MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS

RICHLAND COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE

STEVENSEN ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2016

7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS

MRS. CHERYL HARRIS, CHAIRWOMAN

MR. VINCE FORD, VICE CHAIRMAN

MRS. PAMELA ADAMS, SECRETARY/TREASURER

MR. DWAYNE SMILING, PARLIAMENTARIAN

MR. AARON BISHOP

MR. JAMIE DEVINE

MRS. BEATRICE KING

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
STEVENSEN ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
SEPTEMBER 13, 2016
MINUTES

STEVENSON ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

1616 RICHLAND STREET

COLUMBIA, S.C. 29201

HELD TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2016

7:00 P.M.

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 STATUS REPORT; (2) PERSONNEL MATTER/HR UPDATE; (3) ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT; (4-5) LEAVE OF ABSENCE; (6) MINUTES; (7) CONTRACT EXTENSION; ASSESSMENT AND LEARNING IN KNOWLEDGE SPACES (ALEKS) SOFTWARE; (8) CONTRACT
CALL TO ORDER: THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET AT STEVENSON ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2016. CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: CHAIRWOMAN CHERYL HARRIS, MR. VINCE FORD, MRS. PAMELA ADAMS, MR. DWAYNE SMILING, MRS. BEATRICE KING, MR. AARON BISHOP, MR. JAMIE DEVINE.

INVOCATION: REVEREND AARON BISHOP, GRACE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, GAVE THE INVOCATION.

AGENDA ADOPTION: CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS STATED ITEM 9.05, HIRING OF PERSONNEL, WILL BE DELETED.
MOTION: MRS. KING MOVED FOR APPROVAL AND WAS SECONDED BY MR. DEVINE.

VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)

SCHOOL BOARD MRS. ADAMS GAVE THE SCHOOL BOARD SPOTLIGHT: SPOTLIGHT FOR THE SEPTEMBER 13, 2016 MEETING.

(SEE ATTACHMENT FOR DETAILED INFORMATION)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: NONE.

CONSENT AGENDA: MINUTES

CONTRACT EXTENSION: ASSESSMENT AND LEARNING IN KNOWLEDGE SPACES (ALEKS)

SOFTWARE

CONTRACT EXTENSION: READ 180

CONTRACT EXTENSION: RENEWAL OF LICENSES FOR READING A-Z AND RAZ-KIDS

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

MRS. KING STATED THERE ARE TWO ITEMS THAT ARE SIMILAR: CONTRACT EXTENSION: READ 180 AND SYSTEM/44 NEXT GENERATION. SHE ASKED IS THERE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO.

DR. FIELDS RESPONDED YES.

VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)
OFFICE OF THE BOARD REPORT

CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS STATED CHAT WITH THE CHAIR HAS ALREADY BEGUN IN BOTH MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS. SHE ADDED THAT BOARD DID FULFILL OUR 30 DAY CHALLENGE WHICH WAS TO VISIT ALL 52 SCHOOLS, WHICH WAS DONE IN 28 DAYS; WE HAVE NOT COMPLETED THE RIDE TO SCHOOL OR BICYCLE CHALLENGE. THE SCHOOL VISITS HAS BEEN VERY EXCITING.

MRS. ADAMS EXPRESSED GRATITUDE TO THE OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS AND EDVENTURE CHILDREN’S MUSEUM FOR SPONSORING CELEBRITY CHEF JEFF HENDERSON. SHE ADDED THAT INSTEAD OF A COOKING DEMONSTRATION, HE PROVIDED A POWERFUL MESSAGE AND TIPS AND STRATEGIES.

CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS STATED IT WAS A VERY POWERFUL AND MUCH NEEDED MESSAGE TO OUR STUDENTS. SHE EXPRESSED GRATITUDE TO MS. YORK, COLONIAL LIFE AND EDVENTURE.

MRS. ADAMS ASKED WILL THIS EVENT BE ON CHANNEL OR ON RICHLAND ONE DEMAND.

MS. YORK RESPONDED BOTH.
MR. BISHOP RECOGNIZED PATRICK PATTERSON, GRADUATE OF C.A. JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL, WHO HELD HIS THIRD ANNUAL MALE ACHIEVEMENT CONFERENCE THIS PAST WEEKEND. HE NOTED THERE WERE 793 FATHERS IN ATTENDANCE.

