

**WIL LOU GRAY OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINUTES of MAY 1, 1991**

The Board of Trustees convened for a scheduled meeting at 6:00 p.m. on May 1, 1991, in the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School Research and Training Center. Trustees in attendance were: Dr. Louise Scott, Ms. Wilhelmina McBride, Mr. Vince Rhodes, Ms. Mickey Lindler, Mr. DeVon Belcher, Mr. Frank Hart, Mrs. Olive Wilson, Dr. Marvin Efron, and Mrs. Elizabeth Thrailkill. Mr. John Robinson was present representing Dr. Barbara Nielsen. Staff present were: Dr. Mary Catherine Norwood, Mrs. Jane Zenger, Ms. Geri Goodwin, Mrs. Dee Dee Chewning, Ms. Gloria Lloyd, Mr. George Smith, Mrs. Dorothy Turner, Mrs. Lynda Owens, Mrs. Frahn, Mrs. Marilyn Lloyd, Mrs. Bedenbaugh, Mr. Bob James, Mr. Pat Smith, Mr. Harry McMinn, Ms. Deb Haney, Miss Tamara Gordon, Mr. Bartelle, Mrs. Carolyn Taylor, and Mrs. Brenda Stork.

Dr. Scott called the meeting to order. She stated for the record that the notice of the meeting was provided to the public in conformance with the requirements of the S. C. Freedom of Information Act, Section 30-4-80(d) of the S. C. Code of Laws, 1976 as amended. Notice of the meeting was provided for publication to The State Newspaper, The Journal of Lexington, and The Lexington Dispatch in Lexington.

Dr. Scott welcomed everyone. She recognized the Employee of the Quarter, Miss Tamara Gordon. On behalf of the board, Dr. Scott congratulated Miss Gordon. Miss Gordon thanked Dr. Norwood, Ms. Haney, and Mr. Bartley. She said she was glad to be a part of Wil Lou Gray and thanked the board for their support.

Dr. Scott then called for approval of the agenda. Mr. Rhodes made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hart. The motion was passed.

Next, Dr. Scott called for approval of the board minutes of March 13, 1991. A motion was made by Dr. Efron that these minutes be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rhodes. The motion was passed.

At this time Dr. Scott called on Dr. Norwood for the Superintendent's Report. Dr. Norwood introduced Mrs. Dee Dee Chewning, Nurse Practitioner. She said Mrs. Chewning has high standards and is a wonderful asset to our program. Dr. Norwood then introduced staff members serving on the Core Committee as follows: Ms. Bedenbaugh, Mrs. Owen, Ms. Goodwin, Mrs. Marilyn Lloyd, Mrs. Turner, Mr. Bartley, and Mrs. Frahn. She said Mr. James, Mrs. Zenger, and Mrs. Haney were also members of this committee. Not present but also members of the committee are Ms. Goodson, Mr. Hooper, Mr. Terry Scott, Mr. Bartley, Mr. Guess, and Mrs. Brackett.

Dr. Norwood reported that the Opportunity School was audited by the accreditation staff of the State Department of Education. She said we have not received a report in writing but they did have an exit interview. Their findings and recommendations were as follows: They cited as commendations the use of our staff and our staff development program, the involvement of the staff in the planning of the program, the Case Management Program (Opp Teams). They commented also on the excellent appearance of the campus and the good facilities. They also cited on our excellent use of support services from the outside and the help that our grant writing is giving to our overall program. In terms of deficiencies, they stated the need for us to enlarge our vocational shop area in relation to the amount of equipment we are using and work on establishing a better ventilation system in that area. Therefore, we have been gathering some cost figures and working on getting what would be the recommended square footage recommendation. They also asked us to prepare a guidance plan in the same format that school districts do. We explained what we see as our guidance plan which is the case management program and the employment counselor for counseling. Other than the fact that we had our plan for the OPP Teams and

various plans for counseling we did not have that in a plan that is the accepted format for a guidance plan. Also in terms of recommendations, we missed having some of our certified counselors on the BEDS system. In reference to the wood working shop, they also recommended drawing some safety paint lines around the equipment to establish safety zones. Another recommendation was to extend the walls in the infirmary to the ceiling. They also discussed revising our Defined Minimum Program. Mr. Robinson recommended that the board look at the DMPs of DYS, School for the Deaf and Blind, and John De La Howe and look at the better points from those DMPs and incorporate them into our revision. He also stated that our revision request has been forwarded to Mrs. Mary Willis. She will be returning it to his office before it is sent to the Opportunity School. Dr. Norwood said she enjoyed their visit and she felt it was a good opportunity for them to become knowledgeable of our program.

