MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS

RICHLAND COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE

STEVenson ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2017

7:00 P.M.

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
MATTER OF RECORD: AS MANDATED BY THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT PASSED BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA 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 SEVERAL ISSUES: (1) LEGAL SERVICES UPDATES; (2) DESEGREGATION AGREEMENT FOR MAGNET SCHOOLS AND GRANT; (3) ROMC RECEIPT OF LEGAL ADVICE; (4) PERSONNEL/HR UPDATES;
(5-8) LEAVE OF ABSENCE; (9) HIRING OF PERSONNEL; (10) MINUTES; (11) CONTRACT EXTENSION: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) TEMPORARY PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS; (12) FEBRUARY 2017 FINANCIALS; (13) APPROVAL OF BOND RESOLUTION; (14) MEMORIAL RESOLUTION; (15) SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT; (16) 2017-2018 INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS RECOMMENDATIONS; (17) FEBRUARY 2017 FINANCIALS; (18) CHARTER ANNUAL REPORT: RICHLAND ONE MIDDLE COLLEGE; (19) CHARTER ANNUAL REPORT: CAROLINA SCHOOL OF INQUIRY; (20) CONTRACT: PROVIDE CERTIFIED ATHLETIC TRAINERS; (21) CONTRACT: CA JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL HVAC RENOVATIONS; (22) REQUEST PERMISSION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SAFE ROUTE TO SCHOOL AT BURTON PACK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; (23) REQUEST PERMISSION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS FOR SANDEL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; (24) REQUEST PERMISSION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS NEAR LOWER RICHLAND HIGH SCHOOL.
CALL TO ORDER: THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET AT STEVENSON ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, ON TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 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: MR. DARRELL BLACK, SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER, GAVE THE INVOCATION.

AGENDA ADOPTION: CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS NOTED THE FOLLOWING CORRECTIONS: 2.4 ADDED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION, BOND RESOLUTION. IT IS NOTED CORRECTLY ON THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE AGENDA. 8.4 ROMC RECEIPT OF LEGAL ADVICE IS NOT AN ACTION ITEM. IT IS AN INFORMATION ITEM.

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

VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)

SCHOOL BOARD MRS. SAULS GAVE THE SCHOOL BOARD SPOTLIGHT:

SPOTLIGHT: SPOTLIGHT FOR THE MARCH 28, 2017 SCHOOL BOARD MEETING.
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: SHANDRA SHELTON, LATASHA THOMAS, TARA FRASIER (PARENTS) AND TYRONE HARRIS (BOARD CHAIR FOR CSI) ALL SPOKE IN FAVOR OF AND ASKED FOR SUPPORT OF THE BOARD FOR KEEPING THE CAROLINA SCHOOL OF INQUIRY OPEN.

CONSENT AGENDA: MINUTES

CONTRACT EXTENSION: INFORMATION:

TECHNOLOGY (IT) TEMPORARY PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

FEBRUARY 2017 FINANCIALS

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

VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)

OFFICE OF THE BOARD: MS. MATHEWS-HAZEL STATED THE ADMINISTRATION IS RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF TWO GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS. THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF 10.5 BILLION AND 11 BILLION: THE 10.5 BILLION GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND WILL BE USED FOR OUR ATHLETIC STADIUMS, FIELDS, FACILITIES UPGRADES AND EQUIPMENT. THIS WILL BE PAID OVER THREE YEARS. THE 11 MILLION GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND, 8 MILLION WILL BE
DESIGNATED FOR CAPITAL NEEDS AND THREE MILLION WILL BE DESIGNATED FOR SPENDING TOWARDS OUR ANNUAL MAINTENANCE PLAN. THIS IS A ONE YEAR TERM. THE IMPACT OF THESE TWO BONDS ON A $100,000 HOME WILL BE GOING FROM 66 MILS TO 68 MILS. THE IMPACT ON THAT WILL BE $8.00 A YEAR ON THAT $100,000 HOME. AND FOR A BUSINESS VALUED AT A $100,000, THE IMPACT ON THEIR TAXES WILL INCREASE BY $12.00 A YEAR.

THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.

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

**VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (6-0)**

**MR. DEVINE RECUSAL**

**MEMORIAL RESOLUTION**

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION WAS PRESENTED TO THE FAMILY OF TANYA O. JOHNSON.

