State Board of Education Resolution

Lee County Board of Education

Whereas, In March 2008, in accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 59-18-1520 (2004), Mount Pleasant Middle School was reviewed for satisfactory implementation of the External Review Team (ERT) recommendations approved by the State Board of Education. Satisfactory implementation was based upon meeting the goals and implementing the strategies developed for the 2007–08 school year that were part of the school's Focus School Renewal Plan, which was jointly developed by the district superintendent, principal, school leadership team, and External Review Team Liaisons (ERTL). Each goal is considered "Met" if the data collected on or before March 3, 2008, met the documented parameters as stated in that goal. Any goal that was not met was reviewed by the ERT Confirmation Committee for documented efforts to implement the strategies for that goal. In April 2008, these ERT reports were reviewed by the Office of Federal and State Accountability and then forwarded to the school principal and district superintendent to be reviewed for possible refutation. The ERT Confirmation Committee for Mount Pleasant Middle School in the Lee County School District determined that none of the 2007–08 Focus School Renewal Plan goals were met and effort was not documented toward the implementation of any of the strategies that would support these goals; and

Whereas, The State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Education find:

- Mount Pleasant Middle School failed to implement the strategies developed for the 2007-08 school year that were part of the school's Focus School Renewal Plan as approved by the State Board of Education;
- Mount Pleasant Middle School failed to provide evidence that the strategies were implemented; and
- Mount Pleasant Middle School did not provide adequate justification for failure to implement the strategies.

Now therefore, be it resolved on this ninth day of July, 2008,

That the State Board of Education, concurring with the recommendations of the State Superintendent of Education, hereby issues this resolution to publicly reprimand the Lee County Board of Trustees in failing to provide the support and direction to Mount Pleasant Middle School by requiring that the school leadership implement the strategies required by the ERT. The State Board of Education hereby finds that the Lee County Board of Trustees is responsible for the instructional leadership of the district superintendent and school principal and is, therefore, directly responsible for the failure of the school and hereby issues this resolution of public reprimand.

Be it further resolved that, an on-site review will be conducted of the school by a two-person team during the following months: October 2008; January 2009; and April 2009. The results of the reviews will be presented to the State Board of

Education. In addition, members of the Lee County Board of Trustees, th superintendent, and the principal shall appear before the State Board of Educatio in December 2008 and May 2009 to present the State Board of Education with a update on the progress toward implementing the strategies to support the school' goals.

Be it further resolved, that continued failure to support and require implementatio of the strategies and implementation of the goals, failure to cooperate with the on site review teams, or failure to appear before the State Board of Education ca result in additional action by the State Superintendent and State Board of Educatio as outlined in S.C. Code Ann. § 59-18-1520 (2004).

Al Simpson, Chair
State Board of Education

Jim Rex, State Superintendent of Education