

Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 2, 2022

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held in-person and via teleconference on November 2, 2022, beginning at 12:00 pm in the Wil Lou Gray Board Meeting Room.

Board members present:

Mrs. Doris Adams
Mr. Stewart Cooner
Mr. Dan Dobson
Mrs. Cheryl Fralick
Mrs. Marilyn Edwards Taylor

Mr. Michael Moss
Mr. Reginald Thomas
Mr. Greg Vaughn
Mrs. Deborah Blalock

Board members present via teleconference:

Mr. Robert Collar
Ms. Kimberly Suber

Staff Members present:

Mr. Pat G. Smith
Mrs. Jennifer Bryant
Mr. Scott Gaines
Mr. Scott Poovey
Mr. Charlie Abbott
Ms. Diane McNinch

Ms. Libby Key
Mr. Michael Evans
Mrs. Sonya White
Ms. Cynara Wattlew
Ms. Theresa Trowell
Mrs. Lettice Glenn

The meeting was called to order at 12:41 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mrs. Blalock made a motion to approve the agenda and Mrs. Fralick seconded the motion. The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Vaughn made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 5, 2022 meeting and Mr. Moss seconded the motion. The motion passed.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Smith reported on the following:

- As of November 2, 2022 there are 72 currently enrolled. 74 out of 80 showed up to enroll on October 31, 2022; that is a 95% reporting rate.
- 35 GED's this past session
- Governor's Budget Presentation was on September 28, 2022.

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- Along with Sonya White, Director of Admissions, a presentation was made to the Orangeburg County School District Counseling and Career Services Info Fair on September 15, 2022.
- We will exhibit and present at the Palmetto State School Counselor Association Annual Conference January 19-21, 2023.
- Our Legislative Luncheon is scheduled for January 25, 2023.
- Mrs. Sonya White and Cadet Larkin Shearin appeared on WCIV "Low Country Live" to promote the Opportunity School. Cadet Shearin was also our Student of the Month for the Cayce-West Columbia Rotary Club
- Cadets participated in the Cayce-West Columbia Rotary Club Adopt-A-Highway on August 20, 2022 and will participate again on November 12, 2022.
- Our Cadets celebrated Halloween by carving pumpkins for various displays around campus.
- Our Cadets assisted with the town of Springdale's National Night Out.
- The House Ways and Means staff will participate in a team building exercise on our ropes course in the coming weeks.
- On October 19, 2022, Wil Lou Gray hosted the Leadership Development Conference for Jobs For America's Graduates (JAG-SC) Approximately 80-100 students and administrators attended for leadership training.
- Mr. Scott Gaines and three of our vocational teachers toured Richland 2's Heyward Career Center on October 10, 2022.
- Our Color Guard has been selected to lead the annual Veteran's Day Parade in the Lower Richland Community on November 5, 2022.
- Several staff training opportunities include:
- Mr. Charlie Abbott attended the Association of South Carolina Energy Manager's Conference on October 5, 2022.
- Ms. Diane McNinch and Mrs. Lettice Glenn attended the Suicide Prevention Summit.
- Ms. Diane McNinch is working with the Department of Mental Health to do mental health first aid and suicide awareness/prevention training for Cadre staff.
- Ms. Diane McNinch is taking an online class to become a certified Autism Spectrum Disorder Clinical Specialist.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

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

No questions on the personnel actions.

POLICY COMMITTEE

No Report.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mrs. Fralick spoke on the amended budget report and the presentation to the Governor's Office. Mr. Smith asked the Board to approve the amended budget request. Mrs. Fralick made a motion to accept and Mr. Dobson seconded the motion. The motion passed. Ms. Key reported that Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School is currently at 21.52%.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

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Mr. Gaines spoke about the schedule change with additional 9 minutes each period of instructional time; no gym class because of decreased enrollment. Mr. Gaines also spoke briefly about the duties and program of the upcoming position, the environmental leadership instructor.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

The portico is expected to be completed by December 1, 2022. They are still working on the underside of the roof, lighting and signage is pending and the foundation will be the last thing done. We are waiting on transformers to come in for the underground power line project. We are being told it will be February or March 2023 before they come in. Conduit is about 50% complete as of today.

The Board of Trustees met alongside faculty, staff, and students for the unveiling of the historical marker for Wil Lou Gray.

Mr. Dobson was appointed as the new Chairperson for the Building and Grounds Committee.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

No meeting since the last Board Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

None to report.

NEW BUSINESS

None to report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion from Mr. Dobson and seconded by Ms. Blalock, the Board went into executive session.

The Board authorized the Chairman to act on behalf of the Board to correspond by whatever means necessary to submit Mr. Smith's letter to the Agency Head Salary Committee. A motion was made by Mr. Dobson and seconded by Ms. Blalock. The motion passed.

An updated was given by the Board Chairman on his search for a portrait artist.

On a motion made by Mrs. Adams and seconded by Mrs. Taylor, the Board exited executive session.

The Board meeting adjourned at 1:30 on a motion made by Mr. Dobson and seconded by Mrs. Adams. The motion passed.