

# Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MEETING MINUTES

MAY 12, 2021

---

### **REVISED**

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held via teleconference on May 12, 2021, beginning at 12:00 p.m., in the Board Room of the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School.

Board members present via teleconference:

Mrs. Doris Adams	Mr. Dan Dobson
Mr. Stewart Cooner	Mr. Reggie Thomas
Mrs. Marilyn Edwards-Taylor	Mr. Michael Moss
Mr. Russell Hart	Mr. Greg Vaughn
<b>Mrs. Deborah Blalock</b>	

Staff members present via teleconference:

Mr. Pat Smith	Mrs. Shannan Woovis
Mr. Scott Poovey	

---

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 p.m.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Mr. Cooner made a motion to approve the agenda and Mr. Vaughn seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Mr. Cooner made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 10, 2021 meeting and Mrs. Adams seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Smith reported on the following:

- Mr. Cooner, Mr. Moss and Mr. Vaughn were re-elected to the Board on May 5, and Mrs. Cheryl Fralick was elected to replace the seat held by Russ Hart. Mrs. Fralick is a long-time educator within the Lexington School District One.
- The new billboard design has been approved and will be placed strategically throughout South Carolina within the next few months. The poll banners have been placed along the campus.
- The Wil Lou Gray historical marker has been ordered and will be placed on campus to avoid DOT restrictions.
- Miss Bellaire and I will attend the SCASA conference in June.
- The "Empowered to Win" College and Career Summit was held on April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, brochure is included in the Board report.
- Representative Collins' H3242 Bill relating to the authority for the Opportunity School to received public school drop-out names remains in committee.

# Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MEETING MINUTES

MAY 12, 2021

- A former cadet, David Anderson, was recognized for his voice-over talent and was offered future work with Unapologetically Free Radio, an iHeart subsidiary.
- GED testing is underway and our first cadet passed on Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. We expect to exceed 100 GEDs for the eleventh consecutive year.
- FY20' audit is underway and there has been no indication of substantial findings.

### **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**Mr. Thomas made a motion to approve the personnel actions and Mrs. Blalock seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

Mr. Moss asked how long a recent retiree was employed at Wil Lou Gray, and Mr. Smith replied 28 years. Mr. Vaughn asked if the position would be replaced, and Mr. Smith replied no. However, the Wood Shop area will be used for drafting, which would be the combination of math skills with woodworking.

### **POLICY COMMITTEE**

No Report.

### **BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Mr. Smith gave an update on the FY'21 budget. At present, Wil Lou Gray is on-track for this fiscal year and within state guidelines to carry forward. The FY'22 Budget Request looks hopeful for the recurring requests presented on January 13<sup>th</sup>. The Senate passed the request and all indications look great for the House to follow suit. This increase, combined with the one received in 2017, would stabilize employees in the Human Specialist classification.

### **PROGRAM COMMITTEE**

Since October 2020, student conduct has been stabilized and minimal disciplinary actions have occurred. With this in mind, and upon COVID 19 restrictions, single room occupancy may remain in affect through the upcoming 2021-2022 Academic Year.

### **BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Smith gave an update on the upcoming renovation of the cafeteria and how completion is anticipated around September of 2021.

Mr. Hamilton asked that staff provide Board Members with present pictures of the campus. In reply, Mr. Smith agreed and asked that the members give the staff time to hang banners and grounds people complete spring cleaning of the hedges and flower beds. Mr. Cooner added that he drives by Wil Lou Gray every morning and can attest that the grounds are always presentable.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Hart gave a heartfelt goodbye since June 30<sup>th</sup> will be his official last day as a member of the Board of Trustees, as well as Chairman. He wished the agency much success in the future. Following his speech, each board member

# Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MEETING MINUTES

MAY 12, 2021

---

commented on their experiences with Mr. Hart and how effective he was at keeping the meetings on -time and straight forward. Members acknowledged his dedication to the state of South Carolina and his leadership while Chairman of the board. Mr. Smith thanked Mr. Hart for his support, leadership and friendship over the years.

**The Board proceeded to elect new officers, Chair and Vice-Chair**

**Mrs. Blalock made a motion to close nominations and Mrs. Edwards-Taylor seconded the motion; motion passed.**

Mr. Thomas made a motion to elect Stewart Cooner as Chairman of the Board and Mr. Vaughn seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Mr. Dobson made a motion to elect Mike Moss as Vice-Chairman of the Board and Mrs. Edwards-Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Mr. Dobson made a motion to go into Executive Session. Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**Ms. Adams made a motion to end the Executive Session and Mr. Cooner seconded the motion; motion passed.**

**With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Dobson to conclude the meeting. Mr. Moss seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 12:22pm.**