MR. BISHOP NOTED CHRISTOPHER HARVEY, GRADUATE OF KEENAN HIGH SCHOOL, HAD AN APPEARANCE ON AN URBAN SHOW, POP CULTURE SHOW, CALL “ATLANTA”, WHICH IS ON THE FX CHANNEL. HE STATED RICHLAND ONE IS PRODUCING STARS AND LEADERS IN THIS WORLD. HE ASKED FOR SUPPORT AS RICHLAND ONE CONTINUES TO BUILD LEADERS.

MRS. KING RECOGNIZED TROOP 176 (LDS) AND THEIR LEADERS, OBSERVING CITIZENSHIP IN THE COMMUNITY.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

DR. WITHERSPOON STATED WE ARE PROUD THAT EIGHT RICHLAND ONE SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED AS BEING AMONG THE HEALTHIEST SCHOOLS IN THE NATION. OUR DISTRICT LEADS THE STATE THIS YEAR IN THE NUMBER OF
SCHOOLS NAMED WINNERS OF THE PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL HEALTHY SCHOOLS AWARD.

DR. WITHERSPOON ADDED THAT BROCKMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IS ONE OF ONLY 14 SCHOOLS IN THE NATION – AND THE FIRST SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOOL – TO RECEIVE THE NATIONAL HEALTHY SCHOOLS GOLD AWARD, WHICH IS THE HIGHEST HONOR BESTOWED BY THE ALLIANCE FOR A HEALTHIER GENERATION. HE ADDED THAT THE BRONZE AWARD WINNERS ARE: CARVER-LYON ELEMENTARY, COLUMBIA HIGH, DREHER HIGH, EDWARD E. TAYLOR ELEMENTARY, GADSDEN ELEMENTARY, HORRELL HILL ELEMENTARY AND PINE GROVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS. TO EARN THE AWARDS, THE SCHOOLS HAD TO MEET OR EXCEED STRINGENT STANDARDS FOR SERVING HEALTHIER MEALS AND SNACKS, GETTING STUDENTS MOVING MORE, OFFERING HIGH-QUALITY PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION, AND EMPOWERING SCHOOL LEADERS TO BECOME HEALTHY ROLE MODELS.
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AWARD-WINNING SCHOOLS. WE WILL FORMALLY RECOGNIZE THEM AT OUR NEXT BOARD MEETING.

DR. WITHERSPOON REPORTED THAT THIS MORNING, WE WERE HONORED TO WELCOME CHEF JEFF HENDERSON TO RICHLAND ONE.

CHEF JEFF, WHO IS AN AWARD–WINNING CHEF, BEST-SELLING AUTHOR AND FOOD NETWORK STAR, SPOKE TO RICHLAND ONE STUDENTS AT C.A. JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL AS PART OF HIS “BE A BOSS YOUTH EMPOWERMENT TOUR.” CHEF JEFF SHARED A POWERFUL MESSAGE WITH STUDENTS, WHICH INCLUDED HIS OWN STORY OF GOING FROM BEING IN PRISON TO BEING A RENOWNED CHEF.

WE EXTEND OUR APPRECIATION AGAIN TO CHEF JEFF AND TO EDVENTURE CHILDREN’S MUSEUM AND COLONIAL LIFE FOR MAKING THIS VISIT POSSIBLE.

CHEF JEFF’S PRESENTATION WILL BE BROADCAST ON RICHLAND ONE TV AND IT WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING VIA ROTV ON DEMAND ON THE DISTRICT’S WEBSITE.
DR. WITHERSPOON REPORTED THAT RICHLAND ONE AND RICHLAND TWO ARE JOINING FORCES AGAIN THIS YEAR TO TAKE STEPS AGAINST BREAST CANCER THROUGH THE PALMETTO HEALTH FOUNDATION’S WALK FOR LIFE/RACE FOR LIFE.

