

**Anderson County Board of Education**  
**907 North Main Street, Suite 202, Anderson, South Carolina 29621**  
**March 16, 2015**

**Call to Order**

Chairman David Draisen called the meeting to order and Rev. Dr. Rufus Mitchell gave the invocation after which everyone joined in the pledge of allegiance to the American Flag.

**Board Members Present:**

The following board members were present for the March 2015 meeting: Ms. Brenda Bradberry, Mr. Mike Brock, Dr. Gary Burgess, Mr. Nakia Davis, Mr. David Draisen, Mr. Dale Martin, Rev. Dr. Rufus Mitchell, Mr. Mike Upton and Joey Nimmer, Ex Officio.

Ms. Dana Grant was not able to attend.

**Approval of Agenda**

Dr. Rev. Rufus Mitchell made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Mike Upton seconded motion and the agenda was approved with a unanimous vote.

**Approval of Minutes – February 23, 2015 Board Meeting**

Mr. Dale Martin made a motion to approve the minutes and was seconded by Dr. Gary Burgess. With a unanimous vote, the minutes were approved.

**Recognition of Media and Patrons / Public Comment Period**

Sharon Homer-Drummond made a comment about the Anderson County Board of Education web site not being up to date with past board minutes, meeting calendar, etc. Mr. Nimmer stated this is a function of the board secretary and, with Kim Davenport's untimely illness, he agreed that it did need to be updated. He recently provided information to the webmaster and there should be an improvement shortly.

**Anderson County Alternative School Report**

Mr. Mike Brock presented the report stating enrollment had dropped a bit with some BHP students returning to their home school. Ms. Bradberry asked if the 15 special education students were scattered throughout the grades or self-contained. Mr. Nimmer answered they were all resourced in the appropriate grades. Last year at this time there were 24 special education students and a second special education instructor was added with a long-term sub position through the end of last year. There were 104 students enrolled at this time last year so enrollment is about the same. Males are the majority. Ms. Brenda Bradberry asked how many teachers were on staff and Mr. Nimmer answered 9 full time. Also, bus drivers serve as aides and/or maintenance workers at the school.

## **Administrator's Report**

Mr. Nimmer began by reminding the Board that the Statement of Economic Interest must be done by noon on March 30, 2015. He also gave a brief update on the Board Secretary, Kim Davenport, letting everyone know she is back at home doing intense outpatient therapy through the rehab center. Ms. Bradberry asked if Kim had any help and Mr. Nimmer said her son lives in the home and several family members have come up from Florida to visit as well.

Two Days at the Capital in Columbia will be held on May 13, 2015. The Board office will register those that would like to attend. Mr. Draisen expressed his interest in attending.

The Greater Anderson Musical Arts Consortium (GAMAC) approached Mr. Nimmer on behalf of the Annual Youth Consortium asking for funding. They will be performing at the Rainey Fine Arts Center on March 27, 2015 and Musicians from the Upstate act as mentors to area students providing an opportunity to experience a professional level of performance excellence at an age in which they may become inspired to further develop their performance skills as they move on from high school. There will also be performances by the GAMAC Children's Chorus and by violinist Paul Aguilar. GAMAC will provide 500 complimentary tickets for students and an accompanying adult. Ms. Bradberry made a motion to donate \$150 for the Annual Youth Consortium and Dr. Burgess seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve. Ms. Bradberry added that she has attended this event in the past and enjoyed it immensely.

Mr. Nimmer reminded the Board it is time to start thinking about scheduling budget workshops. Ms. Bradberry mentioned that the same format used last year during the first two weeks in June seems to work well. Mr. Draisen mentioned he will be away the second week of June.

## **Financial**

Mr. Nimmer reported that all districts have remained fairly consistent with collections. District Four is slightly ahead due to more revenue derived from local sources. Everyone is ahead of last year by 2 or 3 percentage points except the Anderson County Board of Education since the Mental Health Counselor reimbursements come in June.

Assessment totals between January 31<sup>st</sup> and February 27<sup>th</sup> the value of a mill county-wide grew approximately \$230 due to vehicle sales. That also netted out an increase after some property value appeals have been processed. We saw a slight dip last month but that has now been offset with vehicle sales.

### **Old Business**

Dr. Burgess mentioned that he gave Tom Wilson a phone call to compliment him on the article in the Anderson Independent-Mail about the Career Technology Center Campus. Ms. Bradberry asked about the use of Lakeside Middle School as the new Career Technology Center Campus to catch up on anything she missed at the February meeting. Mr. Nimmer explained things are still in the preliminary stages, but if all goes as planned, some of the old school building will be torn down and built new and some areas may be salvaged and brought up to date. Mike Upton questioned organization accountability and how the charter would work. Mr. Nimmer explained this is still under study with the attorneys and yet to be determined. Structuring the governance of the new center could mean it will become the 7<sup>th</sup> education entity in the county.

Mr. Brock asked if Dr. Burgess had any more information on the internet connection for the underserved area. Mr. Nimmer said all information has been given to all districts for internet service for those needing upgrades. They have not heard any more as yet.

It has been proposed, that when new school buses are purchased, that they will have Wi-Fi service capabilities. Mr. Nimmer said last year it sounded a little extreme, however, if the internet access is made available then it does have merit. Mr. Brock asked how District One manages their internet access. Mr. Nimmer answered when the students are at school, they can download all study materials at school for use at home no matter if they have internet access at home or not.

### **New Business**

Ms. Bradberry made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Upton seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Dr. Burgess made a motion to exit to Executive Session to discuss a contractual matter. Mr. Martin seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Mr. Upton made a motion to sell the Bleckley Street property to the City of Anderson at the proposed price of \$199,075.00. The selling price was derived by averaging the value determined by two appraisals. Ms. Bradberry seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Draisen.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Gary Burgess, Secretary of the Anderson County Board of Education  
This is a true and correct copy of notes taken at the meeting.