Dr. Norwood said Mr. Mike Kelly was unable to attend the board meeting. He was to report on a Student AIDS Project that he has been working on with the students. She said we will provide the board with a written report on this project.

Next Dr. Norwood reported on state government restructuring. She said we have received a survey with ten calendar days to respond. We are in the process of responding to that survey. We are categorized under the public education, higher education, cultural affairs group. Yesterday we received notice to attend a hearing of that subcommittee on May 14 at 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. She said she attended a session about restructuring with other agencies heads. Nick Theodore and Billy Boan were present. They have made comments that this is a process that will take some time and in other states has taken anywhere from four to forty years in incremental steps. Dr. Norwood said that all agency heads will get the minutes of all of the subcommittee meetings and this information will come directly to us. Some basic things were reported based on research in other states. It is not at all usual that savings are gained by

restructuring in state government. There were only three states cited where this process gained small savings. They also supported that it takes a great deal of time, the process will be continuous and extend over time. Such efforts never succeed without a major push from elected officials to make any real progress. If any major issue was reported in terms of experience in other states it was said to provide a more responsive state government. Mr. Rhodes recommended that the board chairman be present at the hearing and show the support of the agency board. It was the general consensus of the board that Dr. Scott attend this hearing with Dr. Norwood.

There were no further questions from the board. This concluded the Superintendent's Report.

The next item on the agenda was Standing Committee Reports. Dr. Scott called on Mr. Belcher for a report on the Foundation. Mr. Belcher said there was no information to report at this time.

Next Dr. Scott called on Ms. McBride for a report from the Budget Committee. Ms. McBride said she did not have any information to report to the board at this time. Dr. Scott said the budget committee will be meeting in the near future to work on the next budget.

The next standing committee report was a report from Dr. Efron on the Policy Committee. Dr. Efron said he met with Dr. Norwood and Mrs. Stork to review Section D and Section E of the policy manual. The recommended revisions on these policies were previously mailed to the board for their review. These policies were reviewed by Dr. Efron which were as follows: DFB, DFC, DFK, DJ, EBG, EBH, EBI, EC, EDAA, EDAA-R, and EE. Mr. Hart made a motion that these policies be approved for a first reading. Mr. Rhodes seconded the motion. There was some board discussion in reference to policy EBG. Mr. Hart recommended that the second sentence on policy EBG read He/She in lieu of He. The motion was passed with the above recommended revision.

Dr. Efron also reviewed the following policies for a second reading: IDA-E, IDCA, IDD-E, IFAA, IFCB, and JBD. A motion was made by Mr. Rhodes that these policies be approved as printed for a second reading. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hart. The motion was passed.

Next Dr. Efron also presented to the board two policies for discussion. He said he felt the board's role should be more clarified. He said the board's role is primarily to set policy and represent the state in overseeing the management of the school. Dr. Efron said he has reviewed these policies with Dr. Norwood and he provided copies of these policies to the board and reviewed same. There was some discussion among the board concerning these policies. Dr. Scott asked the board to send their recommendations on these policies to Dr. Efron. Dr. Scott said these policies would be reviewed again at the next board meeting.

Next, Dr. Scott called on Mr. Hart for a report from the Personnel Committee. Mr. Hart said the Superintendent's Evaluation would be discussed in executive session.

Under old business, was a report of the Wil Lou Gray Award. Dr. Efron reported he had been collecting some catalogs and he had given them to Dr. Norwood to forward to Mrs. Meadors for her review. He said he planned to discuss the award in further detail at the board retreat.

The next item on the agenda was the discussion of the summer board retreat July 26 - 28 which will take place of the July board meeting. The following board members said they were attending the retreat: Mr. Rhodes, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Lindler, Mrs. Thrailkill, Mr. Belcher, Mr. Hart, Dr. Efron, Dr. Scott, and Mr. Robinson. Dr. Scott asked the board to provide Dr. Norwood with any agenda items they may have for the retreat.

There was no new business to report.

Dr. Efron made a motion to adjourn this meeting temporarily to move into executive session to conduct the superintendent's evaluation and discuss a contractual matter relative to an employee grievance procedure of Mr. John King. Mr. Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Belcher to move out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lindler. The motion was passed.

A mediation agreement with John King was signed by the Superintendent and witnessed by Dr. Scott and Mr. Hart.

A motion was made by Mrs. Wilson to approve Dr. Norwood's evaluation as presented to her. The motion was seconded by Mr. Belcher. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Mrs. Wilson to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Belcher. The motion was passed.

The board adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mickey Lindler". The signature is fluid and written in dark ink.

Mickey Lindler

bgs