

**BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**School Board Meeting Minutes**  
**February 1, 2022**  
**District Educational Services Center**  
**Hybrid Meeting**

**Members Presents**

David Striebinger, Chair	Ingrid Boatright	Earl Campbell
Cathy Robine, Vice Chair	Melvin Campbell	Tricia Fidrych
Angela Middleton, Secretary	Richard Geier	Christina Gwozdz
	William Smith	Rachel Wisnefski

Mr. David Striebinger called the meeting to order at 5:00p.m.

**Dr. Christina Gwozdz made the motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Employment Matter re: personnel ratification report pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(1); Adult Ed/Home School Report pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-40(a)(4); discussion of Burr Forman proposed engagement extension for the continuation of governmental relations representation and consultation pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of proposed contract amendment #56 with MB Kahn Construction for Bluffton High School Early Package Athletic Additions pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of proposed contract amendment #31 with Thompson Turner Construction for HVAC work at Beaufort High School pursuant to S.C. Code Ann Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded by Mrs. Angela Middleton. The motion passed 11/0.**

Mr. Striebinger called the meeting back to open session at 6:00 p.m.

**Action from Executive Session**

**Mrs. Angela Middleton made the motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendations for employment listed on the January 1 – January 31, 2022 Personnel Ratification Report. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 11/0. ([The link to the redacted January 1 – January 31, 2022 Personnel Ratification Report.](#))**

**Mrs. Angela Middleton made the motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for the monthly Adult Education/Home School Report for February 2022. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Cathy Robine. The motion passed 11/0.**

**Mrs. Angela Middleton made the motion that the Beaufort County Board of Education approve the Burr Forman engagement extension agreement to provide governmental relations representation and consultation services from February 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 in the amount of \$37,583.33 and any out of pocket costs/disbursements incurred with the representation with the correction of the word designed to designated in the last sentence on page 2. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 11/0.**

**Mrs. Angela Middleton made the motion that the Board of Education approve Amendment #56 with MB Kahn Construction for Bluffton High School Early Package Athletic Additions Long Lead items based on the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of \$1,382,875.00. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Tricia Fidrych. The motion passed 10/0/1. Rachel Wisnefski abstained from the vote.**

**Mrs. Angela Middleton made the motion that the Board of Education approve Amendment #31 with Thompson Turner Construction for HVAC work at Beaufort High School in the amount of \$335,500. The motion was seconded by Mr. William Smith. The motion passed 10/0/1. Rachel Wisnefski abstained from the vote.**

**Mrs. Angela Middleton made the motion to approve the February 1, 2022 agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 11/0.**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A moment of silence was observed in honor of Mr. Randy Keith, a bus driver who passed on January 19, 2022; and Ms. Kimila Brown, a teacher at Hilton Head School for the Creative Arts who passed away January 6, 2022.

Mr. Striebinger stated that the media was properly notified.

Under Points of Celebration, Dr. Rodriguez and the Board recognized the following:

- **WordMasters Challenge perfect scores**
  - Red Cedar student Charlie Mutterer
  - Hilton Head Island Elementary students Casey Chafik and Kylie Moberly
  
- **Continental Math League Competition – Red Cedar Elementary School**

Students with a perfect score are:

  - Austin Broene
  - Owen Carneavale
  - Mia De La Vega
  - Breanna Hamilton
  - Ella Clair Harwell
  - Cameron Jacobi
  - Lucas Mikhael
  - Hayden Olstynski
  - Binyamin Velasquez
  - James Watson
  
- **National School Counseling Week**

#### **Public Comments**

- Angela Rossillo requested a resolution from the Board asking DHEC to reevaluate their quarantine procedures.
- David Cook spoke about his son's quarantine experience.

#### **Chairman's Report**

Mr. David Striebinger reminded the Board that they have to file their Statement of Economic Interest with South Carolina Ethics Commission by March 30, 2022 and gave an update on the work the Board did at the Work Session.

#### **Committee Reports**

**Academic Committee:** Cathy Robine, chair stated that the Academic Committee met on January 26, 2022. The committee brought forth the Profile of the Beaufort Graduate. Karen McKenzie made the presentation. The next meeting is February 23, 2022 at 4:30 p.m.

**Ad Hoc Bluffton Growth Committee:** Rachel Wisnefski, chair presented the Ad Hoc Bluffton Growth Report. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 5:00 with Maria Walls.

**Dr. Rachel Wisnefski made the motion that the Ad Hoc Bluffton Growth Committee recommend to the full board that the District bring forth Bluffton Growth Development Plan Options in the next 90 days. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 9/1/1. Melvin Campbell voted against the motion. William Smith abstained from the vote.**

**Ad Hoc North of the Broad Committee:** Earl Campbell, chair and Mrs. Tricia Fidrych presented an Ad Hoc North of Broad report.

