



Date:
Attachments:



Thursday, February 17, 2022 6:39:47 PM
[image001.png](#)

From: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2022 5:49 PM
To: David Cook [REDACTED]
Cc: Cartledge, Wendy B <Wendy.Cartledge@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Subject: Appointment

Good evening, Mr. Cook,

As stated in our previous communication, Beaufort County School District (BCSD) is not required to be bonded by the State. BCSD is protected thru insurance, not thru bonding.

Regarding fidelity bonds, BCSD has purchased a commercial crime insurance policy as it offers more complete and diverse coverage against criminal activities. BCSD has not purchased bonds for employees who handle financial transactions as they are covered by the commercial crime insurance policy. The BCSD's crime insurance policy was sent to you in a prior communication.

Surety bonds help small businesses win contracts by providing the customer with a guarantee that the work will be completed. A faithful performance surety bond goes beyond this and protects the insured party against the principal not faithfully performing their duties as prescribed by law, the constitution or the bylaws of the insured. For construction projects, BCSD does not hold bonds. All contractors working for BCSD are required to obtain a payment and performance bond along with meeting the BCSD's minimum insurance requirements. All contracts over \$50,000 are required to be bonded. The BCSD had over 100 construction amendments requiring bonds last year. Each of these amendments would have required a payment and performance bond or a bond rider that was written to increase the amount of an already existing bond in order to cover the cost of additional work.

We are not required by law, nor do we possess or maintain any "fidelity bond, surety bond, or faithful performance bond, or the like, on any board members, employees, and/or staff that are bonded, in order to execute and handle state and federal financial transactions for the school district." Thus, no documents exist for you to review in person at the BCSD office.

Kind regards,
Candace

Candace Bruder, Ed.D.
Director of Communications
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From: David Cook [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2022 6:02 PM
To: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L
Cc: Cartledge, Wendy B
Subject: Re: Appointment

Good afternoon.

Thanks for your response.

I greatly appreciate you getting back to me and the assistance from Ms Cartledge.

I never cited any statutes in regards to bonds and I understand the general obligation bonds that the school has.

I do need to point out, that just because the statute says that the board is not obligated to have a bond on employees or board members, does not necessarily mean that you don't have them.

I'm not sure why there's a reference to a statute that I never cited, so I'm going to guess that came from Ms. Cartledge.

I'm fully aware of the statutes on bonds for elected officials.

So I will reiterate it for you.

I'd like to see an unredacted copy of the following :

fidelity bond, surety bond, or faithful performance bond, or the like, on any board members, employees, and/or staff that are bonded, in order to execute and handle state and federal financial transactions for the school district.

I'll put this into a FOIA form.

Once you've determined these documents listed above are available, I'd like to come in and review them this week in person as per statute and as a courtesy, may I set up an appointment? If so, with whom?

Thank you

On Wed, Feb 16, 2022, 5:28 PM Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <Candace.Bruder-Brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us> wrote:

Hi, Mr. Cook:

Although your FOIA request has not come thru yet via the JotForm on the district website, please see the below information responsive to your email request.

The District's Annual Comprehensive Finance Report and the Approved General Fund Budget book (p. 108) contain a schedule of outstanding general obligation bonds through June 30, 2021. A current listing may be found in the attached Beaufort County School District, Outstanding Debt Schedule. Below is a link to the latest approved Budget document:

<https://www.beaufortschools.net/common/pages/DisplayFile.aspx?itemId=26065994>.

Title 8, Chapter 3, of the South Carolina Code of Laws, including Section 210 of Chapter 3, is applicable to officers and employees of the State government and its boards, bureaus, departments, commissions, and other instrumentalities, but is not applicable to school district officers or employees like district superintendents. Therefore, that Chapter and section of the law do not require that our District's officers or employees be bonded or that we have or maintain the related items of your request.

Kind regards,
Candace

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From: David Cook [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2022 4:47 PM
To: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <Candace.Bruder-Brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Subject: Re: Appointment

Thank you. Will do.

On Tue, Feb 15, 2022, 4:04 PM Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <Candace.Bruder-Brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us> wrote:

Good afternoon, Mr. Cook:

I kindly ask that you please submit a FOIA request:

https://beaufortschools.net/d_i_s_t_r_i_c_t/about_us/public_information/freedom_of_information_act_foia_request_form

Many thanks,
Candace

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From: David Cook [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2022 8:50 AM
To: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <Candace.Bruder-Brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Subject: Re: Appointment

Good morning.
Thank you so much for sending that.

I'd also like to see the faithful bond, surety bond, or performance bond policy on the employees or staff that are bonded in order to execute and handle state and federal financial transactions for the school district. Be that the superintendent, CFO, head of operations, or in house counsel.

Thank you.

On Mon, Feb 14, 2022, 8:03 AM Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <Candace.Bruder-Brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us> wrote:

Good morning, Mr. Cook:

The Beaufort County School District (BCSD) is a member of the South Carolina School Boards Insurance Trust (SCSBIT). SCSBIT provides manuscript (i.e. custom) policies in South Carolina tailored to the unique needs of school districts. SCSBIT typically does not use forms from The Association for Cooperative Operations Research and Development (ACORD) in their policies because they are generic standardized forms.

Attached are copies of the current Crime Policy, General/School Leaders Liability Policy and General Liability Certificate of Insurance.

Regards,
Candace

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From: David Cook [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 4:04 PM
To: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <Candace.Bruder-Brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Subject: Appointment

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Good afternoon. Thanks for taking time to bring me in this afternoon.

Like to set up an appointment for Monday to come in to review the Arizona missions policy and to review the general liability policies

I emailed Ms Cartledge and Dr Rodriguez a week ago to set up an appointment and no one responded. That is the reason I showed up today was to review those documents. Please let me know when I can meet with you on Monday to review those documents. Thank you!