

WIL LOU GRAY OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MARCH 11, 1981

The Board of Trustees convened for its regular bi-monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 11, 1981 at 1:15 p.m. in the Archives Room of the William T. Lander Administration Building. Trustees in attendance were: Dr. Marvin Efron, presiding; Mrs. Anne T. Boyce; Dr. J. Carlisle Holler, Sr.; Miss Mary Alice Mack; Dr. James F. Miles; The Reverend James B. Mitchell; Mr. James McClary; Mr. Clarence S. Rowland; Dr. Louise Scott; Dr. M. B. Webb; and Mrs. Jack Wilson. Also, in attendance were Mrs. Jackie White, teacher; Miss Gloria Lloyd, Director of Personnel; Miss Sharon Chatlos, Director of Cottage Life; Mr. John King, Fiscal Affairs Officer; Dr. Jonnie Spaulding, Director of Student Services; Mrs. Lisa Peeples, Chairman, School Advisory Council; Mrs. Francine Greene, parent, School Advisory Council; Mr. Pat Smith, Director of Facilities and Supportive Services; Miss Rosalie Dattero, Director of Cottage Life; Mrs. Thelma Bailey, Principal; Mrs. Denise Hoce, teacher; Mrs. Carol Goodson, teacher; Dr. Robert S. Black, Director of Programs for the Handicapped, State Department of Education; Mrs. Beth Marcum, Consultant-Deaf and Blind Program, State Department of Education; Mr. Salvatore A. Fede, Superintendent; and Mrs. Patricia T. Robbins, Secretary to the Superintendent. Mr. Karl Segelken was absent from the meeting.

Dr. Marvin Efron, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

Dr. Webb led the invocation.

Mr. Mike Harris, representing the Boy Scouts of America, presented an Explorer's Key to Miss Chatlos. This award was for her outstanding work in guiding the Wil Lou Gray Explorer Troop. This group is a co-ed group between the ages of 15 and 21. Miss Chatlos discussed the troop's activities while accepting the key.

Dr. Spaulding introduced Mrs. Anne McMahon, the Nurses Assistant Instructor, and her group of student nurses. The student nurses were: Miss Pam Barrs; Miss Victoria Woodley; Miss Karol Berry; Miss Reatha Johnson; and Miss June Hiers. Miss Berry will be entering the R.N. Program at the University of South Carolina. She has also earned her GED since she entered the Opportunity School.

Dr. Spaulding advised the Board that Richard Blanton, Diana Jones, Lowell Greene, and Beverly Nickelson had earned the highest number of points of any students at the Opportunity School. Ms. Beverly Nickelson has passed the GED since entering the Opportunity School.

Dr. Spaulding told the Wil Lou Gray Board of Trustees that 21 of our students had passed the GED. Only three students, who have already passed the exam, are still in school.

Mr. McClary moved that the agenda be adopted as printed by the

Board of Trustees. The Reverend Mitchell seconded the motion. Approved.

Mr. Fede corrected the minutes in regards to Dr. Milton Kimpson's name. The minutes read Dr. William Kimpson and they should have read Dr. Milton Kimpson.

Mrs. Wilson moved that the Minutes of the January 16-17, 1981 Meeting be adopted as printed with the correction to Dr. Milton Kimpson's name. Miss Mack seconded the motion. Approved.

Mr. Fede advised the Board that Vocational Rehabilitation may be using the school's facilities this summer, if the funds are available. This would include two dormitories, the canteen, and the gymnasium. Other buildings would be open to the diagnostic students as needed by Vocational Rehabilitation.

Mrs. Peeples presented the School Advisory Council survey to the Board of Trustees. Mrs. Peeples said that 86 questionnaires were sent to the teachers and staff. Thirty-one per cent were returned to the Advisory Council. Mrs. Peeples expressed her appreciation for the assistance and cooperation received from the Superintendent, Principal, and Staff in doing the surveys. Dr. Miles commended Mrs. Peeples for her work in conducting the survey.

Mrs. Beth Marcum from the State Department of Education, Programs for the Handicapped, was introduced by Dr. Efron.

Mrs. Marcum discussed the "Proposed Legislative Draft." This piece of legislation is at present "in-house." Mrs. Marcum stated that Public Law 94-142 offers all handicapped students the opportunity of an education. Attachment "A"

Dr. Robert S. Black, Director of the Handicapped Program, State Department of Education, stated the proposed legislation would help ensure that no child is deprived of an education.

Mr. Fede advised the Board of Trustees that we receive no monies through the Education Finance Act, but we operate according to the rules and regulations of the Education Finance Act.

Dr. Efron expressed his appreciation to Dr. Black and Mrs. Marcum for their presentation to the Board.

Dr. Holler asked that all Board Members review notes of past meetings and determine the areas that we need to pursue. He further stated that the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School has always had to be one step ahead of what is needed at the time.