BEFORE THE WALK/RACE ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, EMPLOYEE TEAMS FROM RICHLAND ONE AND RICHLAND TWO WILL ENGAGE IN SOME FRIENDLY COMPETITION AT THE THIRD ANNUAL “NOTHING BUT NET” BASKETBALL GAME. THE EVENT WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6 AT 6 P.M. AT RICHLAND NORTHEAST HIGH SCHOOL. HE ADDED THAT TWO OF OUR STATE CHAMPIONSHIP-WINNING COACHES - COACH TERESA JONES FROM DREHER HIGH SCHOOL AND COACH JOSHUA STALEY FROM A.C. FLORA HIGH SCHOOL WILL SERVE AS CO-HEAD COACHES OF THE RICHLAND ONE TEAM. A HALFTIME WILL FEATURE A FREE THROW SHOOTING CONTEST LAST YEAR, BUT TEAM RICHLAND ONE WON THE GAME. OF COURSE, IT’S ALL IN FUN AND FOR A GOOD CAUSE. HE ADDED THAT THE ADMISSION IS $5 FOR AGES 6 AND UP, BENEFIT THE PALMETTO HEALTH BREAST CENTER.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT DR. TRACI COOPER AT 231-6842.

DR. WITHERSPOON ANNOUNCED THAT HE IS PLEASED TO HAVE AN EXCEPTIONAL GROUP OF EDUCATORS IN ATTENDANCE AT TONIGHT’S
MEETING AS HIS SPECIAL GUESTS. THEY ARE MEMBERS OF THE 2016-2017 RICHLAND ONE TEACHER FORUM. HE ADDED THAT APPROXIMATELY HALF OF UNIQUE IDENTITY AND DEALS WITH EDUCATIONAL ISSUES, INCLUDING WORKING WITH SCHOOL BOARDS AND ADMINISTRATORS TO ADDRESS DISTRICT NEEDS, SPONSORING TEACHER LEADERSHIP ACADEMIES, AND SPONSORING TEACHER RECOGNITION ACTIVITIES. THE DISTRICT TEACHER FORUMS ALSO ARE ESPECIALLY IMPACTFUL IN ADDRESSING RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION EFFORTS.

CURRENT DISTRICT TEACHERS OF THE YEAR FORM THE STATE TEACHER FORUM, WHICH IS LED BY THE REIGNING STATE TEACHER OF THE YEAR.

THIS YEAR’S STATE TEACHER FORUM WILL BE LED BY OUR VERY OWN JENNIFER WISE OF HAND MIDDLE SCHOOL, THE 2016-2017 SC TEACHER OF THE YEAR.

THE RICHLAND ONE TEACHER FORUM HAS KICKED OFF ITS PROGRAMMING FOR THE YEAR UNDER THE LEadersHIP OF 2016-2017 RICHLAND ONE TEACHER OF THE YEAR CAROLINE MANNING
FROM BRENNEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. PHILIP HARE FROM A.C. FLORA HIGH SCHOOL SERVES AS CO-CHAIR. THE FORUM HAS A HOST OF EXCITING ENDEAVORS PLANNED TO INCLUDE THE “PASTRIES AND POLICY” EDUCATIONAL SUMMIT IN COLLABORATION WITH THE RICHLAND TWO FORUM AND THE NEW RICHLAND ONE TEACHER OF THE YEAR LUNCHEON, AS WELL AS OUTREACH WITH AREA COLLEGES OF EDUCATION TO ENSURE THAT PRE-SERVICE TEACHERS ARE ADEQUATELY PREPARED FOR SERVICE IN CLASSROOMS IN THE MIDLANDS AND THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

DR. TRACI YOUNG COOPER, A FORMER STATE TEACHER OF THE YEAR AND FORMER RICHLAND ONE TEACHER OF THE YEAR, WILL SERVE AS THE DISTRICT LIAISON FOR THE FORUM THIS YEAR.

RICHLAND ONE FORUM MEMBERS WERE ASKED TO STAND AND BE RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING EFFORTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS.

I WAS CHALLENGED BY OUR BUS DRIVERS TO RIDE THE SCHOOL BUS AND I DID. I RODE HOME WITH THE STUDENTS OF BURTON PACK ELEMENTARY, WHICH WAS A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE.
DRIVER NUMBER 349 MUST BE COMMENDED FOR KNOWING ALL OF HIS STUDENT’S NAMES, THEIR SIBLINGS, AND SO FORTH. MUCH GRATITUDE TO OUR BUS DRIVERS AND TRANSPORTATION STAFF FOR THEIR HARD WORK.

