

**KERSHAW COUNTY BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
BOARD MEETING
October 17, 2006**

The Kershaw County Board of School Trustees met in a regular session on October 17, 2006, at 7 p.m., in the media center at North Central High School. In accordance with the S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, amended, the following were notified of the time, date, place, and agenda of the meeting: WPUB/WCAM Radio; *Chronicle-Independent*; *Kershaw News-Era*; *Black News*; and *The State* newspapers.

The following were present: Mr. Dana A. Morris, chairman; Mr. M. Andrew James, vice chairman; Mrs. Sherri Brosius; Mr. Joseph Dorton, Jr.; Mrs. Kim Horton DuRant; Mrs. Mara Horton Jones; and Mr. Jim Smith. Absent were Mr. Gene Stokes, chaplain; and Mrs. Carol Thompson.

CALL TO ORDER

The chairman called the meeting to order, and Mr. Andy James opened with prayer.

Dr. Herb Berg introduced members of the media who were present: Terri Hyder, *The Chronicle-Independent*; and Bill Rozier, *The Kershaw County Current*. He also welcomed NCHS senior Adam Gunter who is attending his first Board meeting.

APPROVE AGENDA

Mr. Joey Dorton moved to approve the proposed agenda as presented, Mrs. Dim DuRant seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

- **Approve Comprehensive Health Education Advisory Committee members** – Mr. Joey Dorton made a motion to approve the Comprehensive Health Education Advisory Committee members, Mrs. Sherri Brosius seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The members recommended to fill vacant positions on the CHEAC are Tylisa Hill – teacher; Julie Putnam – parent; and Maria Springs – parent.

PUBLIC FORUM

No one signed up for Public Forum.

BUSINESS DISCUSSIONS / ACTION ITEMS

A. FACILITIES / OPERATIONS – Mr. Billy Smith

1. Facility equalization project update:

- a) **High School Plan for NCHS – (CHS; LEHS – if available) Hal Fuller – F W Architects, Inc.** – During a three-hour presentation, Mr. Fuller showed the Board plans for athletic and extracurricular upgrades in the District's three high schools. He reviewed design plans for each school beginning with **North Central High School**. The upgrades include:
 - New auditorium, gymnasium and field house
 - Renovations to existing football press box, locker rooms
 - Replacement of existing gym bleachers, basketball goals and basketball scoreboard
 - Pave track and add field events
 - New baseball field bleachers, new softball field bleachers and press box
 - New tennis courts, new tennis court lights and bleachers
 - New softball parking and student/band parking lot

School Board Meeting October 17, 2006

During each overview, the Board asked Fuller questions about details such as use of space, seating and placement of facilities for visiting athletes. Trustees discussed security issues throughout the meeting.

Mr. Bill Smith emphasized it was important at all three schools to separate visiting teams' locker rooms from school equipment to avoid vandalism. He stated that putting visiting teams with P.E. rooms is just not done.

Trustee Sherri Brosius suggested plans be reworked so North Central's auditorium could better support theater curriculum – which she stated would most likely be in higher demand as the area grows.

Board members asked Trustee Kim DuRant if her constituents had expressed concern over room for dramatic arts. She stated that everyone in the area was just so excited to be getting anything out there.

Improvements for Camden High School include:

- New auditorium
- New auxiliary gym
- New kitchen addition
- New baseball and softball concessions/press box
- New practice fields
- New tennis court lighting
- New soccer field lighting
- New softball field bleachers
- Pave track, add Field Events and storage

A 10-minute break was taken during the CHS review.

Renovations for Lugoff-Elgin High School include:

- New auxiliary gym
- New baseball, softball, and tennis court bleachers
- New dual concessions and toilets
- New football and soccer practice fields
- New softball field and tennis courts with lights, toilets and storage
- Renovate the existing locker rooms

Principal Tommy Gladden stated that the new design should take into account that fans from visiting teams should be separated from the home team. He emphasized that it is critical that security is in place, and these fans are separated.

North Central High School Athletic Director Ron Blackmon, Camden High School Athletic Director Jimmy Neal, and Lugoff-Elgin High School Athletic Director Scott Jones also attended the meeting to provide feedback for design plans. Mr. Jones stated that the new plans at LEHS should keep parking for visiting teams away from the home team and for security reasons; it is the most practical thing to do.

Mr. Billy Smith reported that the athletic directors and other staff from the high schools have been working with architects to refine plans. He stated that he went to the end-users, and he is trying to accommodate them.

*(Trustee Andy James left the meeting at 9:50 p.m.)

Trustee Mara Jones stated she wanted to be sure that the North Central community would be happy with the Board approving design plans for that school. She asked Principal Keith McAlister was he comfortable with the plan. Mr. McAlister stated that a dollar amount was allotted to them and he understands that fact. He stated that he would like some things to be bigger, but he doesn't know of anything that is not in there that they want. He stated that he feels like what is needed is in the plan - No more. No less.

