

**MINUTES**  
ANDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
402 Bleckley Street, Anderson, South Carolina 29625  
April 16, 2007

**Board Members Present:** Randy Price, David Draisen, Jeff Kubu, Mike Brock, Reverend Rufus Mitchell, Brenda Bradberry, Mike Gray, John Sherard, Steve Garrison and Joey Nimmer, Ex Officio

**Board Members Absent:** All were present.

**Others Present:** Ms. Betty Bagley, Mr. Art Kaldas, Mr. Brantley Jordan, Ms. Alison Newton, Mr. Richard Bradshaw

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

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

**Approval of Corrected Minutes, February 19, 2007 Meeting:** Ms. Bradberry made the motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Rev. Mitchell seconded the motion and the Board agreed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes, March 19 2007:** Ms. Bradberry made the motion to approve the minutes, Mr. Gray seconded the motion and the Board voted all in favor of the approval.

**Recognition of Media and Patrons/ Public Comment Period:** Mr. Price welcomed the visitors to the meeting and commended Ms. Newton on her newspaper articles.

**School District Five Presentations:** Ms. Bagley, Superintendent of Anderson School District Five, presented a power point presentation outlining the proposed building project which would accommodate the growth taking place in School District Five. Ms. Bagley, in presenting the figures of the new homes built in subdivisions in School District Five and the number of children these homes represent, assured the audience that every figure had been verified. The past growth and projected growth of enrollment presents the need for special education, student intervention, art, music, computer lab, gifted and talented, speech therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and language programs. In order to accommodate these new programs and the large growth in enrollment, future plans are to build: (1) a middle school to accompany McCants, (2) a new elementary school, (3) a new middle school to replace Southwood Middle, (4) additions and renovations to existing elementary schools, (5) additions to existing high schools, (6) renovations to middle schools, (7) renovations to Hanna-Westside Extension Campus, and (8) major capital improvement projects.

Additions and renovations in the form of science and computer labs, classrooms, cafeteria upgrades, safety items and interior improvements are being planned. Other additions and renovations would be classrooms, gyms, refurbishing tennis courts and air condition updates. Southwood would be converted to an arts magnet school. Calhoun Academy of the Arts would receive the addition of a 1000 seat auditorium. Asbestos would be eliminated. Ms. Bagley's presentation included a synopsis of debt service plans to repay bonded indebtedness which would include selling it in two different bond issues. A summary of the debt service plan is attached. Mr. Garrison asked if the \$140,000,000 included the purchase of the property. Ms. Bagley replied that it did and that inflation was also built into the cost estimation. Mr. Kubu asked if the project would be awarded to one company. Ms. Bagley stated that their Board would make the decision to go with one or two companies. Ms. Bradberry asked if District Five had a superintendent of building and maintenance to which Ms. Bagley replied that they have a director of building and grounds. Mr. Gray complemented Ms. Bagley on the good job done by the creators of the power point presentation. Ms. Bradberry shared her concern that the high schools may become too large. A discussion followed concerning sale of old buildings, the futility of trying to renovate some older buildings, the consistency of all children in District Five being able to receive the same quality of education, establishment of foreign language programs, the definition of capacity, and virtual school. The Board thanked Ms. Bagley for her presentation.

#### **Anderson County Alternative School Report:**

**Administrator's Report:** Mr. Nimmer presented brief accounts of:

- (1.) Attending South Carolina School Business Officers Conference, April 25
- (2.) Announced his family is now moved to the Upstate
- (3.) Naming of building for Millard Smith—Michael Thompson working on state resolution recognizing Mr. Smith for his contributions to education. Talked to Bob Waldrip about doing the same thing on the county level so that at the dedication, resolutions from the State and County can be presented to the family at the same time. Research is being done to acquire prices on a plaque for the building.
- (4.) Reported on a meeting with Bob Waldrep, County Council Chairman; Jason Phillips, County Treasurer; Jacky Hunter, County Auditor to discuss financing on a County level
- (5.) Reported on a meeting with members of the Legislative Delegation, chairmen of the Boards of Trustees and the School Superintendents. Mr. Nimmer was well pleased with the relationships being made between the County Board of Education and the County Governmental Units.
- (6.) Informed the Board of Jacky Hunter's bypass surgery and that he was doing well and expected to be back in the office soon.

Mr. Price praised Mr. Nimmer for the tremendous strides he has taken to develop working relationships between the Board and the community.

**Financial: Tax Collections TYD vs. Budget:** Mr. Nimmer reported that tax collections are right on schedule for this time of year. He said that growth has taken care of reassessments with respect to adjusting ad valorem taxes on automobiles. The State

mandated decrease in assessments ratio for vehicles has been offset by growth. Mr. Price stated that Mr. Hunter said that this would impact the small businesses and owners of airplanes, boats, second homes and property. It would be a shift of the tax burden. Mr. Nimmer said that was in the out year. In the initial year, because of the way the State set it up and the fact that you do not have to base your assumptions on a 97% collection, you are getting the value of 100% collections in that first year which provides a small cushion the first year. In out years when growth is capped, population growth and new schools provide a challenge which District Five will be dealing with.

**Old Business:** Mr. Gray brought the Board up to date on the meeting with the Riley Institute of Furman University which was rescheduled for April 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Nimmer had also talked to the director of the Institute for Public Policy and Research at USC who was interested in doing a study in this area. Mr. Price made it clear that the Board had the right to pursue this study or not, according to what they believed was the best avenue to take.

Mr. Kubu introduced the idea that the County Board logo could be changed to represent education and a more professional image. He suggested students be approached on their ideas. Mr. Kubu made the motion that the Board explore developing a new logo for the Anderson County Board of Education. Also included in the motion was the designation of this project to the PR committee. Rev. Mitchell seconded the motion and after a discussion on allowing the middle and high schools to participate in a contest, the Board voted unanimously to approve.

**New Business:** Mr. Gray made the motion to pay ADM and SFS accounts payable. Mr. Garrison seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously to approve.

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