

Board Briefings

December 11, 2007 • Stevenson Administration Building
an abbreviated school board action report prepared by the Office of Communications

School Board Spotlight

The Board recognized the following individuals and organizations:

- District employees with five or more consecutive years of perfect work attendance
- The Mill Creek Elementary PTA and the Junior League of Columbia, State Volunteer Award of Excellence recipients
- Lower Richland High Principal Marvin Byers, 2007 College Summit Principal of the Year

Consent Agenda

The Board approved the following items:

- Minutes from the November 26, November 27 and November 29 board meetings
- Abbreviated November financials

Office of the Board

The Board elected officers for 2008: Wendy Brawley, chairwoman; Vince Ford, vice chairman; and Jeanette McBride, secretary-treasurer.

Office of the Superintendent

Superintendent Dr. Allen Coles announced that the district had been awarded a Public Choice Innovation School grant from the State Department of Education. Richland One will use the grant money to establish the W.A. Perry School for Aerospace on the W.A. Perry Middle School campus and at the Challenger Learning Center. The district's grant partners are the Challenger Learning Center, U.S. Civil Air Patrol and the USC College of Education. The aerospace academy will be a "school-within-a-school" program and will target students in grades 5-8 who live in the C.A. Johnson cluster.

Office of Academics

Donna Hammett, Advanced Academic Programs coordinator / charter school liaison, presented a report on the district's Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate programs for 2006-07. Hammett said the number of AP and IB exams taken by Richland One students has increased by 139% since 2002. The number of AP and IB exams taken by African-American students has increased by 98% since 2002.

The Board also approved the following items:

- A contract with Jefferson Learning to provide supplemental educational services to students at Hyatt Park and John P. Thomas elementary schools
- New course offerings and master course catalog revisions for 2008-09

Office of Human Resources

Dr. Coles reported that the number of schools and teachers that have qualified for incentive awards under the Pay for Results program exceeded projections. Three schools and 200 teachers were projected to meet the criteria for the incentives, when nine schools and 330 teachers actually met the criteria. The Board voted 5-1 to approve Coles' proposal to take the additional \$975,000 needed to make the Tier One and Tier Two award payments out of undesignated fund balance money. Board chairwoman Wendy Brawley voted against the proposal and Vice Chairman Vince Ford abstained. The Board previously approved \$1 million for the program.

Office of Operations

The Board approved the following items:

- Purchasing properties for a right-of-way along Wilson Boulevard to widen the road for turning lanes into Keenan High School and at the Pisgah Church Road intersection
- A contract renewal with NCS Pearson for support of copyrighted software using the SuccessMaker system and a contract renewal with Western Piedmont Education Consortium for the 170 port licenses used in the high schools for credit recovery for students in grades 9-12 using the NovaNET system

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of School Commissioners will be held Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at the Stevenson Administration Building. Open session begins at 7 p.m.