

**MINUTES**  
ANDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
402 Bleckley Street, Anderson, South Carolina 29625  
March 17, 2008

**Board Members Present:** David Draisen, Rev. Dr. Rufus Mitchell, Mike Brock, John Sherard, Mike Gray and Joey Nimmer, Ex Officio

**Board Members Absent:** Steve Garrison, Jeff Kubu, Randy Price, Brenda Bradberry

**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:** Rev. Dr. Mitchell made the motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Gray seconded the motion, and the Board agreed unanimously. At this time, Mr. Draisen appointed Mr. Brock as acting secretary in the absence of Ms. Bradberry.

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

**Recognition of Media and Patrons/Public Comment Period:** Mr. Draisen welcomed the visitors: Dr. Joanne Avery, Ms. Heidi Cenae, Ms. Danita Swaney, Ms. Beverly Schwerdtfeger, Ms. Jennifer McLean, and Ms. Alyssa Simpson.

**Recognition of Student Logo Art Contest Finalists:** Mr. Nimmer explained the ways the new logo would be used and expressed the appreciation of the Board for a job well done by all the participants. The requirements for the new logo were that the work must have been completed by a ninth to twelfth grade student in an Anderson County School, incorporate the logos of the five Anderson County School Districts, and be accompanied by an appropriate slogan. Mr. Draisen presented the awards to the winners of the logo art contest as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> place and winner of a \$200 check, Jennifer McLean; 2<sup>nd</sup> place and winner of a \$100 check, Alyssa Simpson; 3<sup>rd</sup> place and winner of a \$50 check, Brittany Kinnard. Mr. Nimmer explained many of the ways the new logo would be used such as on the County Board letterhead and future plaques and awards.

**Anderson County Alternative School Report:** Mr. Brock passed out information of active enrollment, current number of students in each grade and the reasons students left the Alternative School from August 21, 2007 through February 29, 2008. Mr. Draisen asked if enrollment was down, would expenses also be down. Mr. Nimmer replied there would still be the same number of teachers. Mr. Gray asked if there were any elementary students attending the Alternative School. Mr. Nimmer informed the Board that District Four now operates the sixth grade in their elementary school.

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

1. The South Carolina School Board Association conference was informative and enjoyed by everyone attending.
2. A Day at the Capital, sponsored by the South Carolina School Board Association, will be held Wednesday, April 23. Mr. Draisen gave a description of some of the activities to be expected at A Day at the Capital.
3. Dr. Bruce Yandle gave an excellent speech on the South Carolina New Knowledge Economy. Although the attendance was disappointing, the message was very well

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- received by the group attending. The power point presentation of Dr. Yandle's speech is posted on the web site. Mr. Draisen asked about the publicity for the presentation. Mr. Nimmer explained because of limited seating capacity personal invitations were limited to all school superintendents, all members of the local Boards of Trustees and our Board. He suggested that invitations to future presentations include an RSVP.
4. The Strom Thurmond Institute is continuing work on the study.
  5. The library sent information of town meetings for long term strategic planning concerning the needs of the citizens of the County.
  6. Mr. Price received a letter in response to his letter to the editor written in December and each Board member was given a copy.

**Financial:**

- A. **Tax Collections YTD vs. Budget:** All districts are on target with four months left in the fiscal year. Everyone is within the 73% to 78% range on all their income. The Tier 3 property tax relief money will be caught up in June for all the current year's taxes. There will be a large lump sum payment that comes in at that point for every district. All other revenues are in line with where they should be.
- B. **Assessment Totals:** Jacky Hunter had concerns that due to the very poor sales on automobiles, the assessment totals might slip, but there has been enough new sales to hold everything steady.

**Old Business: New Board Manual:**

- A. **County Board Projects Update:** Mr. Nimmer reminded the Board they had agreed to wait until Ms. Bradberry returned from the Holy Land before scheduling the next Board manual workshop.
- B. **Mr. Draisen** asked about the progress of the mental health program. Mr. Nimmer assured the Board the newest mental health counselor and the program was performing well. He met with Duke Power representatives to see if it would be possible to continue receiving a grant to aide the growth of the mental health program.

**New Business:**

**A & B. ADM and SFS Accounts Payable:** Rev. Dr. Mitchell made the motion to pay the bills. Mr. Gray seconded the motion, and the Board agreed unanimously. Mr. Nimmer stated the first installment to the Strom Thurmond Institute was included in the accounts payable this month. Mr. Gray suggested a meeting with the Strom Thurmond institute to be informed of their progress in conducting the study. Mr. Nimmer agreed to arrange the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.  
Respectfully submitted,

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

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