### **Superintendent's Report**

#### **Goal #1 Student Achievement**

- African American History Conference Update  
Dr. N'Kia Campbell gave an update on the African American History Conference. The conference will be held on February 18-20, 2022.

#### **Other Matters**

- COVID- 19  
Dr. Rodriguez provided current COVID data.

**Dr. Rachel Wisnefski made the motion that the Board of Education issue a letter to DHEC to ask that they reconsider the quarantine guidance on the School and Childcare Exclusion List. The motion was seconded by Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 9/2. David Striebinger and William Smith voted against the motion.**

**Dr. Christina Gwozdz made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Angela Middleton. The motion passed 9/1/1. Melvin Campbell voted against the motion. Rachel Wisnefski abstained from the vote.**

### **Consent Agenda**

- November 2, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes
- November 17, 2021 Special Called Executive Session Meeting Minutes
- December 6, 2021 Special Called Executive Session Meeting Minutes
- December 14, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes
- October 22, 2021 Board Work Session Meeting Minutes

### **Future Agenda Topics**

- Mrs. Cathy Robine would like a discussion on lesson learned about student achievement during the pandemic.
- Mrs. Tricia Fidrych would like a Port Royal TIF update.

### **Announcements**

- Dr. Rodriguez shared that the Academic WorldQuest Competition, hosted by the World Affairs Councils of America, will be held on March 26, 2022 at Bluffton High School beginning at 9:00 a.m.
- Mr. William Smith announced that this is Black History Month.

### **Second Public Comments**

- Susana Cook spoke about DHEC quarantine protocols.

Board members reviewed the draft minutes that Robyn Cushingberry presented orally.

**Mrs. Cathy Robine made the motion to accept the draft minutes that was presented orally. The motion was seconded by Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 6/5. Ingrid Boatright, Christina Gwozdz, Rachel Wisnefski, Tricia Fidrych, and William Smith voted against the motion.**

The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:36p.m.

(Signature on Official File Copy) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: February 15, 2022

Angela Middleton, Secretary, Board of Education

Minutes prepared by Robyn Cushingberry, Executive Assistant

## Motion Summary

A motion was made to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Employment Matter re: personnel ratification report pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(1); Adult Ed/Home School Report pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-40(a)(4); discussion of Burr Forman proposed engagement extension for the continuation of governmental relations representation and consultation pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of proposed contract amendment #56 with MB Kahn Construction for Bluffton High School Early Package Athletic Additions pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of proposed contract amendment #31 with Thompson Turner Construction for HVAC work at Beaufort High School pursuant to S.C. Code Ann Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded and passed 11/0.

### Action from Executive Session

A motion was made to approve the Superintendent's recommendations for employment listed on the January 1 – January 31, 2022 Personnel Ratification Report. The motion was seconded and passed 11/0. ([The link to the redacted January 1 – January 31, 2022 Personnel Ratification Report.](#))

A motion was made to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for the monthly Adult Education/Home School Report for February 2022. The motion was seconded and passed 11/0.

A motion was made that the Beaufort County Board of Education approve the Burr Forman engagement extension agreement to provide governmental relations representation and consultation services from February 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 in the amount of \$37,583.33 and any out of pocket costs/disbursements incurred with the representation with the correction of the word designed to designated in the last sentence on page 2. The motion was seconded and passed 11/0.

A motion was made that the Board of Education approve Amendment #56 with MB Kahn Construction for Bluffton High School Early Package Athletic Additions Long Lead items based on the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of \$1,382,875.00. The motion was seconded and passed 10/0/1. Rachel Wisnefski abstained from the vote.

A motion was made that the Board of Education approve Amendment #31 with Thompson Turner Construction for HVAC work at Beaufort High School in the amount of \$335,500. The motion was seconded and passed 10/0/1. Rachel Wisnefski abstained from the vote.

A motion was made to approve the February 1, 2022 agenda as presented. The motion was seconded and passed 11/0.

A motion was made that the Ad Hoc Bluffton Growth Committee recommend to the full board that the District bring forth Bluffton Growth Development Plan Options in the next 90 days. The motion was seconded and passed 9/1/1. Melvin Campbell voted against the motion. William Smith abstained from the vote.

A motion was made that the Board of Education issue a letter to DHEC to ask that they reconsider the quarantine guidance on the School and Childcare Exclusion List. The motion was seconded and passed 9/2. David Striebinger and William Smith voted against the motion.

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded and passed 9/1/1. Melvin Campbell voted against the motion. Rachel Wisnefski abstained from the vote.

### Consent Agenda

- November 2, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes
- November 17, 2021 Special Called Executive Session Meeting Minutes
- December 6, 2021 Special Called Executive Session Meeting Minutes

- December 14, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes
- October 22, 2021 Board Work Session Meeting Minutes

**A motion was made to accept the draft minutes that was presented orally. The motion was seconded and passed 6/5. Ingrid Boatright, Christina Gwozdz, Rachel Wisnefski, Tricia Fidrych, and William Smith voted against the motion.**