

**MINUTES**  
**ANDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
402 Bleckley Street, Anderson, South Carolina 29625  
February 18, 2008

**Board Members Present:** Randy Price, Rev. Dr. Rufus Mitchell, Brenda Bradberry, David Draisen, Mike Brock, Jeff Kubu, John Sherard and Joey Nimmer, Ex Officio

**Board Members Absent:** Steve Garrison, Mike Gray

**Call to Order:** Mr. Draisen called the meeting to order. Rev. Dr. Mitchell presented the invocation. Everyone joined in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

**Approval of Agenda:** Ms. Bradberry made the motion to approve the agenda. Rev. Dr. Mitchell seconded the motion, and the Board agreed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:** Ms. Bradberry made the motion to approve the January 28, 2008 minutes. Rev. Dr. Mitchell seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve.

**Recognition of Media and Patrons / Public Comment Period:** Mr. Draisen welcomed the visitors: Mr. Hugh Smith, Superintendent of Anderson County School District Three, Mr. Keith Martin, Financial Director of Anderson School District Three, and Mr. Dan McLeod of McNair Law Firm, Mr. Brandon Grace who is manager of the Anderson County Farmer's Market, and Ms. Allison Schaum, Palmetto Agricultural Consultants. There were no public comments at this time.

**Presentation of Farm to School Program—Brandon Grace, Manager of the Anderson County Farmer's Market and Allison Schaum, Palmetto Agricultural Consultants--**Mr. Grace introduced the Farm to School Program by making the Board aware of the following expected positive results of the program: reduction in shipping long distances of food resulting in less fuel cost for shipping, higher quality produce, local organic produce, benefits to the local farmer therefore improving economy while offering students fresher, healthier produce. He stressed opportunities and resources coming together to create a successful situation for Anderson County. Mr. Grace reminded the Board of the close proximity to Clemson University's agricultural research facility. County Council has asked Mr. Grace to look into ways to support agricultural business. The process will be called the Anderson County Agricultural Initiative. Making the farmers more successful has the secondary effect of improving the health of people in the community as well as improving the environment, improving the land use and correcting zoning problems.

Ms. Schaum presented goals of the Farm to School Program as follows: Enhance local retail market, create distribution network to distribute local produce to school cafeterias, hospitals cafeterias, and restaurants; to train local farm businesses with workshops and seminars, and to eventually replace most foods in schools with local, fresh products. To begin the program, substitutions will be done gradually with products such as watermelons, cantaloupes, tomatoes, strawberries and cucumbers. South Carolina's first Farm to School Program will be "Grow With Me", a program allowing menu substitutions with local grown produce. Carolina Produce, a local distributor, has agreed to deliver the produce at no charge. Another

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goal is to have the produce ready to serve as if coming from the long distance distributors with no extra work for cafeteria employees.

After a brief discussion, the Board agreed the Farm to School Program was a good idea and hoped it would succeed.

**District Three Bond Resolution:** Mr. Dan McLeod presented resolutions for the issue of Series 2008 Bond and Series 2008B Bond on behalf of Anderson School District Three. The Series 2008 Bond authorizes a refunding of the school district 2000 Bonds which were approved in a 2000 Bond referendum. The amount of those bonds outstanding is a little short of \$7million that will be refunded. That resolution combines the remaining \$500,000 that was approved at last year's referendum on the Flat Rock Elementary School. There was a bond referendum for \$10,500,000 and last year the school district issued \$10 million of that authorization, and this is the remaining \$500,000 of that. The 2008 bonds are general obligation refunding and/or school building bonds. Depending on the bond market at the time more than likely the refunding and the additional \$500,000 will be offered as one single issue. The financial advisors will provide the school district with a break down internally of both issues. Neither issue counts against the school district's 8% debt limitation.

The Series 2008B resolution is \$500,000 within the school districts 8% debt limitation. Those bonds will be issued in late summer and paid off in March 2009. That is for completion of Flat Rock Elementary or some other capital improvement in the school district. Mr. Brock made the motion to approve the Series 2008 bond resolution by Anderson School District Three and repeal the prior resolution relating to the same bond issue adopted by the County Board at the May 21, 2007 meeting. Rev. Dr. Mitchell seconded the motion. After validating the bond issue had not been voted on twice, the Board voted unanimously to approve. Mr. McLeod agreed to send a substitute page for confirmation of the previous vote in 2007. Mr. Brock made the motion to accept the Series 2008B general obligation bonds. Ms. Bradberry seconded and the Board agreed unanimously.

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

1. Dr. Bruce Yandle will speak on March 11, 2008 at 5:00pm at the Anderson County Library. The Title of his talk will be "South Carolina and the New Knowledge Economy". We have invited all district boards of trustees and the superintendents.
2. The Board room has new chairs.
3. The winning logo was presented with the district corporate logos incorporated into it. Mr. Nimmer proposed the top three students attend the next Board meeting to be presented with a check, certificates of appreciation and to have photographs taken.
4. Mr. Nimmer presented the place mats and stationary brought to the Board by Dr. Joanne Avery from Dr. Burgess at School District Four from their student generated art program.

**Financial:**

- A. **Tax Collections YTD vs. Budget:** With District Two being a little behind, Mr. Nimmer was unable to reach the treasurer's office to find out if there were larger tax payers that might be behind in paying. Everyone else is mostly in line.
- B. **Assessment Totals:** Mr. Nimmer reported that Jacky Hunter cautioned vehicles dipped in the month of January because of normal depreciation on existing vehicles and less than stellar new sales.

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**Old Business: New Board Manual:** A letter from Richard Thompson was included in the Board's packets with an attached summary of answers to questions asked at the Board manual workshop. Mr. Nimmer also included copies of the actual laws Mr. Thompson referenced. Mr. Nimmer recommended having a follow up workshop now that legal issues were answered and addressed. He encouraged all Board members to review all pages of the summary because of some direct conflict between laws. Ms. Bradberry suggested putting a copy of the laws with the Board Manual for public viewing, if requested.

Mr. Kubu suggested a future addition to the agenda of pending projects. Mr. Nimmer reported the Strom Thurmond Institute is still in the research phase. They have addressed a couple of the Boards of Trustees.

**New Business:**

**A & B. ADM and SFS Accounts Payable:** Ms. Bradberry made the motion to pay the bills and Rev. Dr. Mitchell seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously. Mr. Kubu requested a more detailed description of accounts payable. It was noted the payment to the Chamber of Commerce was for an ad on a county map that has been done in the past and is created every two years.

**C. Committee Assignments for 2008:** Mr. Draisen asked for suggestions for a committee chairman for the Legislative Community Affairs Committee to replace Rev. Dr. Mitchell who will be the new Mental Health Advisory Committee chairman. Mr. Price asked if both the Legislative Committee and Public Relations Committee were needed. Ms. Bradberry stated a Legislative Committee was needed. Mr. Price made the motion to change the verbiage of the committees to have a Legislative Committee, remove the Community Affairs Committee completely, and to keep the Public Relations Committee as it stands. Mr. Sherard seconded the motion and the Board agreed unanimously. Mr. Draisen appointed Ms. Bradberry chairman of the Legislative Committee with Steve Garrison and Mike Gray as committee members.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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