

Moss spoke in a nine-minute video posted Wednesday afternoon on the district's Facebook page <<https://www.facebook.com/beaufortcountyschools/>> . The circumstances behind about 60 transactions

<https://www.beaufortschools.net/UserFiles/Servers/Server_170841/File/BCS%20District/DEPARTMENTS/Operational%20Services/Finance/Procurement/P-card%20transaction%20detail%20list.pdf> were also explained in a district report <https://www.beaufortschools.net/UserFiles/Servers/Server_170841/File/BCS%20District/DEPARTMENTS/Operational%20Services/Finance/Procurement/P-card%20transaction%20detail%20list.pdf> .

- Beaufort High School took faculty to Dataw Island for their Christmas celebration last December. Cost: \$3,542.75
- An athletic banquet taco bar was catered by Moe's in May at River Ridge Academy. Cost: \$3,160.62
- A student golf team hosted a banquet at Sanctuary Golf Club last December. Cost: \$230.40
- Lunch came from HoneyBaked Ham & Cafe for training of classified staff at the district's central office in May. Cost: \$458.46

Many of the charges that have been questioned are for staff appreciation, end-of-year celebrations, parent engagement, student fundraisers and field trips, Moss said in the video. Some transactions are paid for with student activity funds, which are generated by individual schools through fundraisers, booster clubs, parent-teacher organizations and field trip participation fees.

"All of these things occur, and that's what is represented in all of these charges," he said.

Through an open-records request, the district provided The Island Packet and The Beaufort Gazette with documentation of the Victoria's Secret charges made in 2015, which were identified as fraudulent and reimbursed.

But thousands of transactions are still unexplained.

That wouldn't be the case at Horry County Schools.

That district has a computer system available to the public at no charge to look up relevant documentation, such as receipts, for specific transactions, said district spokeswoman Teal Harding.

Horry County Schools' reports

<http://www.horrycountyschools.net/pages/Horry_County_Schools/3352373296737269426/Fiscal_Service/Transparency_Spending_Reports/2016-2017_Monthly_Spending_Det> are also listed by cardholder, so the public can tell which schools or department cards, of which there are more than 200, are racking up the most charges.

Beaufort County School District issues far fewer cards. One is assigned to each school and district office department for a total of 52 cards.

Still, when the newspapers requested the annual amount charged on each credit card through the state Freedom of Information Act, district officials estimated producing the information for a single year would require 10 hours of work at \$21 an hour.

'Transparency' reports

In the aftermath of Moss' ethics scandal, an issue that unfolded nearly two years ago and continues to dog the district on questions of transparency, trust and leadership, Citizens Advocating Responsible Education formed and continues to persistently hound the district and school board on a variety of issues. CARE member Fran Bisi has taken the lead on the credit card campaign, and others, including county Councilman Rick Caporale, have joined the crusade calling for the district to submit to a forensic audit of its spending.

"We hopefully don't need to go down the road of guessing at what is occurring," Moss said in the video. "Let's get the facts."

The problem for Bisi is that the reports, in their current form, do not provide details, so all one can do is guess at the purpose of the \$30 million in expenses that were charged to the cards last fiscal year.

A state survey of the 10 largest school districts' spending reports by The Island Packet and The Beaufort Gazette found Beaufort County School District's current report format among the least transparent.

While not explicitly required by state law, including transactions less than \$100, purchase descriptions and negative transactions — to indicate fraudulent or returned items, as

was the case for the Victoria's Secret charges — provides a more accurate picture of the district's credit card spending, said South Carolina's comptroller general Richard Eckstrom.

His agency plays an advisory role in helping districts comply with the law, though it has almost no enforcement power and cannot issue penalties.

Eckstrom reviewed Beaufort County School District's transparency reports, at the request of the newspapers. The lack of transaction descriptions jumped out to him.

"It's information the public has an absolute right to know," Eckstrom said. "If you've got to scratch your head and ask, 'What is this talking about?' you have to wonder if the district wants this information to be seen."

