

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS

RICHLAND COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE

GADSDEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2017

7:00 P.M.

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**MEMBERS BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS**

MRS. CHERYL HARRIS, CHAIRWOMAN

MR. JAMIE DEVINE, PARLIAMENTARIAN

MR. DWAYNE SMILING

MR. AARON BISHOP

MRS. BEATRICE KING

MR. DARRELL BLACK

MRS. LILA ANNA SAULS

REPORTED BY  
BARBARA D.B. CHEESEBORO  
1103 PINECROFT DRIVE  
WEST COLUMBIA, S.C. 29170

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS  
RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE  
GADSDEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
MARCH 14, 2017

MINUTES

GADSDEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1660 S. GOODWIN CIRCLE

GADSDEN, SC 29052

HELD TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2017

7:00 P.M.

**MOTION:**

MR. BLACK MOVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AND IT WAS SECONDED BY MRS. SAULS.

**VOTE: CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS, MR. DEVINE, MR. SMILING, MR. BLACK AND MRS. SAULS (5-0)**

**MATTER OF**

AS MANDATED BY THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT PASSED BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA

**RECORD:**

GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE RECORDS WILL SHOW THAT THE LOCAL NEWS MEDIA WERE NOTIFIED OF THIS MEETING. THE RECORD WILL ALSO SHOW THAT THE CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS CALLED FOR A MOTION TO GO INTO OPEN SESSION TO DISCUSS

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS  
RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE  
GADSDEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
MARCH 14, 2017

SEVERAL ISSUES: (1) EMPLOYEE TERMINATION APPEAL REQUEST; (2) LEGAL SERVICES UPDATES; (3) PERSONNEL/HR UPDATES; (4) ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT; (5-8) LEAVE OF ABSENCE; (9) HIRING OF PERSONNEL; (10) MINUTES; (11) CONTRACT EXTENSION: HOSTED WEB-BASED COMMUNICATION SOLUTION; (12) CONTRACT EXTENSION: PROVIDE FIRE EXTINGUISHER INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES; (13) CONTRACT EXTENSION: BAND UNIFORMS FOR C.A. JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL; (14) CONTRACT EXTENSION: PROVIDE BAND, ORCHESTRA AND PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS; (15) BOARD REPORT; (16) SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT; (17) ACADEMIC SPOTLIGHT-GADSDEN ELEMENTARY; (18) CONTRACT: CUSTODIAL WET/DUST MOP PROGRAM; (19) CONTRACT: ADULT EDUCATION CENTER HVAC REPLACEMENT PHASE II.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET AT GADSDEN ELEMENTARY, ON TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2017. CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:00 P.M.

**PRESENT:** CHAIRWOMAN CHERYL HARRIS, MR. DWAYNE SMILING, MR. AARON BISHOP, MR. JAMIE DEVINE, MRS. BEATRICE KING, MR. DARRELL BLACK, MRS. LILA ANNA SAULS.

**INVOCATION:** FATHER DANIEL HANK OF ST. JOHN EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GAVE THE INVOCATION.

**AGENDA ADOPTION:**

**MOTION:** MRS. KING MOVED FOR APPROVAL AND WAS SECONDED BY MR. BLACK.

**VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)**

**SCHOOL BOARD**

**PRESENTATION:**

**MR. SMILING** GAVE THE SCHOOL HISTORY

OF GADSDEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**MRS. OWENS-CARTER**, PRINCIPAL, HIGHLIGHTED SCHOOLS' GOALS AND ACHIEVEMENTS;

RECOGNIZED LEADERS OF THE SCHOOL: SIC

COUNCIL, PTO, READING ATTITUDES AND THE

LIBRARY MINISTRY, AND STAFF MEMBERS.

A STUDENT RENDERED POETRY READING;

STUDENTS RENDERED A DANCE PERFORMANCE:

REACH FOR THE STARS;

LETTERS OF GRATITUDE FROM THE STUDENTS

WERE PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF

COMMISSIONERS.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** FELECIA HAMLET, PARENT, PRESENTED THE BOARD WITH DOCUMENTS.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** MINUTES  
CONTRACT EXTENSION: HOSTED WEB-BASED COMMUNICATIONS SOLUTION  
CONTRACT EXTENSION: PROVIDE FIRE EXTINGUISHER INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES  
CONTRACT EXTENSION: BAND UNIFORMS FOR C.A. JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL  
CONTRACT EXTENSION: PROVIDE BAND ORCHESTRA AND PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS

**MOTION:** MR. DEVINE MOVED FOR APPROVAL AND WAS SECONDED BY MR. BISHOP.

**DISCUSSION:** MRS. KING REITERATED HER INTEREST IN THE ADMINISTRATION LOOKING AT RE-EVALUATING THE SEVEN YEAR ROTATION FOR UNIFORMS TO BE REPLACED.

**VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)**

**OFFICE OF THE** EMPLOYEE TERMINATION APPEAL HEARING

**BOARD:**

DR. VEASEY STATED THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS THAT YOU NOT HEAR THE EMPLOYEE WITH INITIALS M.T. TERMINATION APPEAL.

IF YOU VOTE YES, YOU WILL NOT HEAR THE CASE.

IF YOU VOTE NO, YOU WILL HEAR THE APPEAL.

**MOTION:**

MRS. KING MOVED FOR APPROVAL AND WAS SECONDED BY MR. BLACK.

**VOTE: IN FAVOR: MR. SMILING, MR. BLACK**

**IN OPPOSITION: CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS, MRS.**

**KING, MR. BISHOP, MR. DEVINE, MRS. SAULS**

**(2-5)**

**DISCUSSION:**

MR. DEVINE STATED WE NEED AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE BECAUSE THE MOTION JUST FAILED.

**AMENDED MOTION:**

MR. DEVINE MOVED TO HEAR EMPLOYEE TERMINATION APPEAL AND WAS SECONDED BY MRS. SAULS.

**DISCUSSION:**

**MRS. KING** ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION ON THE MOTION.

**MR. DEVINE** STATED THE MOTION ITSELF FAILED, WHICH DOESN'T MEAN THAT WE SHOULD HEAR IT.

SO I AM MAKING A MOTION FOR AN

AFFIRMATIVE VOTE TO HEAR THE APPEAL.

**VOTE: IN FAVOR: CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS, MRS. KING, MR. BISHOP, MR. DEVINE, MRS. SAULS**

**IN OPPOSITION MR. BLACK, MR. SMILING (2-5)**

CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS STATED THE MOTION HAS PASSED. THE BOARD WILL HEAR THE APPEAL.

**MOTION:**

MR. BISHOP MOVED FOR A CLOSED HEARING AND WAS SECONDED BY MRS. SAULS.

**VOTE: IN FAVOR: CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS, MR. BISHOP, MR. DEVINE, MRS. KING, MRS. SAULS, MR. BLACK**

**IN ABSTENTION: MR. SMILING (6-0)**

**BOARD REPORT**

**CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS** STATED THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS IS A VERY ENGAGED GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS. WE ARE SPENDING QUITE A BIT OF TIME IN OUR SCHOOLS WITH OUR STUDENTS, NAMELY IN OUR MIDDLE AND OUR HIGH SCHOOLS; ALSO, DOING VARIOUS OTHER ACTIVITIES IN OUR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS. THIS IS OUR OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE ON MANY OCCASIONS ONE ON ONE WITH OUR STUDENTS, BECAUSE THEY ARE OUR CUSTOMERS. WHAT WE DO IS ABOUT THEM EVERYDAY, EACH DAY, ALL THE TIME. I APPLAUD

THIS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS IN THEIR EFFORTS THROUGH THE CHAT WITH THE CHAIR, OUR LUNCH BUDDY PROGRAM, AND VARIOUS OTHER OPPORTUNITIES THAT WE SPEND TIME WITH OUR STUDENTS.

**MRS. KING** REFERENCING TRANSFORM S.C., STATED SHE CAME BACK FROM THE CONFERENCE WITH THOUGHTS ON HOW THE DISTRICT CAN COME UP WITH INNOVATIVE TRANSFORMATIONS FOR THE STUDENTS TO BE SUPER EXCITED TO LEARN AND IMPROVING STUDENT PERFORMANCE.

**MR. BLACK** STATED THERE IS A CHARTER SCHOOL IN THE MIDDLE OF OUR CITY THAT IS CLOSING BECAUSE OF A HIGH GRADE SCORE AT THE PUBLIC SCHOOL AND THE PERFORMANCE BY THE PUBLIC SCHOOL WHERE NOW THE CHARTER SCHOOL IS NO LONGER NEEDED. HE COMMENDED THE TEACHERS, STUDENTS, PARENTS AND THE DISTRICT FOR DOING SUCH A GREAT JOB.

**CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS** REFERENCING TRANSFORM S.C., IT'S GOOD TO SEE NOT ONLY LOWER RICHLAND A PART OF THAT, BUT ALSO C.A. JOHNSON.



