

BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
School Board Work Session Meeting Minutes
March 19-20, 2021
District Educational Services Center

Members Presents

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

Day 1 – March 19, 2021

Dr. Christina Gwozdz called the first day of the Board’s two-day work session to order at 9:01 a.m.

Mr. Melvin Campbell made the motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. Rachel Wisnefski. The motion passed 11/0.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A moment of silence was observed. Dr. Gwozdz stated that the media was properly notified.

Beaufort County Graduate Profile

Mrs. Geri Henderson presented the newly developed profile of a Beaufort County graduate. The presentation included the naming of a 33-member committee that is comprised of (16) K-12 Educators; (3) Post-Secondary Educators (1) SCDE (5) Community Leaders; (2) Local Historians; (3) Business Rep; and (3) District Support Staff. There are (3) sub-Committees- Global Citizenship, Historical Knowledge and Financial & Eco Literacy. Each committee has a principal that chairs the committee with community members, and support staff. The presentation also included a timeline.

- July – August 2021: Teachers on the committee along with staff members will identify curriculum or develop local board approved courses that will align with the Profile of the Beaufort Graduate.
- September 2021: Share Profile of Beaufort Graduate with principals of Beaufort County School District; Principals will share with their stakeholders.
- October 2021: Present Profile of Beaufort Graduate and proposed curriculum to Academic Committee, BCSD School Board.
- December 2021: Present to BCSD School Board for approval.
- School Year 2022/2023: Implement in schools within Beaufort County School District.

Chief Instructional Services Officer, Dr. Mary Stratos, and Deputy Superintendent Duke Bradley also addressed the Board.

Early Childhood

Ashley Hutchinson’s presented on the Integrated Comprehensive Early Childhood System. The presentation included 2018-2019 Child Find Data by each school. The data showed the number of children screened, the % who qualified and the number that did not qualify and the demographics.

Mrs. Hutchinson also provided the South Carolina's Profile of the Ready Kindergartner. Dr. Rodriguez also addressed the Board.

Board District Culture

Colonel Richard Geier began a discussion on Board district culture.

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion that Richard Geier and Wendy Cartledge explore the possibility of having a meeting regarding Board Culture and report back to the Board with time dates and cost. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Angela Middleton. The motion passed 11/0.

Young Men of Distinction

Dr. N'Kia Campbell, Mrs. Lakinsha Swinton, and Ms. Meredith Strmac presented on the Young Men of Distinction program. The Young Men of distinction (YMOD) was created to provide additional social and emotional support for male student in grades 6-12 with a Tier II behavior plan. The YMOD program provides opportunities for exposure, mentorship and access to positive male role models within and outside the community. Their presentation included the men that have already spoke to the young men or are mentors.

Lobeco Update

Mrs. Wendy Cartledge and Mr. Robert Oetting updated the Board on the status of the Lobeco property. Additional information is still needed from both the County and Head Start.

Survey Student Flight Update

Mrs. Carol Crutchfield present data from a parent survey for students who left the district in 2020-2021 school year. The survey results reflected 504 individual students from 330 survey respondents. The survey asked four questions:

- How many students do you have no longer attending Beaufort County School District schools?
- Please indicate the reason your student(s) left the Beaufort County School District (You may select more than one answer).
- Does your student(s) plan to return to a Beaufort County School District school for the 2021-2022 school year?
- Is there anything you think the BCSD should know about your choice?

The survey also listed other factors to consider:

- Beaufort County has a transient population
- What is the typical loss each year?
- What is the typical gain each year?
- BCSD has never surveyed parents who left the District in the past. It isn't known how similar or different these survey results would be from a typical year?
- Of the kindergarten students who never started with us this year, how many might start school with BCSD as 1st graders, since Kindergarten is not compulsory?

Day 1 of the two-day work session was recessed at 3:11 p.m.

Day 2 – March 20, 2021

Dr. Gwozdz reconvened the Board’s two-day work session at 9 a.m.

Draft Work Plan

Dr. Rodriguez presented the draft Annual Work Plan for the Board’s input. The Work Plan has the meeting dates and all the OEs are placed on calendar indicating at what meeting they will be discussed. The Mrs. Tonya Crosby shared that the calendar is modeled after the one that is used by Horry County School District.

Debt Management

Ms. Frannie Heizer (Burr Forman McNair) and Chad Cowan (Hilltop Securities) presented and addressed the Board along with Mrs. Crosby.

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion to accept the debt management plan dated March 20, 2021. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Cathy Robine. The motion passed 11/0.

FY21-22 Budget Presentation

Mrs. Crosby presented a Budget Updated for Fiscal Year 2021-2022. Mrs. Crosby presentation included information on the current year tax revenue update.

2021 Budgeted \$149,733,105
Received \$ 88,722,435
Remaining \$ 61,010,670

2020-2021 Payment deadline for taxes were extended to March 31 due to late distribution of tax notices.

Mrs. Crosby stated that the next steps are to continue to compile expenditure information, monitor local tax revenues, and monitor state revenues and mandates.

Dr. Gwozdz and Dr. Rodriguez thanked the staff and consultants for the great presentations, and their hard work.

The Board’s two-day work session adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

(Signature on Official File Copy) _____ Date: April 6, 2021

David Striebinger, Secretary, Board of Education

Minutes prepared by Robyn Cushingberry, Executive Assistant

Motion Summary

A motion was made to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and passed 11/0.

A motion was made that Richard Geier and Wendy Cartledge explore the possibility of having a meeting regarding Board Culture and report back to the Board with time dates and cost. The motion was seconded and passed 11/0.

A motion was made to accept the debt management plan dated March 20, 2021. The motion was seconded and passed 11/0.