

**CALHOUN FALLS CHARTER SCHOOL**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**May 12, 2009 @ 5:00 P. M.**  
**MINUTES FROM THE MEETING HELD ON**  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 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 Bert Broadwell, Joseph Cade, Dale Gilchrist, Heather Hatchett, Horace Thomas and Peggy Lee Waters. Also present: Principal Deirdre McCullough, Assistant Principal Lori Lindler and Bill Moser of Kelley-Moser Consulting. Board members Michael Alewine and Michael V. Johnson were absent.

Mr. Ashley called the meeting to order at 5:00 P. M. and asked Mrs. McCullough to open the meeting in prayer. Mr. Ashley led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mrs. Hatchett read the Mission Statement.

**BUDGET REPORT**

Mr. Moser stated we are  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way through the year and recommend board members go to the sponsor and say the law states you can take 2% but you don't need it. Also, that they have given funds at the beginning of the year to run this district and we want our sponsor to refund our 2% which is 10,700.00 through March. The district does not need our 10,700.00 to operate. Mrs. McCullough asked Mr. Moser if the district receives grant money. Mr. Moser stated they receive EFA and EIA funds and they should evaluate, improve, disapprove and sponsor charter schools. Mr. Moser stated he is in an awkward position with the superintendent due to nasty remarks he has made about Mr. Moser's company. He further stated he plans to file a complaint with the Governor and Attorney General. He also stated he feels the district is not looking out for our welfare, we haven't received our map funding and it's testing time and our IDA money has not come in. The law clearly states the State Department should get these funds to us within 5 months of opening. Mr. Ashley asked if he should speak with Dr. Daniel to which Mr. Moser answered yes. Mr. Ashley stated he had asked the district to come to our facility for one of their meetings. Mr. Ashley stated the bill on the floor will be life or death for charter schools. Mr. Moser stated we have done well this year considering the limitations we have had with our budget. Mrs. McCullough asked Mr. Moser if the state had moved the date for teacher contracts, Mr. Moser stated yes, they have extended to May 1.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Mr. Ashley recognized Rickey Holland to speak to the Board who stated he did not get clear answers at the last meeting concerning suspended athletes. Mrs. McCullough stated she leaves the punishment to

the coach. Mr. Ashley stated our school adopted the ACSD policy. Mrs. McCullough stated there were issues with communication and she had met personally with the basketball team, coaches and parents. She reported she met with Mr. Watkins and asked him to make sure he informs spring Coaches of the policy. Mrs. McCullough stated she asked coaches after the last meeting if they received the policy and they had not. She stated she then understood why she was confused at last month's meeting when Mr. Holland had questions. She further stated the policy adopted was the ACSD policy but not for athletics. The policy is a guideline; some things are left up to the coach. Coach Cade has the privilege of applying his rules. Mrs. McCullough stated she does not have time to make sure all these things are done; she hires and expects employees to fulfill obligations and job descriptions. She further apologized to Mr. Holland for not knowing the meeting had not taken place. Mr. Holland asked if he was correct in saying if a student athlete is suspended from school, that athlete will not participate in the next event. Mrs. McCullough stated no, that is what I went by and what should have been issued, but has not. Mrs. McCullough stated she assumes the coaches have come up with their own discipline. Mrs. McCullough stated this policy is what she recommends. Mr. Holland asked what she would do if the coach is not following procedure. Mrs. McCullough stated she will deal with that at the Administrative level and work through the Athletic Director. Mrs. McCullough apologized for the many inconsistencies during the year. Mr. Holland asked if the board is informed about problems with staff members. Mrs. McCullough stated if it's something pressing that the public is concerned about she will call the Chairman and leave it up to him to share with the board. Issues brought to the Board will be discussed in Executive Session; I want to keep our Chairman as informed as possible. Mr. Ashley stated there are 9 board members and if he feels it necessary he will call a special meeting. Mr. Holland stated there are issues Mr. Ashley may think are not important to the Board but the board may feel otherwise. Mr. Ashley stated it is his discretion. Mrs. McCullough stated Mr. Cade had the rules and followed them and believes the other coaches would have done so as well. Mr. Cade stated if an issue is brought to him by a community member that he is not familiar with, what should he do? They may also ask what we plan to do about a situation. Mr. Ashley stated he could call each board member but it is time consuming. Mrs. Hatchett mentioned the use of mass e-mail. Mrs. Lindler stated if an individual questions a board member about an issue that person should be referred to Mrs. McCullough. Mr. Broadwell stated if someone approaches a board member they should make no comments and redirect them to Mrs. McCullough.