DR. WITHERSPOON GAVE A STATEMENT REGARDING TITLE ONE.

CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS EXPRESSED GRATITUDE TO DR. WITHERSPOON FOR THE DETAILED REPORT ON TITLE ONE.

**DISCUSSION:**

MR. FORD ASKED AS A RESULT OF WHAT WE HAVE FOUND OUT, HAS THERE BEEN ANY SERVICES DENIED TO ANY CHILDREN?

DR. WITHERSPOON RESPONDED NO, SIR, THERE HAVE BEEN NO SERVICES DENIED TO STUDENTS.

MR. FORD ASKED UNEQUIVOCALLY?

DR. WITHERSPOON RESPONDED, UNEQUIVOCALLY.

MR. FORD ASKED AS A RESULT OF WHAT WE HAVE FOUND OUT, HAVE ANY DOLLARS BEEN TAKEN AWAY FROM ANY OTHER PROGRAM?
DR. WITHERSPOON responded, no, there have been no dollars taken away from any other programs.

MR. FORD asked are all programs that we have agreed to fund we are continuing to fund.

DR. WITHERSPOON responded that is correct.

LEGAL STATUS REPORT

ATTORNEY WILLIAMS stated information was presented during executive session on the status of legal matters in the district.

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL/HR UPDATES

HUMAN RESOURCES:

DR. SAVAGE COUSAR stated during executive session two items were presented. One was an information item. The second one requires action. The administration is requesting approval of the rescindment of the non paid leave –of-absence and placing those with the modified leave of absence as discussed in executive session.
MOTION

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

VOTE: IN FAVOR: CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS, MR. FORD, MRS. ADAMS, MR. SMILING, MR. BISHOP AND MRS. KING (6-0)

MR. DEVINE NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE.

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT

DR. SAVAGE COUSAR STATED THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS THE APPOINTMENT OF MS. MARION MIDDLETON GREEN TO THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR AT GADSDEN AND WEBBER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 14, 2016.

MOTION:

MR. SMILING MOVED FOR APPROVAL AND WAS SECONDED BY MRS. ADAMS.

VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)

DISCUSSION:

MRS. ADAMS ASKED HOW MANY ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATORS DO WE HAVE TO SPLIT BETWEEN SCHOOLS CURRENTLY?

DR. SAVAGE COUSAR RESPONDED I WILL GET THAT INFORMATION FOR YOU. WE HAVE MADE SOME ADJUSTMENTS.
MRS. ADAMS REQUESTED A COMPARISON OF LAST YEAR COMPARED TO THIS YEAR.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

DR. SAVAGE COUSAR STATED THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF THE LEAVE-OF-ABSENCE WITHOUT PAY FOR MEDICAL REASONS AS PRESENTED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

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

VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

DR. SAVAGE COUSAR STATED THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS LEAVE-OF-ABSENCE WITHOUT PAY FOR STUDY AS PRESENTED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

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

VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)

OFFICE OF CONTRACT: FY 2016-2017 SPECIAL REVENUE OPERATIONS:

BUDGETS

MR. CARLON STATED THE ADMINISTRATION IS REQUESTING APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017
SPECIAL REVENUE PROJECT BUDGETS. THE
ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF
$9,491,151.

**MOTION:**

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

**DISCUSSION:**

MRS. ADAMS ASKED HAVE WE ALREADY
RECEIVED THE FUNDS FROM THE STATE FOR
FEDERAL OR LOCAL SOURCES?

MR. CARLON RESPONDED NOT NECESSARILY. THE
FEDERAL MAY BE REIMBURSING.

MRS. ADAMS ASKED ARE SOME REIMBURSEMENT
AND SOME ARE ALLOCATED BASED ON?

MR. CARLON RESPONDED ALLOCATIONS BASED
ON STUDENT POPULATION, ACHIEVEMENT,
DIFFERENT ITEMS.

MRS. ADAMS ASKED IS THERE SOME TYPE OF
DIGITAL CALENDAR, ALERT SYSTEM, SO WE GET
THESE SORTS OF REIMBURSEMENTS IN ON TIME?

