

Board Briefings

June 24, 2008 • Stevenson Administration Building
an abbreviated school board action report prepared by the Office of Communications

School Board Spotlight

The Board presented a plaque to Myrtle Gordon in appreciation for her many years of service, support and advocacy for students and families in Richland One. Gordon, a well-known community leader, has assisted with several district initiatives and served on a number of district committees over the years, including the Hall of Fame Selection Committee.

Teresa Hodge of Civil Engineering Consulting Services presented the district with a plaque recognizing Richland One as an Engineering Excellence Award recipient for the Dreher High access road project. The award is given by the American Council on Engineering Companies to recognize engineering achievements that demonstrate the highest degree of merit and ingenuity.

Consent Agenda

The Board approved the following items:

- Minutes from the May 13, May 27 and June 12 meetings
- Contract extensions for copier services (Ricoh America and Carolina Office Systems); banking services (First Citizens); courier services (Acme Logistics); College Summit; and attorney services
- A leave of absence request
- Hiring of personnel
- A USC course Teaching American History grant

Office of the Board

- Board Chairwoman Wendy Brawley thanked Superintendent Dr. Allen Coles for his three years of service to the district. The Board meeting was Coles' last as superintendent.
- Board Vice Chairman Vince Ford read a memorial resolution honoring Gwendolyn Fanning, a former custodian at C.A. Johnson Preparatory Academy who passed away on May 10.
- The Board approved third and final reading of the district's 2008-08 General Fund budget in the amount of \$247,994,345. The budget includes an average pay increase of 5.85% (step increase plus cost of living) for certified and non-certified employees.

Office of Academics

The Board approved the following:

- The bell schedule for 2008-2009 (see front page story)
- A proposal to restructure the operations and management of the Magic Johnson Community Empowerment Center at Webber Elementary School for 2008-09.
- A contract with Evans Newton Inc., to implement the Target Teach Five-Step Process

Office of Human Resources

The Board approved the following appointments for the 2008-09 school year:

- Rita Whitmire, currently an assistant principal at Dreher High School, will serve as a coordinator in the Office of Human Resource Services.
- Sam Whack, currently principal at Rosenwald Elementary School in Darlington County, will serve as a coordinator in the Professional Development Academy.

Office of Operations

The Board approved the following contracts/requests:

- Installing and furnishing a greenhouse for Keenan High
- Media center/computer lab HVAC renovation at Logan Elementary
- Online instructional management software
- Memorandum of Agreement for certified athletic trainers
- Budget transfers as presented

The Board also approved the Administration's recommendation to reject the original proposal made by Midlands Math and Business Academy (MMBA) charter school to lease the old Virginia Pack Elementary School. The Administration had issues with the financial terms proposed. The Board cited its desire for the district to continue discussions with MMBA leaders to see if another agreement can be reached.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of School Commissioners will be held Thursday, July 17 at the Stevenson Administration Building. Open session begins at 7 p.m.