

MINUTES
ANDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
402 Bleckley Street, Anderson, South Carolina 29625
March 20, 2006

Board Members Present: Shawn R. McGee, Thomas F. Allen, David Draisen, Phillip M. Brock, Reverend Rufus Mitchell, Brenda D. Bradberry, George R. Price, Steve Garrison, and Millard G. Smith, Ex Officio

Board Members Absent: Dr. Keith L. Cole

Others Present: Ms. Mandy Dockins, Ms. Paige Dockins, Ms. Miriam Holcombe, Mr. Dan McLeod, Dr. Paul Talmadge, Ms. Renee' Potter and Mr. David Brooks

Call to Order: Mr. McGee called the meeting to order. Mr. Brock led in the devotional. Everyone joined in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Approval of Agenda: Mr. Price requested an addition to the agenda concerning Anderson School Districts' boundary lines. The Board members voted in favor of the approval of the agenda.

Approval of Minutes: March 20, 2006 Meeting: With no corrections or changes to the minutes, Mr. McGee stated that they would stand as written.

Recognition of Media and Patrons/ Public Comment Period: Mr. McGee welcomed the visitors to the meeting. Dr. Talmadge informed the Board that District Five received 59 grants totaling \$86,351 for various programs.

District Five Resolution: Mr. McLeod introduced the Resolution of \$7.3 million for Anderson School District Five. He explained that the money would be distributed to the completion of the two new high schools, Calhoun Academy of Arts and for the demolition of the West Market Family Education Center. The leftover money would be used for improvements to existing schools. After a brief discussion of the current millage, interest rates, and length of completion of projects, the Resolution was unanimously approved by the Board with the motion being made to approve by Ms. Bradberry and second by Mr. Draisen.

District Three Resolution: Mr. McLeod introduced the resolution of \$10.5 million for Anderson School District Three. Some of the matters discussed were the bonds being bank qualified, millage increase, and the use of the money for the proposed new elementary school. Mr. Brock made the motion to approve the resolution, Mr. Allen seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution.

Budget Workshop Meeting Dates Established: The dates were presented for the budget workshop meetings, and members were asked to check their calendars to see if meeting dates and times would need to be rescheduled.

2005 Boardmanship Institute Recognition: Mr. Smith presented Mr. Draisen and Mr. Brock with certificates acknowledging their conference attendance with the South Carolina School Boards Association of Levels One and Two.

Student Achievement: Ms. Bradberry presented Miss Paige Dockins, daughter of Mandy and Dave Dockins, with a congratulatory certificate on being chosen a State Special Olympics Volunteer. Other awards won by the schools were recognized by Mr. Draisen and Mr. Price. Mr. Price stated that he had arranged for Congressman Gresham Barret to hear the presentation by the School District Four participants of the computer program being used in the classroom. After hearing the presentation, Congressman Barret is in the process of making School District Four Schools examples for other schools in the state. In the discussion that followed the Board Members agreed that the program is needed in our schools for the advancement of the students.

State Projections: Mr. Smith informed the Board of the projected teacher salaries and student funding as set forth by the State Department of Education and the School Boards Association from the budget passed by the House. Mr. Price stated that when there was extra money, it should be set aside for future use. Mr. Garrison said that the money was already mandated and designated. Mr. Smith told that the state inaccurately reports the number of students when allocating money to school districts. A discussion of Fee in Lieu of taxes followed. Mr. Garrison relayed an account of a student who had benefited from being at the Alternative School and said that if one student was helped by the Alternative School, it was worth it that the school be in existence.

YTD Tax Collections vs. Budget: Mr. Smith gave a report of how much money has been collected by the School Districts in comparison to their budgets for last year.

Old Business:

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- A.** Ms. Renee' Potter, mental health counselor, reported that the billing of Medicaid was still being researched by herself, Mr. Draisen, Mr. Lieb, and Mr. Smith. Since Medicaid billing can only be done by a medical professional, the members of this committee are exploring various methods of finding a qualified billing agent, one being the AnMed Family Practice Center.

B.

New Business:

- A.** Mr. Draisen gave highlights of the financial meeting he attended in Greenville sponsored by the School Boards Association. Reverend Mitchell reported on A Day at the Capitol that he and Mr. Draisen attended where they talked to Representative Becky Martin, Representative Ronnie Townsend and many of the State Legislators.
- B.** The ADM and SFS accounts payable were unanimously approved by the Board.
- C.** Mr. Price wished to discuss the School District boundary lines and asked if parents could choose in which district their children could attend school if they lived on the "buffer line". Mr. Garrison stated that there is some leeway. The question was also asked if a student could be taken by another district other than the one in which they live if they make financial payment. Mr. Garrison said that the superintendents would have to agree and would take into consideration logistic or medical necessity and workplace of parents. Mr. Smith said that Bobby Bower would be able to advise what could and could not be done as far as student attendance.
- D.** Mr. Allen passed out FamIn\$ite information for School District Five after which there was a brief discussion comparing budget allocations from previous years.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

David Draisen, Secretary, Anderson County Board of Education

This is a true and correct copy of notes taken at the meeting.

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