Mrs. Frances Tucker asked if there were plans for summer school. Mrs. McCullough and Mrs. Lindler stated there were no plans but as soon as they received information from other schools they would let students know.

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Ford asked to speak to the Board during Executive Session.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mrs. Waters informed Board members the minutes from the last meeting were not ready.

#### **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

Mrs. McCullough reported the line of credit has been paid in full. The Town has generously made arrangements to acquire another line of credit on our behalf.

Mrs. McCullough stated they are ready for map testing but dates are not set yet. The ASAP testing is set for next week. She further stated Jasmine Haddon was a state winner at the HOSA Convention. She placed first and will represent CFCS at the nationals in Tennessee.

Mrs. McCullough stated all is going well and we will soon assign committees to the dress and behavior codes and the code of conduct. Anyone willing to serve should let her know. With the quick start last year we have noticed areas along the way we want to reevaluate. We want to raise standards because we have a vision for our school, raising the standards in all areas of academics, athletics and character.

Mrs. Lindler stated a date will be set soon for the 5<sup>th</sup> graders to visit the campus. Also, we have had signs made to place around the community for registration. Graduation is June 5 at 7:30.

Mr. Ashley asked if a date had been set for the Athletic Banquet. Mrs. McCullough stated it is May 7 at 6:00.

Mrs. McCullough stated she is also working on a date for the Academic Banquet and the Prom is May 2.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Ashley stated if we look at the fund raising column in our budget the amount is \$10,229. We must every Board member to sell as many raffle tickets as possible. He further stated a planning meeting is necessary for the Annual Fund Raising Banquet, on next Monday at 4:00.

Mrs. Hatchett asked Mrs. McCullough why the office continues to be closed during lunch saying she has had parents to ask. Mrs. McCullough stated that is something she has not addressed, but stated she would if the board felt it necessary. Next year it will be open during lunch to be more professional. Mr. Ashley stated it is an inconvenience and thinks it should be addressed. Mrs. Hatchett stated she doesn't care for so many students in the office. Mr. Broadwell agreed saying he has heard several parents say there are too many students in the office. Mrs. McCullough stated if this is an issue for the board, it is an issue for the school. Mr. Ashley stated Mrs. Hunnicutt should be careful with confidentiality.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Ashley stated during his trips to Columbia he has asked for more money for charter schools. It is necessary that we contact our representatives. He further stated the projected savings of \$40 million by 2010 with 10,000 students in charter schools. Mr. Ashley stated he challenged Paul Agnew to tell him how we can run our school on so little money. We should be going door to door informing our community of the importance of contacting our lawmakers.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Cade made a motion to go into Executive Session and was seconded by Mr. Thomas. With no opposition, motion passed.

#### **FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Broadwell made a motion to accept Mrs. McCullough's recommendation to hire Mr. Mike Craig as CFCS Athletic Director and Head Football Coach and at a position unknown at this time to be paid

through Title I funds. He was seconded by Mrs. Gilchrist. Motion passed unanimously, with 4 members in favor. Mr. Cade abstained. Mrs. Hatchett left the meeting before Executive Session.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Broadwell made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Mr. Thomas. There was no opposition. Mrs. McCullough stated Coach Craigo asked that we hold the announcement if possible until he has time to speak with his employer.

Mr. Ashley adjourned the meeting at 8:24 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peggy Lee Waters