**School Board Meeting
October 17, 2006**

2. **Six-month Maintenance Critical Needs Plan:** Mr. Billy Smith explained as requested, the Maintenance Department submitted their list of critical equipment needs for the next six months. This list was given to and discussed by the Finance Committee on Sept. 22, 2006. The committee requested the staff to indicate the funding source of each of the items on the list and clarification as to whether or not these were on the original five year capital plan done by Ross Beard a few years ago. Mr. Smith reviewed and discussed the list with the Board. The Board agreed to look into the North Central High School Concession stand roof being done in its entirety and hold it out until Mr. Billy Smith could bid it out. Trustee Mara Jones made a motion to approve the plan except for the NCHS Concession stand roof, Joey Dorton seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Smith is going to check on LEHS stadium light pole wiring with the architect to make sure this is wise to do with upcoming IPP Plans.
3. **School bus routes & ride times** – Mr. Billy Smith reviewed the school bus routes and ride times for 2006-07. He also reviewed a report which shows how much time has been saved by discontinuing the unnecessary hazardous stops. He reported that their goal is to get all bus routes under one hour and great strides have been made toward that goal, but all bus routes now are 1-1/2 hours or less, but the issue is controlled by the state. Dr. Berg reported he was going to write a letter to the State Department of Education to express concern about extended bus hours for handicapped students. Trustee Kim DuRant pointed out that in the North Central area; those students are boarding the buses as early as 5:30 a.m. Trustee Sherri Brosius requested a list of stops for all routes. Dr. Berg suggested that Mrs. Brosius could work with SCSBA as the Board's legislative liaison to try to get changes.

Trustee Jim Smith requested Mr. Ross Beard, Owner Representative for Construction and Maintenance, to explain to the Board how important approval is needed before any details on the projects could begin. Mr. Beard explained that HVAC production of certain units only occur once a year. It is scheduling verses demand. He explained that major boxes could be built, but until final plans are made, your hands are tied. Mr. Fuller added that there are a lot of complex things to work out, but we've got to come to a point where the Board approves schematics. The Board is working with an end-of-month deadline to get the high school projects under way. Dr. Berg stated there was a little more freedom with these high school projects compared to approving designs for two new middle schools.

Trustee Sherri Brosius wants to decide on SEAGUL in terms of its placement and the new middle school buildings. Dr. Berg responded and explained that Dr. Slayman has taken the report that was done by the College of Charleston consultant and met with staff members, teachers, principals, and others, and has put together a draft report recommending to decentralize the location of the District's SEAGUL program into the four middle schools so that each middle school is a center for SEAGUL education and the feeder elementary school SEAGUL students will go to their feeder middle schools – facility-wise, it will work in both of the buildings. He reported that this report is not ready for "prime time" but will be available in the near future.

Chairman Dana Morris mentioned that next week is the presentation on Jackson School. It appears to him that the 4th design is right on the minimums and he does not like anything right on the minimums, but, if the Board votes to build a new Jackson School, the administration needs to work on a plan and let the Board know what their recommendations are to best utilize the existing buildings (Jackson School and Camden Middle School). Relating to this – Chairman Morris stated that based on the Heery Report there is an assumption that Jackson School will automatically be built across the street from its existing site. Mr. Morris stated he has serious questions about having two elementary schools two blocks apart which will make

**School Board Meeting
October 17, 2006**

drawing attendance zones very difficult and doesn't the District need to be looking at the location as to where a new elementary school will be moved to – these are things for the Board members to be thinking about before next week's meeting.

Trustee Sherri Brosius reported that the LEHS library lost a lot of books due to the moisture problem and she would like to know what is going to be done to replace them.

Trustee Mara Jones stated her concern that a curriculum person should not be the person to send to check on mold/mildew at Lugoff Elementary. This should be a maintenance job.

Trustee Joey Dorton asked if any of the staff had been told not to talk to Board members. Dr. Berg immediately responded of none that he was aware of. Chairman Morris explained that Board members have to be careful what they ask staff because their conduit is through the superintendent and he passes it down through the chain of command. Trustee Mara Jones stated that when Board members go and ask employees in the schools they should not have a fear of answering their questions. Chairman Morris reminded Mrs. Jones that employees have to channel their concerns through their supervisors and it puts staff in an awkward position. Trustee Mara Jones reported that she was very disappointed in the way the moisture concern at Lugoff Elementary was handled and that a "high paying" supervisor was sent to the school to check the moisture situation, when it should have been handled by a maintenance employee.

B. INSTRUCTION – Dr. Slayman –

- 1. PACT 3-8 and Middle School EOCEP - Deferred to the next Board meeting.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Kim DuRant made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss a contractual matter. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mara Jones and approved by the Board.

The Board agreed by consent to take a ten-minute break prior to going into executive session.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

When the Board returned to open session, the chairman announced that during executive session the Board discussed several different contractual matters relating to purchase of real estate with no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Kim DuRant made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mrs. Mara Jones seconded, and the motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 11:50 p.m., with prayer by Chairman Dana Morris.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbert M. Berg
Secretary

mms