

July 18, 1968

Board of Trustees  
S. C. Opportunity School

Minutes of Meeting  
July 17, 1968

The Board met in the School parlor at 2:00 P.M. Present were Rev. M. B. Webb, Chairman, Mr. R. H. Smith, Dr. J. Carlisle Holler, Mr. Sam Jones, Dr. Oliver Thomas, Director Emeritus Wil Lou Gray, Mrs. David R. Coker, Mr. Hal Kohn, Jr., Mrs. Harriet Johnson, Mr. Cyril Busbee and Dr. James F. Miles. Acting Superintendent Mike P. Caskey met with the Board part of the time.

The invocation was given by Mr. R. H. Smith.

Dr. Holler introduced Mr. James Truett Willis to the Board.

Mr. Caskey gave a statistical report to the Board covering school enrollment, finances, statistics on the 1968 graduating class of 56 persons, and estimated costs of the new construction planned at the Opportunity School. He also recommended that the Opportunity School adopt a 10-month school program. The Board received all this as information.

Mr. Caskey recommended that Major J. S. Agnew, a former Director and long-time employee of the School be employed as a field agent for the School in 7 - 8 Northwest counties according to written proposals specifying duties, reports, wages, territory, etc. The salary would not exceed \$1,800.00 per year. Mr. Jones moved that Major Agnew be so employed; seconded by Mr. Kohn and the motion passed.

Superintendent Caskey also reported a property request from the South Carolina Electric and Gas Company for a substation on approximately six acres of Opportunity School land. There were no favorable comments for this proposal. Mrs. Johnson moved that R. H. Smith serve as chairman and select two other Board members to deal with this request. The motion passed.

Miss Gray gave a report of a fairly successful summer program of 9 women on the Wil Lou Gray Scholarships.

At this point the Board went into executive session and Supt. Caskey and Mr. Willis excused themselves.

On a motion by Dr. Miles the previous building committee was reelected with Dr. Holler as chairman, Mr. Smith and Mr. Kohn, charged with the responsibility of acting for the Board in the absence of the Board when a full Board decision is not required.

There was considerable discussion of the selection of a Superintendent to fill the vacancy created by the untimely death of Mr. Wm. Lander. Dr. Holler

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recommended that Mr. Caskey be elected Superintendent and Mr. Willis be elected Principal. There was more discussion. Mr. Hal Kohn, Jr. moved and Mrs. David R. Coker seconded the motion that Dr. Holler be elected Superintendent. He was elected unanimously. Discussion continued. Dr. Holler declined to serve. Mr. Jones moved that Mike P. Caskey be elected Superintendent and Mr. James Truett Willis be elected Principal. Mr. Kohn seconded the motion and it passed. Superintendent Caskey's salary was set at \$13,000.00 and Mr. Willis's at \$11,500.00 commencing July 1, 1968.

The meeting adjourned about 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

*James F. Miles*  
James F. Miles  
Secretary of the Board

*Mr. Willis:*

*We are proud to have you join the Opportunity School. We hope you and your family will enjoy it.*

*Please feel that you can confide in me and request any help at the school that will make your work more pleasant and profitable. I can't always get things done, but I can try, and I do want you to grow in love of the School and in stature as an Adult Educator. To that end I pledge my assistance - J.F. Miles*