

Williston School Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
February 19, 2013
District Board Room
7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Vice-Chair Scotty M. Richardson called the February 19, 2013, regular monthly business meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Vice-Chair Scotty M. Richardson, Secretary Chris R. Rivers, and Trustees Doris B. Young and Billy A. Williams, Jr.

Members absent: Chairman J. Calvin Melton

Noting a quorum was present.

Media: Jonathan Vickery (The People Sentinel)

Also present for the meeting were Superintendent Dr. Tom Siler, Director of Special Services Jeriah Owens, Director of Instruction Dr. Rachel Wall, Directory of Finance Sally Kardes, Principals Nakeisha Baxley, Dr. Eavon Hickson and Dr. Brian Newsome, Recording Secretary Debbie McNeil, and approximately 14 guests.

Before the invocation was given, Vice-Chair Scotty Richardson made the following statement:

Before the invocation and pledge I would like for us to pause for a moment of silence to remember the family of Board Chair J. Calvin Melton. Mr. Melton lost his fight against cancer on February 6, 2013. The void due to his absence does not go unnoticed tonight as this governmental body, this Board, continues to move forward. Chairman Melton's last words to us conveyed unity in our purpose of doing what is best in the interest of children.

A moment of silence was observed by all in remembrance of Board Chair J. Calvin Melton.

2. Invocation/Pledge Allegiance to the American Flag

The Invocation was given by Mr. Rivers followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

3. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Richardson called for a motion to approve the agenda.

MOTION Mrs. Young SECOND Mr. Williams

ACTION Approved Unanimously

4. Executive Session: Legal Briefing

Mr. Richardson called for a motion for the Williston School Board of Trustees to enter into executive session for the matter of legal briefing.

MOTION Mr. Rivers SECOND Mrs. Young

ACTION Approved Unanimously

The Williston School Board of Trustees entered into executive session at 7:04 pm, joined by Ms. Shirley Fawley of the Law Offices of Childs & Halligan.

Mr. Richardson called for a motion to adjourn executive session.

MOTION Mr. Rivers SECOND Mrs. Young

ACTION Approved Unanimously

The Williston School Board of Trustees adjourned executive session at 7:20 pm.

5. Action on matters discussed in Executive Session

No action was taken.

6. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Richardson called for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2013 regular business meeting.

MOTION Mrs. Young SECOND Mr. Rivers

ACTION Approved Unanimously

7. Honors and Achievements

Dr. Siler recognized and presented a certificate to 9th grader, Michael Lee, for having placed 3rd in the senior division of the Lower Savannah Education and Business Alliance through Orangeburg Calhoun Technical College Poetry and Poster Contest.

8. Citizens' Participation

No one addressed the Board of Trustees at this time.

9. Instructional Update: High School Presentation

Principal Dr. Brian Newsome, Guidance Counselor Alison Brown, and Career Development Facilitator Cathy Smith, gave the Board an update on ways they are helping prepare the high school students for college and careers after graduation. Thomas Stanton, a 10th grader at Williston-Elko High School, highlighted the Board on serving on the Principal's Advisory Council.

10. Continuing Business

10.1 Human Resources Update

Dr. Siler informed the Board of several teaching positions available for the 2013-14 school year. He also informed the Board that he is working together with Barnwell School Districts 19 and 45 to sponsor a leadership degree program.

10.2 Operations Update

Dr. Siler gave the Board information on the new district website which will go live on March 29, 2013. He also updated the Board on the repairs and replacement of old HVAC units in the district.

10.3 Legislative Update

Dr. Siler gave a brief legislative update.

10.4 Finance Update

Dr. Siler informed the Board of the increased travel cost from \$1.59 per mile to \$1.75 per mile. Director of Finance Sally Kardes was on hand to answer any questions pertaining to the December financial report.

11. New Business

11.1 2013-14 Administrative Recommendations

Dr. Siler recommended the Board approve the 6 administrative positions for the 2013-14 school year, which included Ms. Nakeisha Baxley as the Kelly Edwards Elementary Principal who is currently serving as interim principal.

MOTION Mrs. Young SECOND Mr. Rivers

ACTION Approved Unanimously

11.2 Board Policies: Sections A & B

Dr. Siler recommended the Board approve the revisions of sections A & B as first and final reading with the exception of policy BDE which will be the first of 2 readings as this is a new policy.

MOTION Mrs. Young SECOND Mr. Williams

ACTION Approved Unanimously

11.3 Out of State Field Trip Requests

Dr. Siler recommended the Board approve the out of state field trip request presented.

MOTION Mrs. Young SECOND Mr. Rivers

ACTION Approved Unanimously

11.4 CPA Contract Renewal

Dr. Siler recommended the three-year contract with our current auditors, Rish and Enzastiga, be renewed.

MOTION Mrs. Young SECOND Mr. Williams

ACTION Approved Unanimously

11.5 Salary Study Committee Report

Dr. Siler recognized Dr. Sharon Wall, Dr. Jimmy Littlefield and Mr. Gerald Moore of the Student Centered Education Consultants Group who provided the Board with an overview of our district’s salary schedules. Dr. Siler recommended the Board approve to move forward with the implementation of the salary schedules for preliminary budgeting purposes and to determine placement of all employees especially those individuals currently not on any schedule.

MOTION Mr. Williams SECOND Mr. Rivers

ACTION Approved Unanimously

12. Items for Board Information

Dr. Siler presented the Board with information only at this time.

13. Adjournment

Mr. Richardson called for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION Mr. Williams SECOND Mr. Rivers

ACTION Approved Unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Scotty M. Richardson, Board Vice-Chair

Debra W. McNeil, Recording Secretary