SHE STATED WE ARE CERTAINLY PROUD OF COACH GAITHER (FIRST YEAR COACH) AND HIS STAFF FOR TAKING THE BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM TO THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP AND BEING WINNERS.

**MR. BISHOP** COMMENDED KEENAN RAIDERS FOR THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENT OF REACHING AND BEING A PART OF THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

**CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS** CONGRATULATED COACH KETURAH JACKSON (FIRST YEAR COACH AT LOWER RICHLAND) FOR TAKING THE GIRLS TEAM TO THE LOWER STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

**MR. BLACK** NOTED THERE WAS AN ANNOUNCEMENT THAT AT THE END OF THE GAME FOR FANS NOT TO COME ON THE FLOOR. AND AT THE END OF THE GAME THE TEAM WENT INTO THE STANDS (SOMETHING HE HAD NEVER SEEN IN HIS LIFE); THAT SAYS A LOT ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY, OUR DISTRICT.

**CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS** COMMENDED COACH MATZ AND ALL THE ATHLETIC DIRECTORS.

**MR. BISHOP** STATED IT'S ALSO WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE "C" POLICY.

**CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS** STATED SHE ATTENDED A CONFERENCE TODAY HOSTED BY EDIVATE. SHE ADDED IT WAS A VERY SPECIAL TRAINING WITH NINE OTHER DISTRICTS AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT ON HOW OUR TEACHERS CAN PERFORM ON A HIGHER LEVEL FOR THE SAKE OF OUR CHILDREN. SHE STATED THERE WAS A STRONG MESSAGE ON THE EXTRA EFFORT THAT WE MAKE AS A DISTRICT TO MAKE SURE THAT TEACHING AND LEARNING IS GOING ON IN OUR CLASSROOMS.

**MRS. KING** STATED ONE OF THE REASONS WE ARE MORE SUCCESSFUL IN ATHLETICS IS THAT WE MADE A COMMITMENT AS A BOARD TO INCREASE COACHES SUPPLEMENT. WE WERE NOT COMPETITIVE AND NOW WE ARE.

**OFFICE OF THE**

**SUPERINTENDENT:**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

DR. WITHERSPOON NOTED KEENAN'S BASKETBALL COACH, ZACH NORRIS, WAS INDUCTED INTO THIS YEAR'S CLASS OF THE South Carolina BASKETBALL COACHES HALL OF FAME.

DR. WITHERSPOON CONGRATULATED LOWER RICHLAND HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE CLASS 4A STATE

CHAMPIONSHIP. THE DIAMOND HORNETS, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF COACH CALEB GAITHER, CAME FROM BEHIND TO DEFEAT WREN HIGH SCHOOL 51-42 ON MARCH 4 AT THE COLONIAL LIFE ARENA. IT WAS THE TEAM'S FIRST CHAMPIONSHIP WIN SINCE 1999.

HE ADDED THAT WE WILL FORMALLY RECOGNIZE THE TEAM AT OUR NEXT BOARD MEETING.

DR. WITHERSPOON REPORTED THAT WE COULDN'T DO WHAT WE DO IN RICHLAND ONE WITHOUT BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS WHO PROVIDE FINANCIAL RESOURCES, VOLUNTEERS AND OTHER VALUABLE SUPPORT TO OUR SCHOOLS. ON THURSDAY (MARCH 16), THE WALMART FOUNDATION WILL PRESENT A \$35,000 GRANT CHECK TO THE DISTRICT AND CAUGHMAN ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. THE GRANT, COUPLED WITH \$10,000 RAISED BY THE SCHOOL'S PTO FOR NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT, WILL FUND THE CREATION OF AN OUTDOOR LEARNING CENTER AT CAUGHMAN ROAD. THE GOAL IS TO HAVE IT READY FOR STUDENTS TO ENJOY WHEN THEY RETURN TO SCHOOL IN AUGUST.

HE THANKED THE WALMART FOUNDATION AND CONGRATULATED PRINCIPAL SHAWN HALL, THE CAUGHMAN ROAD PTO AND ESPECIALLY THE STUDENTS AT CAUGHMAN ROAD.

DR. WITHERSPOON REMINDED PARENTS THAT INFORMATION MEETINGS FOR OUR PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR WILL BE HELD. HE ADDED THAT CHILDREN MUST BE 4 YEARS OLD ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2017, AND PARENTS MUST RESIDE WITHIN THE RICHLAND ONE ATTENDANCE ZONE.