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

DR. WITHERSPOON STATED OUR BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS PLAY VITAL ROLES IN SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOLS. DURING A SPECIAL ASSEMBLY ON MARCH 16 AT CAUGHLMAN ROAD
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, REPRESENTATIVES OF WALMART PRESENTED A $35,000 GRANT CHECK TO THE DISTRICT AND THE SCHOOL FROM WALMART FOUNDATION. THE MONEY WILL HELP FUND A NEW OUTDOOR LEARNING CENTER AT CAUGHMAN ROAD. THE SCHOOL’S PTO RAISED $10,000 FOR NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT, AND THE WALMART GRANT PROVIDES THE REMAINDER OF THE FUNDING NEEDED TO MAKE THE PROJECT A REALITY. THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED WHEN STUDENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL IN AUGUST.

WE EXTEND OUR THANKS AGAIN TO EVERYONE AT WALMART AND THE WALMART FOUNDATION, AND CONGRATULATION TO PRINCIPAL SHAWN HALL AND HER STUDENTS AND STAFF.

DR. WITHERSPOON REPORTED THAT OUR OUTSTANDING TEAM IN RICHLAND ONE INCLUDES TEN EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE BEEN NAMED FINALISTS FOR 2017-2018 RICHLAND ONE TEACHER OF THE YEAR AND CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR HONORS. THE NAMES AND PICTURES OF THE FINALISTS ARE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE.
Dr. Witherspoon reported that Richland One has many students who are extremely talented in the visual arts. We encourage everyone to go see the Richland One Student Art Show at the Tapp’s Art Center. Artwork by students in kindergarten through 12th grade is on display through April 4. The center is located at 1644 Main Street. The hours are 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Dr. Witherspoon reported that Twitter is one of the many communications tools the district uses to share information about all of the great things happening in Richland One. We are inviting our students, employees, parents and community members to participate in our upcoming Twitter challenge. He added that the Twitter challenge will run from April 3-28. Questions will be posted daily on the (www.richlandone.org). The winners will be announced at the celebration banquet in May. Congratulations and good luck to the finalists.
DISTRICT’S TWITTER FEED (@RICHLANDONE). TWITTER CHALLENGE PARTICIPANTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO USE THE HASHTAG #R1CHALLENGE ON THEIR TWEETS. THE CHALLENGE WILL INCLUDE QUESTIONS LIKE “WHO’S YOUR FAVORITE TEACHER?” OR “WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO THE CLASS OF 2017?” STUDENTS CAN POST VIDEOS TO SHOW WHAT THEY’RE LEARNING. HE ADDED THAT ON #THROWBACKTHURSDAY, YOU CAN POST AN OLD SCHOOL PHOTO.

DR. WITHERSPOON NOTED THAT RICHLAND ONE “SWAG BAGS” WILL BE AWARDED TO THREE LUCKY TWEETERS SELECTED AT RANDOM DURING THE MONTH-LONG EVENT. DETAILS, INCLUDING THE CHALLENGE QUESTIONS FOR EACH DAY, WILL BE POSTED ON THE DISTRICT’S WEBSITE (WWW.RICHLANDONE.ORG).

DR. WITHERSPOON, AS A REMINDER TO STUDENTS AND TEACHERS, FRIDAY, MARCH 31 IS HURRICANE MAKE-UP DAY FOR STUDENTS. IT WILL BE A REGULAR DAY FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF.
DISCUSSION:

CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS asked suggested that discussions be held about the district’s “C” policy and raising it to “B” policy.

MRS. KING stated we need to look at the grading scale. MRS. KING added that the old grading scale “C” started at 77.

CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS stated the policy we have in place the number portion (77) has changed tremendously.

CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS announced that she and Dr. Witherspoon have met with Boeing. She added that we are excited about the direction of Boeing and their desire to come here in the Midlands and partnership with Richland One. MRS. HARRIS also noted that last week she and Dr. Witherspoon met with Schneider Electric. We have met with two Fortune 500 companies in a month.

She suggested having some discussions on certification students can acquire before graduation from high school.
COMPANIES ARE SEEKING WORKFORCE READY GROUP OF STUDENTS. WE WILL BE MEETING WITH SEVERAL OTHER BUSINESSES.

CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS EXPRESSED THANKS TO KAREN YORK AND HER TEAM FOR THE BILLBOARDS.

CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS SHARED A LETTER SHE RECEIVED FROM AN ELEMENTARY STUDENT EXPRESSING GRATITUDE FOR FREE MEALS PROVIDED FOR ALL STUDENTS.

MRS. SAULS REMINDED EVERYONE THAT THE RICHLAND ONE COMMUNITY ARE CHILDREN’S ADVOCATES. SHE SUGGESTED EVERYONE JOIN TOGETHER AND USE THEIR VOICE TO THE THREAT OF FEDERAL FUNDS BEING CUT FOR THOSE MEALS. SCIENCE IS THERE TO PROVE THAT THESE MEALS HELP CHILDREN DURING THE DAY PERFORM ACADEMICALLY.