Under Moss' proposed new reporting format, these details would now be included. He asked the board Tuesday night for other formatting suggestions to be submitted to him before the next board meeting on Aug. 1.

The district's credit card usage and consideration of a forensic audit will be discussed at the board's Finance and Operations Committee meeting, which will meet at 4:30 p.m. Aug. 10 at the district office.

To look at Beaufort County School District's credit card spending, go to <http://bit.ly/2gOboRd> . The first section of the report details the district's check register. The credit card statements are further below.

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Sent from my iPad

From: Orischak, Josephine A <Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
ent: Tuesday, October 9, 2018 11:19 AM
To: Amy Nardi
Subject: Re: Stonewalled

Amy,

My issue is (and always has been) the expectation is for the Board to vote on and approve controversial, staff-endorsed plans, without being provided with proper background to cast an informed vote. So what you wind up with is a Board with partial information deciding on issues that profoundly effect our students.

In the past, when I have found myself in this position, I have often voted against proposals or abstained from voting due to insufficient information.

See you tonight. . .

JoAnn Orischak
Beaufort County Board of Education
District 11
Hilton Head Island
C. (843) 338-1737

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 9, 2018, at 10:57 AM, Amy Nardi <nardi@hargray.com <mailto:nardi@hargray.com> > wrote:

JoAnn,

Thanks for sending this correspondence. This issue has obviously been a hot topic for quite some time. Why the District cannot provide current information on the number of students in each building and the makeup of each school's demographics is completely beyond me and quite frankly, very unsettling.

I am sorry I didn't get back to you sooner and hope to meet you in person at our SIC meeting tonight.

Thanks. Regards, Amy

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 8, 2018, at 2:30 PM, Orischak, Josephine A
<Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >
wrote:

Ladies,

Please find the below email exchanges, and read bottom to top. I am sending this to you to illustrate just how difficult it was in the past to get detailed enrollment information from district staff.

The November 2016 sales tax and bond referendum included multi-million dollar building expansions to both HHIMS and HHIHS. In an attempt to understand if these building expansions were necessary, I requested enrollment information which isolated students residing on HHI proper v. the over-the-bridge communities that were also part of the HHI attendance zone. I wanted to understand where the increased student numbers were coming from. At the time, Board members were told the growth was coming from HHI proper, and not the off-island communities or other factors.

JoAnn Orischak
Beaufort County Board of Education
District 11
Hilton Head Island
C. (843) 338-1737

From: Orischak, Josephine A
Sent: Friday, June 3, 2016 9:19:33 AM
To: JoAnn Orischak
Subject: Fwd:

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Orischak, Josephine A"
<Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >
Date: June 2, 2016 at 8:30:21 AM EDT
To: "Moss, Jeffrey C" <Jeffrey.Moss@beaufort.k12.sc.us
<mailto:Jeffrey.Moss@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >
Cc: "Dunkle, Joseph R" <Joseph.Dunkle@beaufort.k12.sc.us
<mailto:Joseph.Dunkle@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >, "Orischak, Josephine A"
<Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >,
BOEOnly <BOEOnly@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:BOEOnly@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >, "Cordray,
Mary M" <Mary.Cordray@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Mary.Cordray@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >,
"Crutchfield, Carol C" <Carol.Crutchfield@beaufort.k12.sc.us
<mailto:Carol.Crutchfield@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >
Subject: Re: Hilton Head Island Proper (Second Attempt)

Jeff,

"What is being asked for in addition is for us to begin a student redistricting of sorts for one area."

Your statement is not true. A request for student numbers is not a prompt to being a "student redistricting".

If I need to file a FOIA request for the information I have been denied, I will. But gosh, is that really the road you and board want to go down? And for a simple request such as this?

JoAnn

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 2, 2016, at 7:55 AM, "Moss, Jeffrey C"
<Jeffrey.Moss@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Jeffrey.Moss@beaufort.k12.sc.us> > wrote:

I feel as though I need to clarify what information has been provided to date. The information I provided this week was information that was used during our last district wide redistricting of students in 2014. What is being asked for in addition is for us to begin a student redistricting of sorts for one area. It is simple to gather numbers for any particular location for the current year, but when we begin to forecast for future years in areas where we are not currently forecasting we are establishing a new type of redistricting.

