

**WIL LOU GRAY OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF MARCH 30, 1990**

The Board of Trustees convened for a scheduled meeting at 6:00 p.m. on March 30, 1990, in the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School Research and Training Center. Trustees in attendance were: Dr. Louise Scott, Mrs. Elizabeth Thrailkill, Mr. Frank Hart, Mrs. Hannah Meadors, Dr. Marvin Efron, Mrs. Mickey Lindler, Ms. Wilhelmina McBride, Mr. Vince Rhodes, and Mrs. Olive Wilson. Mr. John Robinson was present representing the State Department of Education. Staff members present were: Dr. Mary Catherine Norwood, Mrs. Jane Zenger, Mr. Pat Smith, Dr. Mary Lee Platz, Mr. Bob James, Mr. John King, Ms. Gloria Lloyd, and Mrs. Brenda Stork.

Dr. Scott called the meeting to order and at this time 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 published in The State Newspaper, The Journal of Lexington, and The Lexington Dispatch in Lexington.

Dr. Scott welcomed everyone. Dr. Scott called on Dr. Norwood for the presentation of the portraits. At this time Dr. Norwood introduced two honored guests, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Drew, Mr. Craig Carlson and his fiancée Miss Paula Spartan. She said Mr. Carlson is the artist of the portraits of Mr. Drew and Mr. Salvatore Fede, former Superintendents of the Opportunity School. Emily and John Drew, children of Mr. Drew, unveiled his portrait. Mr. Drew thanked the board for the portrait and presented the board with a check to the Wil Lou Gray Foundation for the Research and Training Center efforts.

Dr. Norwood said the board was especially appreciative for Mr. Drew's donation to the Foundation and for his support of the

Research and Training Center. She also stated that she talked with Mr. Fede and he was unable to attend the board meeting due to recent surgery. Therefore, Dr. Norwood asked Mr. Carlson to unveil Mr. Fede's portrait and he did so at this time. Mr. Carlson said it was an honor to have had the opportunity to paint these portraits. Dr. Scott thanked Mr. Carlson.

Dr. Scott then called for approval of the agenda. A motion was made by Mr. Rhodes that the agenda be adopted as written. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilson. The motion was passed.

The next order of business was approval of the minutes of the January 10, 1990, board meeting. Dr. Scott informed the board that an amended copy of page 9 of these minutes was previously mailed to them. A motion was made by Mr. Hart to approve these minutes as amended. 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 called on Mrs. Zenger. Mrs. Zenger provided the board with a copy of the goals and objectives of the Research and Training Center and reviewed the accomplishments with the board.

Dr. Norwood thanked Mrs. Zenger for her report. Dr. Norwood emphasized how well the teachers are working on the restructuring group. She has seen materials produced from this group and is very impressed with them. She also emphasized the leadership and cooperation between Mr. James, Mrs. Brackett, Mrs. Zenger and Dr. Platz in this group. Dr. Norwood said she would present a full report on this in May.

Dr. Norwood also updated the board on the Foundation brochure and the Alumni brochure. She presented a sample of these brochures to the board. This will be printed by R. L. Bryan at cost as a donation to the foundation. The goals and objectives of the foundation and a fact sheet about the Opportunity School will also be included in this

folder with the brochures. Dr. Norwood also said these would not only be used by the Foundation but also as a marketing effort for the school.

Dr. Norwood commended Mr. Pat Smith for his efforts on the beautification of the campus. She said the rose garden has also been planted honoring a teacher who retired after twenty years of service.

At this time Dr. Norwood reported that she is submitting a Title 5 proposal which is for using elderly workers. She is planning to use older workers in an intergenerational approach in our child development center. We are in the licensing process for the center and have been assured of start-up funding. She said that getting the Title 5 funding for part-time workers is part of this plan. Dr. Norwood said we have also had some encouraging support from the Junior League of Columbia. She said she had a visit from Kathryn Kennedy who is a member of the Junior League and also Probate Judge in Richland County. Mrs. Kennedy plans to recommend support of the Child Development Center to the Junior League.

Next, Dr. Norwood reported that we received word today that we are getting an increased allocation for the Perkins Vocational Education Act. The amount of the increase will be approximately \$2,000.00.

Dr. Norwood informed the board that Dr. Platz would be recognized at NASP in San Francisco. She achieved that recognition before she became employed with us as South Carolina's Outstanding School Psychologist.

