

**Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School
Board of Trustees
Minutes of January 8-10, 1999**

**Board Meeting
Oxford Room
January 8, 1999
7:00 p.m.**

The Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School Board of Trustees met on January 8-9-10, 1999 at 7:00 p.m. at the Embassy Suites Kingston Plantation at Myrtle Beach. **Board members present:** Dr. Louise Scott, Dr. Marvin Efron, Ms. Suzanne Turner, Mrs. Clotilda Diggs, Mr. Russell Hart, Mr. Vince Rhodes, Mrs. Elizabeth Thrailkill, Mrs. Frankie Newman, Ms. Wilhelmina McBride and Ms. Lynn Ammons. **Board members unable to attend:** Mr. Dan Smith and Mrs. Betty Henderson. Their absence was excused. **Staff present:** Mr. Pat Smith and Colonel Jack Fogle.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Rhodes made a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Turner seconded the motion. The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Dr. Efron made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 11, 1998 Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Turner. The motion passed.

INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Smith reported the First Youth Challenge Academy graduation was very successful with nearly 475 people attending. Mr. Smith then reported that 132 cadets had been accepted for Cycle II, scheduled to begin January 17, 1999. Mr. Smith stated that the school float entry, in the Carillon Parade, was the recipient of the Elf Award. Mr. Smith informed the Board that the annual Legislative Drop-in will be February 25, in Room 221 of the Blatt Building, from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Mr. Smith mentioned that the January 2nd issue of *The State* newspaper article on the Academy had been mailed, and that it had generated a tremendous number of inquiries about the program. In conclusion, Mr. Smith distributed: the statistical data/survey from the 1997-98 school year and from Cycle I of the Youth Challenge Academy, the master academic schedule for Cycle II and the distribution of students in the literacy, pre-GED and GED levels.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

No report.

POLICY COMMITTEE

No report. Mr. Pat Smith stated that he will meet with Ms. Patricia Kinsey of the School Boards Association on January 19 to discuss the process for revising the Policy Manual.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

No Report.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Mrs. Diggs presented the Long Range Plan to the Board and asked if there were any questions. The Board reviewed the Long Range Plan and discussed several goals.

Mr. Rhodes made a motion to approve the Long Range Plan. Ms. Turner seconded the motion. The motion passed. Mrs. Diggs requested that an update on the measurable goals be presented at the March meeting.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

No report.

THE FOUNDATION COMMITTEE

Ms. McBride stated that the Foundation Committee is scheduled to meet on January 12 to discuss the 1999 annual auction.

WIL LOU GRAY AWARD

Mrs. Newman outlined the selection process for the Wil Lou Gray Award. The Award will be presented at graduation on June 19. Mrs. Newman asked the Board to nominate Selection Committee members at the March Board meeting. Mr. Smith will provide a copy of the Wil Lou Gray Award brochure for information on the composition of the Selection Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Efron asked the Board to consider approving the summer program for the Partners of the Americas. Ms. Turner asked several questions about the cost of the program. After further discussion, **Mr. Hart made a motion to continue with the *English As A Second Language Program*. Mr. Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion passed. Ms. Turner opposed the motion.** The Board agreed to evaluate the actual cost of the program to determine if the program would be profitable to continue. This information will be presented to the Board at the end of this year's program.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Dr. Efron made a motion to go in Executive Session. Mr. Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion passed.

In regular session, Mr. Rhodes made a motion to create a chief of public safety through the assignment of additional duties. Mr. Hart seconded the motion. The motion passed.

There being no further business, the Board recessed until 9:00 a.m. January 9.

January 9, 1999

**The Board Reconvened at 9:00 a.m.
Oxford Room**

Dr. Scott called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The Board began by discussing the Cooperative Services Agreement between the Opportunity School and the National Guard. Mr. Rhodes expressed concern with the minimal role the National Guard plays in recruiting prospective cadets. Colonel Fogle stated that he will meet with all Administrative Officers of each Armory to discuss the Youth Challenge Academy. Dr. Scott then raised several questions about the structure of the Advisory Council. The Board agreed that the official name would be *the South Carolina Youth Challenge Academy at the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School*. The Board then went on record as having reviewed the Cooperative Services Agreement and agreed that no changes are currently necessary at this time.

The Board discussed: staff positions, Internet access for the library, computer technology for classroom instruction and fleet updating. No action was taken on those discussions. Dr. Scott asked Mr. Smith to explain the daily schedule for cadets.

The following schedule was provided by Mr. Smith:

5:00 a.m.- 8:00 a.m. Clean-Up-Drill-Breakfast
8:00 a.m.- 3:15 p.m. Academic Training
3:15 p.m.- 9:00 p.m. Team Building
9:00 p.m.- 5:00 a.m. Lights out-Bed Time

Dr. Scott asked Mr. Smith to review the schedule for the cadre, residential staff and public safety officers. Mr. Smith provided the following schedule:

There are two shifts for cadre and residential staff:

4:00 p.m. -12:00 a.m. Monday thru Friday
12:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Monday thru Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday
4:00 p.m. -12:00 a.m. Saturday and Sunday
7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Daytime public safety
3:30 p.m. -12:00 a.m. Afternoon/evening public safety

Dr. Efron asked Mr. Smith to investigate the cost of commissioning a portrait for Dr. Mary Catherine Norwood.

January 10, 1999

9:00 a.m.

Board members present: Mrs. Elizabeth Thrailkill, Mr. Vince Rhodes, Mrs. Frankie Newman, Ms. Suzanne Turner, Ms. Lynn Ammons, Mr. Russ Hart, and Dr. Louise Scott. **Staff present:** Mr. Pat Smith. **Board members unable to attend:** Dr. Marvin Efron, Mrs. Betty Henderson, Ms. Wilhelmina McBride, Mrs. Clotilda Diggs and Mr. Dan Smith.

By consensus, the Board agreed that there will be one video of the Youth ChalleNGe Academy and directed that the history of the Opportunity School be prominent in the introduction. The video shall contain elements of the Opportunity School, Vocational Rehabilitation and the Youth ChalleNGe Academy.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 10.20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Thrailkill

/hcs