This was my only concern since we have identified attendance lines and I would not want our communities to become confused with the use and presentation of different school enrollment numbers for school attendance lines which are not approved by the board.

I will do whatever the board would like.

Jeff

Jeffrey C. Moss, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Beaufort County School District

2900 Mink Point Blvd

Beaufort, South Carolina 29901

843-322-2326 <tel:843-322-2326>

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On Jun 2, 2016, at 6:17 AM, Dunkle, Joseph R
<Joseph.Dunkle@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Joseph.Dunkle@beaufort.k12.sc.us> > wrote:

I don't understand why JoAnn is constantly stonewalled when she asks questions. It seems that more time and effort is spent not answering her question then if it was just answered.

Her request as I understood it is very clear. If you will note on May 28th she was told "I will prepare the numbers you have requested" and then in a subsequent email "If you need additional information, please let me know." Ms. Orischak would like to know how many students live on the Island of Hilton Head and attend public schools plus the projected 5 year growth.

Surely this information is available, as staff is readily able to say only a small amount of children live off of the Island of Hilton Head, but within the HHI cluster zones.

Sent from my wireless device

Joseph R Dunkle

Beaufort County School Board, District 4
joseph.dunkle@beaufort.k12.sc.us
<mailto:joseph.dunkle@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
(843) 321-9031 Phone

On Jun 1, 2016 5:25 PM, "Orischak, Josephine A"
<Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >
wrote:

Mary,

The details you seek are included in the extended email
exchange below that Dr. Moss forwarded to all board members.

If anyone should ask, I will tell them I was denied the
information I have requested.

JoAnn

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 1, 2016, at 5:17 PM, "Cordray, Mary M"
<Mary.Cordray@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Mary.Cordray@beaufort.k12.sc.us> > wrote:

JoAnn,

Until you provide me the details I have requested, the
Superintendent and staff will not be responding to your request.

Thanks,

Mary

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 1, 2016, at 4:22 PM, Orischak, Josephine A
<Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >
wrote:

I have made my request for information clear to the superintendent. If you need further clarification, you can do so through him.

JoAnn

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 1, 2016, at 4:16 PM, "Cordray, Mary M"
<Mary.Cordray@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Mary.Cordray@beaufort.k12.sc.us> > wrote:

JoAnn,

We need to clarify what you are asking for and for what purpose. You will recall that requests for data should come through the Chair/Officers to the Superintendent. It is not appropriate to tie up the Superintendent's time or staff time for individual Board Member requests. We have been given a great deal of attendance information in many formats. What is it you want and for what purpose? The Board has reviewed all of this information and made decisions based on the information provided.

Mary

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 1, 2016, at 3:07 PM, Orischak, Josephine A
<Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us> > wrote:

Jeff,

I am requesting to view a subset of the HHI schools' attendance zone. Board approval is not necessary, as the board has been given student numbers for other subsets of attendance zones. For example, you handed to me yesterday a list of students living in our over-the-bridge communities only. (albeit dated January 30, 2014)

Is that not also a subset of our HHI attendance zone?

You must have access to HHI resident numbers, because on more than one occasion you have maintained a rezoning of HHI schools to alleviate crowding would impact Hilton Head Plantation.

Since the board is charged with approving such projects, I believe as a board member I am entitled access to the same enrollment information you are.

JoAnn

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 1, 2016, at 1:53 PM, "Moss, Jeffrey C"
<Jeffrey.Moss@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Jeffrey.Moss@beaufort.k12.sc.us> > wrote:

JoAnn,

I still have some reservation on identifying numbers which do not appear in any of our documents. The numbers in the book are the zoned numbers for the Hilton Head School Attendance Area. My major concern would be providing numbers that are not approved by the board and could be confused as the attendance numbers of students enrolled on the Hilton Head Campus. I do not want to confuse our public on the actual enrollment numbers.