Mrs. White, a teacher at the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School, asked questions regarding the direction in which the school is going. Are we going to be an Adult Education School or a Special Education School?

Dr. Webb said that he did not see why we could not go in both directions, or as many roads as we need, to meet the needs of the people.

Mrs. Wilson informed the Board of Trustees that at one time we started out as Adult Education to meet the needs of the people. As time went by, the people had the chance to enroll in Adult Education in their local school districts. It is not necessary now for them to live away from home in order to obtain their education.

Dr. Webb said that the State Department of Education has Adult Education classes in all public school districts throughout the state. Therefore, we should not have as many adults, as we once did, taking Adult Education.

Dr. Efron reminded the Board of Trustees it was their responsibility to establish policy in this matter.

Mr. McClary's Committee, Student Services, stated that we had to have adequate counseling in the dorms for the students. It is very important that students have around-the-clock programs in their recreation. The FY83 Budget will address these needs.

Mrs. Wilson said that the school should continue to try to meet its obligation for providing services to students. If this is fulfilled, then the education of students would be enhanced. Mrs. Wilson states that her committee, also, would be working with the Student Services Committee to enhance student services.

Mrs. Wilson noted that some of our teachers are observing other schools in Richland County School District I, II, and Lexington School District V. Our teachers report that our school appears to be more student related and closer to our students than the schools observed.

Mrs. Wilson motioned to approve the Agreement of Sponsorship for teachers working on a permit for teaching in an area of exceptional education. Dr. Scott seconded the motion. Approved.

Dr. Holler, Chairman of the Public Relations Committee, said that his committee is working on the Five Year Plan and has identified goals in addition to those stated in the Five Year Plan hand-out.

Mr. McClary suggested that the proper letter be sent to the people responsible for the election of the Board of Trustees members whose terms are running out. Dr. Miles seconded the motion. Approved.

Dr. Scott reported that the Appropriations for 1981-1982 (FY82) before the Ways and Means Committee is \$51,000 less than for Year 1980-1981 (FY81). This reduction reflects the Governor's 7% reduction mandate.

This mandate has necessitated a reduction in our school year from ten months to nine months, effective this school year. This school year will end with graduation on June 6, 1981. School Year 1981-1982 will begin with Pre-Service on August 26-28 and with Student Registration on August 31. School Year 1981-82 will conclude on June 5, 1982.

Mr. Pat Smith informed the Board of Trustees that Mr. Scott Barnes, our budget analyst, had not made a final commitment but had assured the school we would probably receive supplemental appropriations for the dishwasher, vehicle, and shower stalls in the girl dormitories.

Dr. Scott's Committee suggested that perhaps we should look at the way evaluations are being done and decide if they are right for all people. Also, self-evaluations would be a good idea to help evaluate a person before the actual time of the person's evaluation.

Dr. Scott further suggested that all job descriptions be reviewed and updated.

Dr. Scott recommended that the Board approve the elections of personnel to the positions of Accounting Clerk, Psychologist III, and Youth Counselor (two positions.)

In addition, Dr. Scott recommended that the Board go on record approving the election of Mrs. Betty Armstrong as a full-time employee in the Clerk III position. Mr. Fede advised the Board that this action was taken to ensure that Ms. Armstrong would receive the benefits and privileges of a full-time State employee. In her prior years of employment she had not been afforded these privileges.

At this point, Dr. Efron advised the Board of its commitment to improve student services, and urged that when the Board employed additional personnel that the addition should be in the priority area of student services.

Dr. Holler suggested that he thought, if Mr. Fede approved these employees, the Board should go ahead and give its final approval.

Dr. Webb made the motion to approve the new elections. (Attachment B) Dr. Holler seconded the motion. Approved.

Dr. Efron informed the Board that Mrs. DeMaris Ayres, author of the book about Dr. Wil Lou Gray, would like for the Board to endorse her book. The Board requested that Mrs. Wilson and Dr. Holler work with Mrs. Ayres in her venture.

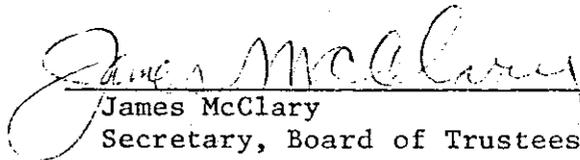
Mr. Fede suggested that the next Board of Trustees Meeting begin on May 12 with supper at 5:30 p.m. at the School Cafeteria. Committee meetings could be scheduled following supper. The formal Board Meeting could begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude before 12 noon on May 13.

The motion was made by Mrs. Wilson and seconded by Mr. McClary to conduct the next meeting in this manner. Approved.

No unfinished business was reported.

During the new business session, Dr. Holler motioned that smoking not be permitted during formal board sessions. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilson. Approved.

The motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Boyce. The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.


James McClary
Secretary, Board of Trustees