MR. CARLON RESPONDED WE HAVE NOT HAD
PROBLEMS.

MRS. KING ASKED REFERENCING STUDENT AT
RISK OF SCHOOL FAILURE AND CHILD
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES, IS THE STATE THE
MONITORING AGENCY FOR THOSE STUDENTS, SPECIAL REVENUE?

**MR. CARLON** responded yes. Those are from the state revenues, yes.

**MRS. KING** asked how do we spend those dollars? Is that about the early childhood program, or is there a difference?

**MR. CARLON** responded this is the kind of program that the state put into place a few years ago for those poverty districts. They expanded it to other districts. This is basically a funding for the pre-K. C-depth program we call it. We have replaced a number of our general funds. The other is the at-risk. We primarily use that to reduce class size. When we say we have a targeted class size for the general fund, we may have 25-1, but then we reduce it to 21-1 with these allocations.

**MRS. KING** asked is that for all schools?

**MR. CARLON** responded yes. This is the fund that we used to get five million dollars.
NOW WE ONLY GET THREE MILLION AND THE REST IS ALLOCATED TO GENERAL FUND. AGAIN, IT’S BASED ON STUDENT POPULATION. IT’S DOWN TO A MILLION DOLLARS THIS YEAR. IT’S BEEN REDUCED OVER THE LAST TWO-THREE YEARS.

MRS. KING ASKED DO WE PLAY WITH OUR FTE NUMBERS?

MR. CARLON RESPONDED WE BASE IT ON WHATEVER OUR FUNDING IS.

MRS. KING ASKED IS THERE AN ADJUSTMENT OF TITLE ONE?

MR. CARLON RESPONDED THERE IS ALWAYS AMENDMENTS DEPENDING ON HOW THE MONEY IS BEING SPENT.

MRS. KING ASKED ARE SOME OF THESE IF IT’S ON STATE OR FEDERAL, FISCAL YEAR, AFTER OCTOBER 1ST, IS THAT RIGHT?

MR. CARLON RESPONDED IF THEY ARE FEDERAL IT’S USUALLY OCTOBER 1ST.

MR. FORD STATED IF THE ALLOCATION IS GONE DOWN TO APPROXIMATELY A MILLION, BASE STUDENT COST CONTINUES TO GO UP. I AM PUZZLED BY THAT.
MR. CARLON replied it’s the add on. It depends on how many students get included in that at risk category and the add-ons.

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

MR. HARDISON STATED THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF:

- CONTRACT: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FROM SOUTHERN REGIONAL EDUCATION BOARD (SREB)
- CONTRACT: TEMPORARY PERSONNEL STAFFING SERVICES
- CONTRACT: READ 180/SYSTEM 44 NEXT GENERATION

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

**DISCUSSION:** MRS. KING ASKED HAS THE SCHOOLS BEEN ABLE TO USE SYSTEM 44 SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR, OR DO WE HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL APPROVAL OF THIS CONTRACT FOR THE SCHOOLS TO BE ABLE TO START USING THIS SOFTWARE? MS. JENNINGS RESPONDED THE SOFTWARE PIECE IS SET UP THE SAME AS THE READ 180. SHE ADDED...
THAT SYSTEM 44 IS FOR THOSE STUDENTS THAT ARE NOT QUALIFIED FOR READ 180. THE CLASSROOM SETUP IS EXACTLY THE SAME. THE SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO USE OTHER COMPONENTS OF IT.

MRS. KING ASKED REFERENCING TEMPORARY PERSONNEL STAFFING SERVICES, HOW MUCH OF THIS DO WE USUALLY USE ANNUALLY?

MR. HARDISON RESPONDED IT’S APPROXIMATELY ABOUT THE SAME AS LAST YEAR.

MRS. KING ASKED IS THIS TO COVER SERVICES FOR WHEN WE HAVE PEOPLE WHO ARE SICK?

MR. HARDISON RESPONDED VARIOUS REASONS: SUBSTITUTES.

VOTE: IN FAVOR: UNANIMOUS (7-0)

ADJOURNMENT: CHAIRWOMAN HARRIS ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 8:00 P.M.