

Anderson County Board of Education  
402 Bleckley Street, Anderson, South Carolina 29625  
February 20, 2012

**Board Members Present:** Mr. David Draisen, Ms. Brenda Bradberry, Mr. Mike Brock, Dr. Gary Burgess, Mr. Dale Martin, Rev. Dr. Rufus Mitchell, Mr. Joey Nimmer, Ex Officio

**Board Members Absent:** Dr. Craig Drennon, Ms. Dana Grant, Mr. Steve Garrison

**Call to Order:** Mr. Draisen called the meeting to order. Rev. Dr. Mitchell gave the invocation after which everyone joined in the pledge of allegiance to the American Flag.

**Approval of Agenda:** Ms. Bradberry made the motion to approve the agenda with the revision to postpone the approval of ADM Accounts Payable and School Food Service Accounts Payable until next month. Dr. Burgess seconded the motion to approve the agenda with the revisions and the Board agreed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes—January 17, 2012 Meeting:** Mr. Martin made the motion to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2012 meeting. Rev. Dr. Mitchell seconded the motion, and the Board approved unanimously.

**Recognition of Media and Patrons / Public Comment Period:** Mr. Draisen welcomed Mr. Ken Martin to the meeting. There were no public comments at this time.

**Presentation of FY2010-2011 County Board Audit – Mr. Ken Martin, CPA:** Mr. Ken Martin stated Martin Smith and Company performed an audit of the Anderson County Board of Education using generally accepted governmental standards. Mr. Martin believes the County Board has a good system in place both internally and in dealing with the school districts and the Alternative School. Based on the routine testing of the daily transactions Mr. Martin found the accounting policies to be favorably conservative. In giving a positive report of the audit Mr. Martin said the County Board is presently in a strong financial position. The Board members thanked Mr. Martin for the presentation and the work done on the audit.

**Anderson County Alternative School Report:** Mr. Brock reported a total of 101 students attending the Alternative School at present. Mr. Nimmer stated the total enrollment this time last year was 84. Mr. Brock informed the Board the maximum number of students the Alternative School can enroll at one time is 130 students.

**Administrator's Report: Mr. Nimmer Reported:**

- A. The Board members should have the Statement of Economic Interest filled out online by April 15, 2012.
- B. Belton Honea Path High School won the State Wrestling Championship. The Board will be responsible for signs near the school announcing the honor.
- C. All arrangements have been made for the South Carolina School Boards Association conference.
- D. Growth rate for revenue continues as a positive trend at the state level. During the period July through January revenue grew at a 4.7% rate over last year which was up about 6% over the prior year. That represents an almost 11% growth over the last two years.
- E. Ms. Kitty Chivers, Grant Writer, retired as of January 31, 2012. Before leaving Ms. Chivers prepared a report for all the Board members. The Personnel Committee will soon be making formal recommendations for the impending vacancies due to employee retirement.

- F. There has been no change in the status of the Bowen Bill. The County Board attorney has recommended hiring a lobbyist if the bill is considered by the Committee of Education and Public Works but at present the bill is in the drawer with no action taken. Mr. Nimmer says he is keeping a close eye on the bill weekly.
- Ms. Bradberry asked if payment for annual leave days was budgeted for employees retiring. Mr. Nimmer replied that a limited number of days are budgeted for payment when an employee retires.

**Financial:**

- A. Tax Collections YTD vs. Budget:** Mr. Nimmer informed the Board that collections are strong. Districts One and Two are slightly lower than other districts due to funds collected and posted in February. District One had a collection the first of February that was booked on February 15<sup>th</sup> of over \$1million.
- B. Assessment Totals:** Assessment totals held steady and grew about \$100 per mill due primarily to automobile sales. All appeals should be taken care of as far as the 6% versus the 4% property. It is always good when new vehicle sales outpace depreciation.

**Old Business:** The Mental Health Committee met before the Board meeting and one of the issues discussed is that more counselors are needed in the schools. Ms. Bradberry requested the mental health counselors begin giving reports to the Board in the future. Mr. Draisen said the job performed by mental health counselors is actually crisis management with a goal of stabilization for the students. It was suggested Ms. Rene' Potter be asked to give an oral report of activities of the mental health counselors at the next Board meeting. Mr. Nimmer reported the County Board is actually spending about 67% to 74% of the budget on activities conducted at the school level.

**A. ADM Accounts Payable:**

- B. SFS Accounts Payable:** The accounts payable report was tabled until the March Board meeting.
- C. Committee Assignments for 2012:** Mr. Draisen asked if anyone wanted changes made to the committee assignments. Dr. Burgess suggested meeting to discuss the Bowen Bill and the need to make the public aware of how the money spent by the County Board benefits the schools in Anderson County.

Meeting Adjourned  
Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Brenda Bradberry, Secretary of the Anderson County Board of Education  
This is a true and correct copy of notes taken at the meeting.