There were no questions from the board and this concluded the Superintendent's Report.

Next, Dr. Scott called for committee reports. Dr. Scott called on Dr. Efron. Dr. Efron explained that since the last board meeting, the Personnel Committee and Dr. Scott met with Dr. Norwood on the Superintendent's interim performance appraisal. This has been

completed and another meeting of the Personnel Committee will be scheduled. Dr. Efron also explained that he received information from the Agency Head Salary Commission on training of the Agency Head Performance Appraisal. He said if any board member would like to attend to contact him.

In reference to Personnel Actions, Dr. Efron explained the board received a list of Personnel Actions. Dr. Efron made a motion to approve these Personnel Actions. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hart. The motion was passed. A copy of this report is attached and becomes a permanent part of these minutes.

Next, Dr. Scott called for the budget committee report. Ms. McBride asked Mr. King to update the board on the budget. Mr. King said the board previously received a budget summary report. A copy of this report is attached and becomes a permanent part of these minutes. Mr. King also said the State Auditor's Office is backlogged with audits therefore, they have contracted a CPA firm to conduct our audit this year for 1987-88, 1988-89. There will be no cost to the Opportunity School for this audit.

In reference to information received today, Mr. King reported, the Opportunity School received a 10% cut against our current equipment level and 10% against our current travel level in operating funds. They did indicate this does not effect salaries or personal service. Therefore, to date we have lost approximately \$8,000 from our operating budget. Dr. Norwood said these were pending across the board cuts in travel and equipment.

The next order of business was a report from the Foundation and Dr. Scott called on Mrs. Meadors. Mrs. Meadors asked Dr. Norwood to update the board on the Foundation. Dr. Norwood said the Foundation has scheduled meetings through June. They have made specific assignments with Foundations which are specifically concerned with organizations like ours and have made assignments to foundation board members in terms of contacts they will make.

These plans are building towards a late spring campaign during a concentrated period of time and with appropriate publicity. The last meeting the Foundation was spent going through the top one hundred businesses in South Carolina. The next meeting is scheduled for April 10 when they will be addressing national corporations in South Carolina and making those assignments. Dr. Norwood said we hope that Mrs. Bush will visit the Opportunity School when she is in Columbia. The Foundation would use that occasion to kick off the campaign. She said she felt very encouraged about what will happen with the Foundation's efforts.

Next, Mrs. Meadors reported on the Wil Lou Gray Award. She said she would forward to the board the criteria and procedures for the Wil Lou Gray Award. Mrs. Meadors explained to the board there are three phases to outline the procedures for the Wil Lou Gray Award. She explained there would be a simple brochure which would give the basic criteria, the process and needed information. This would be sent to the major people, i.e. Chamber of Commerce, S. C. Administrators. On the back of the brochure would be information for them to request a larger packet of information. The larger packet will have a cover sheet and will give the person's name to be nominated. Mrs. Meadors said she would discuss this in more detail at the Saturday morning board meeting. She said she was proposing that we look at not only individuals but possibly a business or industry. She said the three areas are leadership, outstanding innovative programs, and service. Based on other processes Mrs. Meadors reviewed, those which would be ineligible would be current board members, administration and staff of the school, and those on the committee conducting the screening. There are several proposals for the committee: That it be a combination of people, one member from the Foundation, one member from the board, one member from the administration, one member from the legislature, one member from the Alumni Association of the school, one business representative, and two at-large members. Mrs. Meadors further explained the time period is six months. Suggested recognition would be to possibly have them recognized by the legislature and

have a reception here. She also proposed a bronze representation for the award from the school which would be the official award. She said that the award may or may not be given every year.

Next, Dr. Scott said in the information received from Mr. George Smith on Institutional Development, that a full one year scholarship from Dr. Miles is now established. Dr. Scott asked the board if they would like to name this scholarship for Dr. Miles. A motion was made by Dr. Efron to name this the James F. Miles Scholarship. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilson. The motion was passed.

At this time Mr. James made an announcement that on April 11 a group of Wil Lou Gray students will give a short basketball exhibition at the Coliseum during half time. He invited the board to attend.

The next item on the agenda was the Policy Committee. Dr. Scott called on Mrs. Wilson for this report. Mrs. Wilson made a motion to approve policy AFC(2), Essential Personnel For Hazardous Weather, for a second reading. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rhodes. The motion was passed. Mrs. Wilson then reviewed Section E of the policy manual with the board. These policies were as follows:

Policy EB - Building and Grounds Management: Dr. Scott had a question about the title of Mr. Pat Smith. After a brief discussion among the board, it was the general consensus of the board for his title to remain Director of Administration.

