

CALHOUN FALLS CHARTER SCHOOL
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 13, 2009 @ 5:00 P. M.
MINUTES FROM THE MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2009

MEETING LOCATION:
CALHOUN FALLS CHARTER SCHOOL LIBRARY
205 EDGEFIELD STREET
CALHOUN FALLS, SC 29628

CALL TO ORDER

Calhoun Falls Charter School Board met in a scheduled meeting with Chairman Keith Ashley presiding. Board members present were Michael Alewine, Bert Broadwell, Joseph Cade, Dale Gilchrist, Horace Thomas and Peggy Lee Waters. Also present: Principal Deirdre McCullough, Assistant Principal Lori Lindler and Bill Moser of Kelley-Moser Consulting. Board members Heather Hatchett and Michael V. Johnson were absent.

Mr. Ashley called the meeting to order at 5:05 P.M. and asked Mrs. McCullough to open the meeting in prayer. Mr. Ashley led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mrs. Lindler read the Mission Statement.

BUDGET REPORT

Mr. Moser stated the \$555.00 we were told we would receive per student has changed to 321.00, he called earlier in the day to ask why and was informed it was based on last year's 135th day head count at the district. The district now has more students. Mrs. Lindler stated they took the \$135. ADM money based on the number they had on the 135th day of last year and divided it, further stating that is illegal. Mr. Moser asked Mrs. Lindler to please tell somebody it's illegal, Mrs. Lindler asked who do we tell. Mr. Moser stated he did not know but Paula Gray is acting Superintendent and is doing as good a job as we can expect. The new Superintendent takes office on October 1, he is from Laurens District 56. Mrs. McCullough stated the new Finance Director may be making these decisions but stated she does not know who that person is. Mr. Ashley stated surely the funds will be adjusted and we'll be reimbursed. If it's based on last year's numbers the new schools shouldn't receive those funds. He added CFCS didn't receive those funds last year, we were penalized. Mr. Moser added they are holding our health funds out of our EFA and that was never an agreement. If you look at end of August figures we were in the hole \$10,000. therefore they owe us 33,000. from our Title 1 from last year. We've put in claims for this year's Title 1 and it hasn't been resolved. Mrs. McCullough stated she had called earlier in the day and was told the paperwork is at the State Department now and they should have it to us within a week. She added she has consistently checked each week. Mr. Ashley asked if she was speaking of Paula Gray, Mrs. McCullough stated no, it is Linda Hawkins at the State Department and I asked her to overnite it to us and she assured Mrs. McCullough she would. Mr. Alewine asked where is the hold up. Mrs. McCullough and Mr. Moser stated the hold up is with the District. Mr. Ashley asked if all P & I funds from last year have been spent. Mrs. Lindler stated they have been closing that out. Mr. Moser stated we have not

received the first federal funds, ARRA, which we should have received ½ in April and ½ in September. Mr. Ashley asked how much money were they speaking of. Mr. Moser stated the total IDEA amount was \$49,000. and 24,000. each in April and September.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Ashley recognized teachers Ms. Anna Edmunds and Ms. E'Toya Brown and asked if they had comments. Ms. Edmunds asked who writes grants. Mr. Alewine stated Monique Bell writes her grant each year for the Victim Advocate and she does a good job. Mrs. Waters' stated Adrian Padner has stated she would be glad to help us with grants. Mr. Broadwell stated Chris McCaslan also writes grants for the Fire Department.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mrs. McCullough stated we have 230 students enrolled, a parent had requested records earlier in the day but another student was registering in October. She stated she has not received the student handbook but it is a large project and it should be here next week. She added she has met with the students by class and they know the rules. Mrs. McCullough asked Ms. Brown to share her experience concerning cell phones Ms. Brown reported the cell phone issue is smooth compared to that of the past. Mrs. McCullough added the students are testing Mr. Wonga, one of the new teachers, but he is handling it well, he is a pleasure and the students like him. Mrs. McCullough also stated the overall atmosphere is much improved, we have the right people in place. She stated she walks the halls and teachers are teaching from bell to bell. The students are issued 3 restroom passes each 9 weeks, if they need additional breaks they will remain after school with that teacher for as long as the teacher deems necessary or take lunch detention. Mrs. McCullough stated she cannot say enough about how well the students are behaving and how well the teachers are performing. Mrs. Lindler stated she walks down the halls and feels as though a weight has been lifted. Mrs. McCullough stated she is very proud of our students and teachers.

Mr. Ashley asked Mrs. McCullough if she has met with Dela Howe and she stated the meeting is planned on tomorrow morning.

Mr. Broadwell stated people have been expressing interest in a PTO. Mr. Ashley stated he is all for it.

Mrs. McCullough stated the open house is the 29th and she will discuss a PTO that night.

Mr. Ashley stated the "Fall for the Falls" is planned for October 3 at the school and we've been asked not to add anything without talking to Mr. Tinsley. Mrs. Waters stated she asked if the Booster Club could participate and was told no. Mr. Ashley stated it is his understanding the school will benefit from the festival.

Mr. Ashley stated the Stevenson's have been working on the fund raising program and preparing a pamphlet which will be printed soon.

Mr. Ashley asked how Service Learning is going. Mrs. McCullough stated the students do not have the forms yet because they are in the handbook, which haven't come in yet but some students have come by the office to pick up a form to get started.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Alewine made a motion to go into Executive Session and was seconded by Mrs. Gilchrist, motion passed.

AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no business following Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Alewine made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Mrs. Gilchrist. Motion passed.

Mr. Ashley adjourned the meeting at 7:30 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Lee Waters

