

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTH CAROLINA OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL

March 8, 1972

Board members present were: Rev. M. B. Webb, Chairman, presiding; Dr. J. Carlisle Holler, Mr. Clarence S. Roland, Jr., Rev. James B. Mitchell, Dr. Marvin Efron, Dr. W. O. Corder, Mrs. H. Wayne Unger, Mr. James McClary, Mrs. John S. Boyce, Jr., Dr. Oliver Thomas and Dr. James F. Miles. Also present were: Dr. Wil Lou Gray, Director Emeritus; and Superintendent James Truett Willis. Dr. Corder gave the invocation.

Dr. Corder made a motion seconded by Mr. McClary that the Secretary write a memorial to Mrs. Harriet Johnson, member of the Board who passed away since the last meeting, and send a copy to her nearest relative. The motion passed.

Superintendent Willis distributed to the Board a copy of the report of the Governor's Management Review Team concerning the Opportunity School, and a copy of Mr. Willis' recommendations to the Board. Dr. Efron moved and Mrs. Boyce seconded the motion that Mrs. Sarah Neel be appointed Director of Education; that Mrs. Eugenia Bechtler continue to be designated as Finance Officer; and that Mr. H. E. Burns be named Director of Other Services in implementing the recommendations of the Review Team. The motion passed.

By way of implementing recommendation number 2, Dr. Miles moved and Dr. Corder seconded the motion that three janitors be hired. The motion passed.

It was the consensus of the Board that it would add extra cost instead of cutting costs to implement recommendation number 3. Mr. Roland moved and Mr. McClary seconded the motion that recommendation number 3 not be implemented since Department Heads already centralize their purchases through the Finance Officer.

The Management Review Team misunderstood the total program of work of the Canteen Operator who also serves part time with the maintenance staff. The Review Team also failed to understand that the volume of vending machine business is so low that the vending companies do not wish to provide this service. Dr. Holler moved that the present system of operation of the canteen be continued. Rev. Mitchell seconded the motion. Recommendation number 4 was not implemented.

Superintendent Willis indicated that several attempts have been made to implement Recommendation number 5, that the same security officers serve both the Technical Education Center and the Opportunity School, but that another attempt would be made. So far, there has been no response from Tech.

Recommendation Number 6 was implemented, raising student fees from \$70 to \$75 a month.

There was a consensus among the Board that the Review Team was unable to fully understand the objectives and activities of the Opportunity School and to fully appreciate the relationship between Vocational Rehabilitation and the Opportunity School. Dr. Holler moved that a committee from the Board prepare a response to the Management Review Team in order to amplify and correctly state the position of the Opportunity School. Dr. Efron seconded the motion, and it was adopted.


Chairman Webb appointed to this committee Dr. Efron, Dr. Corder, Dr. Holler and Dr. Gray.

Consideration was given to plans for landscaping the Opportunity School grounds. Bids from two firms were reported by Superintendent Willis. It was agreed that this work be referred to the Buildings and Grounds Committee of the Board, and Dr. Miles was asked to serve with the Committee on this activity.

Consideration was given to recommending a replacement on the Board for Mrs. Harriet Johnson. It was agreed that this matter be handled by Dr. Holler, Dr. Gray and Superintendent Willis.

After lunch the Board was reconvened by Chairman Webb. Upon recommendation by Superintendent Willis it was agreed that the program with the Neighborhood Youth Corps not be renewed when the contract terminates.

Respectfully submitted,


James F. Miles
Secretary of the Board