MRS. KING STATED THAT SHE, MRS. SAULS AND MR. BLACK ATTENDED THE NATIONAL SCHOOL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE. WE ARE LEARNING AND REALIZED WE ARE ALREADY DOING A LOT OF GREAT THINGS IN THIS DISTRICT.
LEGAL STATUS REPORT

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

DISCUSSION:

MRS. KING RAISED A QUESTION ABOUT TIMELINE FOR THE POLICIES BEING BROUGHT FORWARD FOR APPROVAL.

ATTORNEY WILLIAMS RESPONDED THAT THE POLICIES WILL BE BROUGHT FORWARD NEXT WEEK.

DESEGREGATION AGREEMENT FOR MAGNET SCHOOLS GRANT

DR. COLEMAN STATED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF THE DESEGREGATION FOR MAGNET SCHOOLS GRANT.

ATTORNEY WILLIAMS STATED THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL TO APPROVE THE VOLUNTARY DESEGREGATION AGREEMENT. YOU RECEIVED LEGAL ADVICE ON THIS MATTER DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION.

MOTION:

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

VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)
ROMC RECEIPT OF LEGAL ADVICE

ATTORNEY WILLIAMS STATED INFORMATION WAS PRESENTED DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION.

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL/HR UPDATES

HUMAN RESOURCES:

DR. COUSAR STATED UNDER THIS ITEM, WHICH WAS AN INFORMATION ITEM, CONFIDENTIAL PERSONNEL CONCERNS WAS PRESENTED AS WELL AS TWO RETIREMENTS.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

DR. COUSAR STATED THE ADMINISTRATION IS RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF THE NON PAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE AS PRESENTED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION OF AN EMPLOYEE DUE TO MEDICAL REASONS.

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 IS RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF THE REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR MEDICAL REASONS.

MOTION: MR. DEVINE MOVED FOR APPROVAL AND WAS SECONDED BY MR. BLACK.
VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

DR. COUSAR STATED THE ADMINISTRATION IS RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF THE NON PAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR MEDICAL REASONS.

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 IS RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF THE MILITARY LEAVE REQUEST AS PRESENTED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

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

DISCUSSION: MR. DEVINE ASKED IS THIS A NON PAID LEAVE?

DR. COUSAR RESPONDED AFTER USE OF THE REGULAR DAYS, THE REST WILL BE NON-PAID.

VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)
HIRING OF PERSONNEL


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

VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)

OFFICE OF 2017-2018 INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

ACADEMICS: RECOMMENDATIONS


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

DISCUSSION: MRS. KING ASKED ARE THESE TEXT BOX HARD COPY AS WELL AS ELECTRONIC?

MS. JENNINGS RESPONDED MOST OF THEM ARE. THE NEWER VERSIONS YOU CAN GET THE E-BOOK ON LINE AS WELL AS SEVERAL HARD COPIES.

MRS. KING ASKED WILL THIS CONTRACT PAY FOR BOTH?
MS. JENNINGS responded with this contract. It varies from book to book; from publisher to publisher. Some of these are revised editions, especially for some of the categories. And so you will have access to the e-book as well as getting a hard copy. And that e-book is a part of the adoption.

VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)

CHARTER ANNUAL REPORT: RICHLAND ONE MIDDLE COLLEGE

MS. SCOTT stated the administration recommends approval of S.C. Department of Education Charter School 2016 Annual Report which has been submitted by Richland One Middle College.

MOTION: MR. BISHOP moved for approval and was seconded by Mr. Smiling.

VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)

CHARTER ANNUAL REPORT: CAROLINA SCHOOL OF INQUIRY

MS. SCOTT stated the administration recommends approval of the South Carolina Department of Education Charter School.
2016 ANNUAL REPORT SUBMITTED BY THE CAROLINA SCHOOL OF INQUIRY.

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

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

**OFFICE OF OPERATIONS:** MR. HARDISON STATED THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING CONTRACTS:

- CONTRACT: PROVIDE CERTIFIED ATHLETIC TRAINERS
- CONTRACT: CA JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL HVAC RENOVATIONS

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

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

MR. PERKINS STATED THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS OF APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING CONTRACTS:

- REQUEST PERMISSION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SAFE ROUTE TO SCHOOL AT BURTON PACK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- REQUEST PERMISSION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS FOR SANDEL
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
REQUEST PERMISSION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF
ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS NEAR LOWER
RICHLAND HIGH SCHOOL

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

VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)

ADJOURNMENT: CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS ADJOURNED THE MEETING
AT 8:20 A.M.