

**WIL LOU GRAY OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MINUTES OF JULY 28, 29, 1995**

The Board of Trustees convened for a scheduled meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School Research and Training Center. Trustees in attendance were: Mrs. Olive Wilson, Mrs. Mary Williams, Mr. Russell Hart, Mrs. Elizabeth Moorhead, Mrs. Elizabeth Thrailkill, Mr. Vince Rhodes, Dr. Marvin Efron, Mrs. Faye Edwards, Dr. Louise Scott, Mrs. Clotilda Diggs. Mr. John Robinson, representing Dr. Barbara Nielsen, was present from the State Department of Education. Not present were: Ms. Wilhelmina McBride, Mrs. Betty Henderson, The Honorable David Beasley. Staff present were: Dr. Mary Catherine Norwood, Mr. Robert James, Ms. Deborah Haney, Ms. Gloria Lloyd, 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.

The following actions were made by the board:

-Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Mr. Rhodes to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hart. The motion was passed.

-Approval of May 10, 1995, Board Minutes and June 9, 1995, Board Minutes: A motion was made by Mr. Rhodes to approve these minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hart. The motion was passed.

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

-We received a clear audit from the recent DAODAS Grant audit.

-The interest on the endowment that produces our financial aid funds is down 1/2.

-Mileage by department for the year was provided to the board.

-At the present time we have 86 students accepted for enrollment.

Admissions is meeting each week.

-We received permission to receive some carry over funds in addition to the 10% carryover funds of \$17,300 based on our need to fund JROTC. This will cover about one-half of the cost of the JROTC program. However, we cannot move forward or receive JROTC funding until we get approval from JARC on August 22. Therefore, we are making informal arrangements in terms of interviewing, selection of staff and borrowing equipment.

-Dr. Norwood said she will be attending the Tech Prep Conference several days next week. She finds this conference very useful.

-We are on target on the heating/air-conditioning vocational course for second semester. The cosmetology course still looks positive for next year.

-We are still making plans to experiment on working with our students very intensively by the quarter. We are going to continue to hold registrations until the day after Labor Day but then it will be cut off until the beginning of the next quarter.

-Dr. Norwood asked the board to consider altering the months that the board meets due to the difficulty of some board members attending a May meeting because of their work schedule. She also asked the board to consider changing the date of the September meeting so that she could attend the Executive Institute.

-Auditors are still present.

-All clinical counselors in the state have been upgraded from grade 24 to grade 26.

-Policy Committee: Dr. Efron reported the policy committee met and reviewed the personnel section of the policy manual. He reviewed the following policies with the board:

-1st reading: Policy JLF.

Delete: Policy GBRF

Dr. Efron also reviewed a draft of a policy concerning three consecutive unexcused absences of board members from regularly scheduled meetings held by the board. After a brief discussion, the following revisions were made to this draft. Paragraph 2, 1st sentence was revised to read: "An unexcused absence is defined as a failure to notify the Board Chairperson or Superintendent either verbally or in writing of illness or reasonable personal or business conflict in advance of the meeting." Paragraph 3 should read: "Following two consecutive unexcused absences the Superintendent will write the board member to inform him/her of this status."

-A motion was made by Dr. Efron to approve the above three policies for a first reading. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rhodes. The motion was passed.

-Dr. Efron also recommended in the future the minutes should refer to members absent as "excused members absent".

-2nd reading: BBC-E, BCBH, BCAA. A motion was made by Mr. Rhodes to approve these policies for second reading. The motion was seconded by Dr. Efron. The motion was passed.

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

-Foundation Committee: Mrs. Thrailkill reported on this committee. The

Foundation Committee met in March with Mr. George Smith. The Foundation By-Laws were reviewed. There was some discussion among the board concerning the authority of Foundation Board.

-Program Committee: Mrs. Diggs reported the program committee met today. Mr. Charles LaRosa of Vocational Rehabilitation was present at that meeting. She said Mr. LaRosa recommended the following:

-We need a functional educational program that will help a student go from 5th grade to 8th or 9th grade reading level.

-Look for a work program with preparation for the GED.

-Look for an older group (19 years of age or older) for work training.

-Plan to play a big part in welfare reform. Look at crafting some future for this population.

-Look for a work site on this campus. Mrs. Diggs said we do have flexible space.

-Visit Vocational Rehabilitation work site in Aiken.

It was the general consensus of the board to move in this direction.

After some board discussion, the board scheduled a trip to the Aiken work site on September 21 at 10:00 a.m. At 2:30 p.m. the board will visit a Voc. Rehab. work site in Columbia. The regular September board meeting will follow at 6:00 p.m.

-New Business: 1996-97 Budget Priorities. It was the general consensus of the board to discuss budget priorities at the meeting on Saturday morning.

-The board requested a report on campus housing at the next meeting.

-In the event of the death of a board member or staff member, Mrs. Wilson asked the board to consider having a flower fund for this purpose. In reference to the death of Mary Grant, donations were made from the board for the flowers which were sent by Dr. Norwood. Several board members also made a donation to the Foundation for the memorial of Mr. Crumpton, Youth Counselor.

-Executive Session: A motion was made by Mr. Rhodes to move into executive session for the purpose of legal update and the superintendent's planning stage. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hart. The motion was passed. The board moved into executive session.

-A motion was made by Dr. Efron to move out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Williams. The motion was passed.

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

-The board recessed until 8:30 a.m. Saturday, July 29.

-The board reconvened at Embassy Suites on Saturday, July 29, 1995, 8:30 a.m.

Six long range goals were selected as follows:

- 1. Full use of facility.**
- 2. Emphasis on work adjustment programs.**
- 3. Maintain and develop innovative programming.**
- 4. Maintain operational efficiency.**
- 5. Upgrade facilities and equipment needed to maintain efficiency.**
- 6. Continue to increase public awareness of high quality services provided to students and parents and increase community/business involvement and contributions.**

The superintendent's planning stage will incorporate these goals with numbers 5 and 6 combined.

Dr. Efron moved to approve and Mr. Hart seconded the following budget priorities presented by Dr. Norwood. The motion passed.

Recurring:

- 1. JROTC \$36,000**
- 2. Food Service \$15,000**
- 3. Youth Counselor II 8.6 FTE \$165,000**
- 4. Year Around Operation \$650,000**

Non Recurring:

- 1. Dormitory Furnishings \$100,000**
- 2. Roofing Improvements \$65,000**
- 3. Technology Improvements \$50,000**

-A motion was made by Dr. Efron to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hart. The motion was passed.

-The board adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Betty Henderson

bgs