Because of these concerns I would suggest this be discussed at the board level so we can discuss the possible concerns with releasing enrollment forecasts not associated with any of our attendance zones.

Respectfully,

Jeff

Jeffrey C. Moss, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Beaufort County School District

2900 Mink Point Blvd

Beaufort, South Carolina 29901

843-322-2326

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From: Orischak, Josephine A
Sent: Wednesday, June 01, 2016 9:29 AM
To: Moss, Jeffrey C <Jeffrey.Moss@beaufort.k12.sc.us
<mailto:Jeffrey.Moss@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >
Cc: Crutchfield, Carol C <Carol.Crutchfield@beaufort.k12.sc.us
<mailto:Carol.Crutchfield@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >
Subject: Fwd: Hilton Head Island Proper (Second Attempt)

Jeff,

I am still requesting the below numbers.

JoAnn

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Orischak, Josephine A"
<Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >
Date: May 31, 2016 at 11:37:38 AM EDT
To: "Moss, Jeffrey C" <Jeffrey.Moss@beaufort.k12.sc.us
<mailto:Jeffrey.Moss@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >
Subject: Re: Hilton Head Island Proper

Jeff,

The numbers shown are 1) attending, 2) zoned, and 3)
projected zoned students.

None of these isolate the HHI proper students only.

JoAnn

Sent from my iPad

On May 31, 2016, at 10:08 AM, "Moss, Jeffrey C"
<Jeffrey.Moss@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Jeffrey.Moss@beaufort.k12.sc.us> > wrote:

Good morning JoAnn,

I reviewed the numbers in our Five Year Facilities book and they are accurate for the schools on the island. You can locate the Hilton Head Schools beginning on page 66. The projected resident students would be the students residing on the

island and not outside. If you cannot locate your book the information is also available on line at:

http://www.beaufort.k12.sc.us/files/_NKDPB_/129dab0613aee2133745a49013852ec4/FINAL-Final_CIP_Book-Ready_for_Print-MURR_update.pdf

<https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=http%3a%2f%2fwww.beaufort.k12.sc.us%2ffiles%2f_NKDPB_%2f129dab0613aee2133745a49013852ec4%2fFINAL-Final_CIP_Book-Ready_for_Print-MURR_update.pdf&c=E,1,zuNzIqVWrXY3JYx0k2agtJ2MrVRgzFOkJNKDWdpdIVsAcCi7RM7nyDCxGQ16ccGdYGGplp0yJQWo9OK3AAw5nWAdek63M_le0ZV4L6JAoe4p1Xq5Kw,,&typo=1>

If you need additional information, please let me know.

Jeff

Jeffrey C. Moss, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Beaufort County School District

2900 Mink Point Blvd

Beaufort, South Carolina 29901

843-322-2326

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From: Orischak, Josephine A

Sent: Saturday, May 28, 2016 8:22 PM

To: Moss, Jeffrey C <Jeffrey.Moss@beaufort.k12.sc.us

<mailto:Jeffrey.Moss@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >

Subject: Re: Hilton Head Island Proper

Thank you.

Sent from my iPad

On May 28, 2016, at 8:13 PM, "Moss, Jeffrey C"

<Jeffrey.Moss@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Jeffrey.Moss@beaufort.k12.sc.us> > wrote:

JoAnn

I completely understand. I will prepare the numbers you have requested.

Jeff

Jeffrey C. Moss, Ed.D.

Superintendent

Beaufort County School District

2900 Mink Point Blvd

Beaufort, South Carolina 29901

843-322-2326

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On May 28, 2016, at 8:04 PM, Orischak, Josephine A
<Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >
wrote:

Jeff,

Thank you, and I can certainly understand your reservation with my request. But Carol C. has historically (and consistently) maintained that the HHI attendance zone only includes a handful of students living just over the bridge and beyond. She iterates that the growth we are seeing isn't coming from off island. For once, I would like to see those HHI proper student numbers isolated, which will illustrate her point. We can certainly preface the discussion with why I requested these HHI numbers and for whom.