Policy EBBC and EBBC-E - Emergency Drills: No revisions were made by the board.

Policy EBBD - Emergency Closings: This policy is up-to-date and there were no revisions made by the board.

Policy EBBD-R - Essential Personnel For Hazardous Weather Policy. Dr. Norwood said there was no longer a Director of Educational Support Services therefore this title should be deleted and the Dean of Students should be added.

Policy EBG - Repairs: No revisions by the board.

Policy EBH - Campus Housing Policy: Dr. Norwood asked the board to review paragraphs four and five. She said she felt this

information was not essential. Dr. Norwood read these paragraphs to the board. Mr. Hart made a motion that these paragraphs be deleted. Mr. Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion was passed. The regulation on Campus Housing will be added when it is ready to go into effect.

Policy EBI - Long-Range Maintenance Program: No revisions were made by the board.

Policy EC - Equipment and Supplies Management: No revisions were made by the board.

Policy ECF - Equipment Maintenance: No revisions were made by the board.

Policy EDAA and EDAA-R - School-Owned Vehicles: There were no revisions made by the board. Dr. Norwood stated that the board would receive a Vehicle Management Plan at the May board meeting.

Policy EE - Food Services Management: No revisions were made by the board.

Policy EGA - Staff Insurance Program: No revisions were made.

The board gave their policy manuals to Dr. Norwood so that they could be updated by the staff.

The next item under Old Business was the Legislative Barbecue on May 2. Dr. Norwood asked the board to make contacts to let people know how much we would like to have them attend the barbecue. After some board discussion, it was the general consensus of the board to begin the barbecue at 6:00 p.m. in lieu of 7:00 p.m.

Next, was the discussion of the statute concerning the Board of Trustees which was discussed at the January board meeting. Dr. Scott said this statute has been discussed with Melanie Barton since the January meeting. She said the board had received the recommended revisions made by Senator Setzler's office. She said the statute was introduced to the Senate on February 28 and was referred to the Senate Education Committee for study. Dr. Efron said he was contacted by Dr. Scott and he was asked to contact Senator

Setzler and ask him to remove this from the agenda until further notice. After further discussion, Mr. Hart made a motion to ask the Senate to hold the statute off of the agenda until he was contacted by the board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rhodes. The motion was passed. Dr. Efron suggested that a letter be written to Melanie Barton and Senator Setzler thanking them for their efforts in this matter and we would be back in touch with them. Dr. Scott said the statute would be discussed in further detail at the Saturday board meeting.

Under New Business was the approval of the 1990-91 Academic Calendar. A copy of this calendar was provided to the board. A motion was made by Dr. Efron to approve this calendar as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilson. The motion was passed.

At this time Dr. Scott reminded the board that they had previously designated July 27, 28, and 29 for the board retreat. Dr. Scott asked the board to contact Dr. Norwood's office for any suggestions they have concerning the retreat.

Dr. Scott also said the next regularly scheduled board meeting is May 9 and this is the time when the Superintendent's Evaluation will be discussed. She said this was also the date of the International Reading Association Conference which she is involved in. Therefore, she would not be present for the May 9 meeting. After some discussion among the board, it was the general consensus of the board to reschedule the next board meeting to May 16th.

Dr. Scott said she received information from the National School Boards Association about the Opportunity School becoming an affiliate member. She said she had discussed this with Dr. Norwood and this was their recommendation to the board. She said for the first year (if we are a school of 250 or under) it would cost \$250.00. As an incentive to being an affiliate, they would refund \$75.00 on each registration for the National Association which would more than pay for this year's dues. A motion was made by Dr. Efron that we

seek National Affiliate status for this year. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilson. The motion was passed.

At this time Mrs. Lindler informed the board that Representative Candy Waites had sent a survey to all agency heads on the attendance of board members. She said Representative Waites has introduced a bill to remove all non-active members from the board. Mrs. Lindler said she forwarded this information to her.

A motion was made by Mrs. Wilson to move into Executive Session. Dr. Norwood stated there was no purpose to enter into Executive Session.

A motion was made by Dr. Efron for the board to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hart. The motion was passed.

The board adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mickey Lindler". The signature is fluid and extends to the right.

Mickey Lindler

bgs