

**WIL LOU GRAY OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Minutes of September 21, 1995**

The Board of Trustees convened for a scheduled meeting at 6:00 p.m. on September 21, 1995, in the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School Research and Training Center. Trustees in attendance were: Mrs. Olive Wilson, Mrs. Elizabeth Moorhead, Mrs. Faye Edwards, Mrs. Clotilda Diggs, Mr. Russell Hart, Ms. Wilhelmina McBride, Mr. Vince Rhodes, Mrs. Betty Henderson, Dr. Louise Scott, Dr. Marvin Efron and Mrs. Mary Williams. Not present was Mrs. Elizabeth Thrailkill. Staff present were: Dr. Mary Catherine Norwood, Ms. Deborah Haney, Ms. Gloria Lloyd, Mrs. Brenda Shealy, Mr. Mike Kelly, Ms. Libby Key, Ms. Gloria Rawl, Mr. Bob James, Mr. George Smith, and Ms. Brenda Stork.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Wilson. 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.

Mrs. Wilson welcomed everyone. Ms. Brenda Shealy, employee of the quarter, was recognized. The board presented her with a plaque.

The following actions were made by the board:

-In reference to the absence of Mrs. Thrailkill, Dr. Efron made a motion that Mrs. Thrailkill could not attend this meeting due to an emergency, therefore, the board will grant her an excused absence. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rhodes. The motion was passed.

-Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Mrs. Edwards to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Diggs. The motion was passed.

-Approval of July 28, 29, 1995, Board Minutes: A motion was made by Mr. Hart to approve these minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. McBride. The motion was passed.

-Superintendent's Report: Dr. Norwood reported on the following:

-JARC approved the JROTC project and it is well underway.

-Presentation will be made before the EIA Select Subcommittee next Thursday for our teacher pay supplementary money and for vocational funding.

-Research and Training Advisory Committee meeting was held recently.

Dr. Carper, Governor Beasley's educational representative, attended this meeting and made several comments.

-She informed the board of a report concerning a recommendation restructuring adult education which came from the Higher Education Commission. Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School was not mentioned in this report.

-A Chairman and Vice-Chairman has been elected for the Research and Training Advisory Committee. Al Butler, from the State Department of Education, has agreed to serve as Chair and Verna Greene, Principal of B.C. Grammar No. 1, was elected Vice-Chair.

-Carl Jordan, Ways and Means Committee staff, is scheduled for a tour of the Opportunity School campus on September 22, 1995.

-Our program staff has visited VR work centers. The Columbia center was visited as well as DJJ.

-Two public programs coming up. Mr. George Smith will be making a presentation to the local Optimist Club and they have asked him to focus on our success stories. They will be re-issuing a scholarship to one of our students to attend Benedict College. Dr. Norwood will be speaking to Lexington Rotary on October 5.

-We are working on people to serve on the Research and Training Advisory Board. Mr. William Green, Principal of an alternative middle school program in Richland District 2, was recommended. He is willing to serve and Dr. Norwood asked for the board's approval to approach him to serve on this advisory board.

-She informed the board that she will serving on a Governor's Welfare Task Force, led by Jim Clark at DSS. The first meeting will be held on October 6 and was by invitation.

-JROTC is holding ceremonies each day at the flag pole at 7:45 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

-Standing Committee Reports:

-Policy Committee: Dr. Efron reviewed the following policies for a second reading:

-GBRF, Professional Personnel Expenses, was deleted.

-JLF, Reporting Child Abuse/Child Protection, was recommended for second reading.

-ABCF, Removal from Office, was recommended for second reading.

-A motion was made by Dr. Efron to approve the above policies for second reading. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Diggs. The motion was passed.

-Personnel Committee: Dr. Scott reviewed the personnel actions with the board. A copy was provided to the board and becomes a permanent part of these minutes. A motion was made by Dr. Scott to ratify these personnel actions. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rhodes. The motion was passed.

-Property Committee: Mrs. Henderson recommended scheduling a property committee meeting at 5:00 p.m. on the date of the next board meeting, November 8, 1995. She asked that notification of this meeting be mailed to the board.

-Program Committee: Mrs. Diggs reported some board members visited the Vocational Rehabilitation work site in Aiken as well as Vocational Rehabilitation in West Columbia. Aiken has expanded and does show they are committed to good business. Mrs. Diggs said she hoped we could have a follow-up program here so that we can teach the value of work.

Dr. Norwood said Mrs. Thrailkill asked that the Ad Hoc Mission Committee organize a meeting in October. Mrs. Thrailkill has asked for the board's input in writing and has also requested Mr. Kelly attend this committee meeting. Dr. Norwood will send a memo concerning this meeting and set a date.

-Old Business:

-Mr. Kelly updated the board on Welfare Reform discussion. Dr. Efron made a motion that the board give encouragement to this effort and implement as soon as possible in a small way. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rhodes. Mr. Rhodes projected the program might begin by April 1, 1996. The motion was passed.

-New Business:

-In reference to the January extended board meeting, Dr. Efron recommended having the meeting at Springmaid Beach, Myrtle Beach, S.C. It was recommended that Dr. Norwood check dates of availability in January or February and then poll the board.

-Mrs. Wilson reported that a former principal of the Opportunity School, Sarah Neil, passed away. Flowers were sent on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

-Executive Session:

-A motion was made by Mrs. Diggs to move into executive session for the purpose of a legal update. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Henderson. The motion was passed.

-A motion was made by Mr. Hart to move out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Henderson. The motion was passed.

-No action was taken as a result of executive session.

-A motion was made by Dr. Efron to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Moorhead. The motion was passed. The board adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Betty Henderson

/bgs