This request will help clarify for my constituents several things:
1) We are not expanding the HHI school(s) to accommodate a bloated attendance line, as the growth is emanating from the island itself, 2) We are providing a benefit to school personnel's children to attend HHI schools, and 3) HHI programs are in high demand.

JoAnn

Sent from my iPad

On May 28, 2016, at 7:20 PM, "Moss, Jeffrey C"
<Jeffrey.Moss@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Jeffrey.Moss@beaufort.k12.sc.us> > wrote:

JoAnn

I can get this information on Tuesday when We are back. My only concern is this does not follow the boards current district lines. Do you mind if I provide this information both ways, only island students and current district lines?

Jeff

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Superintendent
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On May 28, 2016, at 7:12 PM, Orischak, Josephine A
<Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us> > wrote:

Jeff,

Prior to Tuesday's special called board meeting, I will need to review the following:

Five year projections (by year) for students living on Hilton Head Island proper only attending the below listed schools. A school-by-school breakdown of the below list (not combined) is respectfully requested:

1) HHIECC

2) HHISCA

3) HHIBE

4) HHIMS

5) HHIHS

These numbers would not include those over the bridge and beyond, nor children of staff living off HHI, nor choice attendees. If Carol C. can present the HHI resident student numbers for each of our HHI schools, that would allow me to explain to islanders who have difficulty justifying the millions of dollars in expansion renovations for our HHI schools.

Thank you in advance.

JoAnn

Sent from my iPad

On May 27, 2016, at 1:58 PM, "Cushingberry, Robyn L"
<Robyn.Cushingberry@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Robyn.Cushingberry@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >
wrote:

Good Afternoon,

Attached is the agenda and document for Tuesday's Special
Called BOE Meeting.

Enjoy Graduation and have a good weekend.

Robyn

Robyn L. Cushingberry

Executive Assistant to the Board

Beaufort County Sch

From: Amy Nardi <nardi@hargray.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 9, 2018 10:56 AM
To: Orischak, Josephine A
Subject: Re: Stonewalled

JoAnn,

Thanks for sending this correspondence. This issue has obviously been a hot topic for quite some time. Why the District cannot provide current information on the number of students in each building and the makeup of each school's demographics is completely beyond me and quite frankly, very unsettling.

I am sorry I didn't get back to you sooner and hope to meet you in person at our SIC meeting tonight.

Thanks. Regards, Amy

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 8, 2018, at 2:30 PM, Orischak, Josephine A <Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us> > wrote:

Ladies,

Please find the below email exchanges, and read bottom to top. I am sending this to you to illustrate just how difficult it was in the past to get detailed enrollment information from district staff.

The November 2016 sales tax and bond referendum included multi-million dollar building expansions to both HHIMS and HHIHS. In an attempt to understand if these building expansions were necessary, I requested enrollment information which isolated students

residing on HHI proper v. the over-the-bridge communities that were also part of the HHI attendance zone. I wanted to understand where the increased student numbers were coming from. At the time, Board members were told the growth was coming from HHI proper, and not the off-island communities or other factors.

JoAnn Orischak
Beaufort County Board of Education
District 11
Hilton Head Island
C. (843) 338-1737

From: Orischak, Josephine A
Sent: Friday, June 3, 2016 9:19:33 AM
To: JoAnn Orischak
Subject: Fwd:

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Orischak, Josephine A" <Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us
<mailto:Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >
Date: June 2, 2016 at 8:30:21 AM EDT
To: "Moss, Jeffrey C" <Jeffrey.Moss@beaufort.k12.sc.us
<mailto:Jeffrey.Moss@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >
Cc: "Dunkle, Joseph R" <Joseph.Dunkle@beaufort.k12.sc.us
<mailto:Joseph.Dunkle@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >, "Orischak, Josephine A"
<Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Josephine.Orischak@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >,
BOEOnly <BOEOnly@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:BOEOnly@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >, "Cordray,
Mary M" <Mary.Cordray@beaufort.k12.sc.us <mailto:Mary.Cordray@beaufort.k12.sc.us> >, >