. Also, Mr. McClary reported that the last two water bills were considerably less than several recent previous bills. A suggestion was made that it may be advisable for the school administration to ask the City of Cayce to make some adjustment to the school for the several excessively large water bills. The decision was made to wait until after another bill has been received.

There was not a report from the Development Committee.

Dr. Efron reported for the Education Committee. He stated that the Committee did not have a report other than the report made on the guidance program.

Mr. Rowland reported for the Personnel Committee. He reported that the Committee had not met since the January meeting of the Board of Trustees. He stated that the school is continuing to receive applications for the position of student recruiter. Also, he reported that three people had been employed to fill newly created positions which were the result of the contract with the Division of Manpower. These positions were filled by black people. Their salaries brought the average salary for black employees up to be just a few dollars higher than the average salary for white employees.

Dr. Willis reported for the Executive Committee. He reported that the Executive Committee had worked with him in establishing some guidelines for the contract with the Division of Manpower. Specific guidelines that the Committee asked for were as follows: 1) The school will reserve the right to refuse to admit any illegal alien, and 2) The authority will reside with the school administra-

tion to suspend any student whose performance and/or behavior does not measure up to the minimum standards of the school. Dr. Willis also reported that a contract with the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism did not materialize.

The Endowment Campaign Committee had met two times recently. The plans for the dinner to be given in honor of the members of the Legislature and the contributors to the Endowment Program had been finalized. The dinner will be at 7 o'clock p. m. on Tuesday, March 21st. in the school cafeteria.

As a matter of unfinished business, a report from the special committee to develop a policy for handling student grievances was heard. A copy of the proposed policy is appended hereto. The Board will take the policy under consideration for discussion at a future meeting.

Dr. Holler asked Dr. Willis to write letters to Mr. Danny Henson and Mr. Vince Rhodes expressing appreciation for their hospitality, the dinner, and the tour of their facilities.

Dr. Efron informed the Board that he had understood that the School for the Deaf and Blind would be discontinuing their high school program. He suggested that the school administration look into the possibility of working on an agreement with that school for the Opportunity School to provide the high school program for their students.

There were no other items of business. A motion was made that the meeting adjourn.