THE NEXT PARENT INFORMATION MEETING WILL BE HELD MARCH 22 AT NOON AT OLYMPIA LEARNING CENTER. PARENTS ARE URGED TO ATTEND SO THEY CAN SIGN UP FOR A SCREENING APPOINTMENT FOR THEIR CHILD AND LEARN MORE ABOUT THE REGISTRATION PROCESS. HE ADDED THAT FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT OUR EARLY CHILDHOOD OFFICE AT 231-6709.

**MR. DEVINE** SUGGESTED HAVING A CONVERSATION AND REVIEWING THE “C” POLICY. HE STATED WE KNOW IF WE SET THE BAR HIGH OUR STUDENTS WILL ACHIEVE.

LEGAL STATUS REPORT

ATTORNEY WILLIAMS STATED INFORMATION WAS PRESENTED DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION ON THE STATUS OF LEGAL MATTERS IN THE DISTRICT.

OFFICE OFHUMAN RESOURCES:PERSONNEL/HR UPDATES

DR. COUSAR STATED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION THE ADMINISTRATION PRESENTED PERSONNEL UPDATES.

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT

DR. COUSAR STATED THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. IRVIN MACK, TO THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR AT W.G. SANDERS. THIS IS CONTINGENT UPON HIS RELEASE FROM HIS CURRENT POSITION IN CALHOUN COUNTY.

MOTION:

MR. BISHOP MOVED FOR APPROVAL AND WAS SECONDED BY MR. DEVINE.

**VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)**

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

DR. COUSAR STATED ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF THE REQUEST FOR

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THE EMPLOYEE WITH THE INITIALS C.B. AS PRESENTED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

**MOTION:**

MR. BLACK MOVED FOR APPROVAL AND WAS SECONDED BY MR. DEVINE.

**VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)**

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

DR. COUSAR STATED THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS THE APPROVAL OF THE EMPLOYEE WITH INITIALS N.G. AS PRESENTED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

**MOTION:**

MRS. KING MOVED FOR APPROVAL AND WAS SECONDED BY MR. BLACK.

**VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)**

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

DR. COUSAR STATED THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF THE LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR MEDICAL REASONS AS PRESENTED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

**MOTION:**

MRS. KING MOVED FOR APPROVAL AND WAS SECONDED BY MR. DEVINE.

**VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)**

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

DR. COUSAR STATED THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF THE MEDICAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST AS PRESENTED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

**MOTION:**

MRS. KING MOVED FOR APPROVAL AND WAS SECONDED BY MRS. SAULS.

**VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)**

HIRING OF PERSONNEL

DR. COUSAR STATED THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF THE 10 APPLICANTS AS EMPLOYEES FOR THE UPCOMING SCHOOL YEAR.

**MOTION:**

MRS. KING MOVED FOR APPROVAL AND WAS SECONDED BY MR. BISHOP.

**VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)**

**OFFICE OF**ACADEMIC SPOTLIGHT-GADSDEN ELEMENTARY**ACADEMICS:**

PRINCIPAL CARTER HIGHLIGHTED GADSDEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S CURRICULUM PROGRAM, GOALS AND ACHIEVEMENTS.

PRESENTED VIDEO WHY GADSDEN IS THE BEST SCHOOL IN THE UNIVERSE: EMHPASIS ON READING,

TECHNOLOGY, SCIENCE, ARTS, ATHLETICS,  
INTERNATIONAL CULTURE, STEAM,  
STUDENTS, PARENTS, COMMUNITY.

**OFFICE OF**

**CONTRACT: CUSTODIAL WET/DUST MOP PROGRAM**

**OPERATIONS:**

**CONTRACT: ADULT EDUCATION CENTER HVAC  
REPLACEMENT PHASE II**

**MOTION:**

MR. DEVINE MOVED FOR APPROVAL AND WAS  
SECONDED MR. BISHOP.

**VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)**

**MOTION:**

MR. DEVINE MOVED TO GO BACK INTO EXECUTIVE  
SESSION TO DISCUSS EMPLOYMENT OF EMPLOYEE  
AND WAS SECONDED BY MR. BISHOP.

**OPEN SESSION RECONVENED AT 8:50 P.M.**

**EMPLOYEE MATTER**

CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS STATED THAT NO ACTION  
WAS TAKEN, NONE WAS REQUIRED.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS ADJOURNED THE MEETING  
AT 8:51 P.M.

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STENOGRAPHER

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF SCHOOL  
COMMISSIONERS

\_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY/TREASURER, BOARD OF  
SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS



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