

BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
School Board Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2021
District Educational Services Center
Hybrid Meeting

Members Presents

Melvin Campbell, Vice Chair
David Striebinger, Secretary

Ingrid Boatright
Tricia Fidrych
Angela Middleton
William Smith

Earl Campbell
Richard Geier
Cathy Robine
Rachel Wisnefski

Member Absent

Christina Gwozdz, Chair

Mr. Melvin Campbell called the meeting to order at 4:30p.m.

Mrs. Cathy Robine made the motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of Employment matter regarding Personnel Ratification Report pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(1); Adult Education/Home School Report; discussion of proposed contractual arrangements for architect selection award for professional design services – summer renovation and modification projects FY 2023-2024 pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 9/2. William Smith was absent from the vote. Christina Gwozdz was absent from the meeting.

Mr. Melvin Campbell called the meeting back to open session at 6:03 p.m.

Action from Executive Session

Mr. David Striebinger made the motion that the Board authorize the Superintendent to issue an award to Jumper Carter Sease Architects, P.A., Quackenbush Architects and Planners, Rosenblum Coe Architects, Inc. and SGA Narmour Wright Design for professional design services for Renovation and Modification Projects (Summer Work) FY 2023 - 2024. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to negotiate an architectural contract and, upon successful negotiations, execute a contract with each firm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Earl Campbell. The motion passed 8/1/1. William Smith voted against the motion. Rachel Wisnefski abstained from the vote.

Mr. David Striebinger made the motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for the monthly Adult Education/Home school Report for September 2021. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Tricia Fidrych. The motion passed 9/0/1. William Smith abstained from the vote.

Mr. David Striebinger made the motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendations for employment listed on the September 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021 Personnel Ratification Report. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Cathy Robine. The motion passed 10/0. ([The link to the redacted September 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021 Personnel Ratification Report.](#))

Mrs. Cathy Robine made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Tricia Fidrych. The motion passed 10/0.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A moment of silence was observed.

Mr. Campbell stated that the media was properly notified.

Performance

The Beaufort-Jasper Academy for Career Excellence students demonstrated first-aid techniques under the direction of EMT instructor Jennifer Calcorzi.

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

- Character Education Students for the Month of August
 - Northern BCSD – Joseph S. Shanklin Elementary School – PreK student Jaxon Bronner
 - Southern BCSD – May River High School – 9th grade student Angel Gatica Teodoro
- District Teacher of the Year - Aimee Whitesell from Battery Creek High School

Public Comments

Linda Moyd Hill spoke about COVID related deaths and other topics.

Chairman's Report

Mr. Campbell provided a schedule of suggested dates for the Superintendent's evaluation:

October 19, 2021 – Dr. Rodriguez's packet and Evaluation Instrument given to Board members

October 26, 2021 – Board members return packet and completed evaluation no later than 5 pm

October 27, 2021 – Board Chair tally the Evaluation Scores

October 28, 2021 – Board would meet with Dr. Rodriguez for Evaluation

CLOC Update – The Citizen Led Oversight Committee (CLOC) Chair, Ted Barber, provided an update on referendum projects.

Committee Reports

Academic Committee: Cathy Robine, chair shared topics from the last academic committee meeting.

The next committee is scheduled for Wednesday, October 27 at 4:30 p.m.

Superintendent's Report

Goal #1 Student Achievement

- ESOL Audit Review - Dr. Mary Stratos introduced Diana Dromsky, Coordinator of World Languages and then presented information on the history of Title III and the ESOL monitoring results.

Mr. William Smith made the motion to direct the Superintendent to bring back an update on the Gullah people liaison. The motion was seconded by Mr. Earl Campbell. The motion failed 1/8/1. Earl Campbell, David Striebinger, Cathy Robine, Melvin Campbell, Rachel Wisnefski, Richard Geier, Angela Middleton, Ingrid Boatright voted against the motion. Tricia Fidrych abstained from the vote.

- Department of Defense Education Grant – Dr. Stratos announced the district is the recipient of a department of defense grant titled Rethinking Mathematics through the Integration of Computer Science. Nicholas Flowers, Director of Teaching and Learning, provided information on the grant.

Goal #3 Fiscal Responsibility

- \$100K Report – Mrs. Tonya Crosby presented the \$100K Report and explained that it was the report from last month.
- Other Matters – Dr. Frank Rodriguez provided COVID case numbers from last week.

Consent Agenda

- September 21, 2021 BOE Meetings Minutes
- OE.12.3, OE12.9 and OE12.13 Instructional Program
- OE14.1, OE14.2, Learning Environment Treatment of Students

Mrs. Cathy Robine made the motion to approve the items on the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 10/0.

Work Session Agenda Topics

- Report on Gullah-Geechee impact on Language
- Colonel Geier would like to discuss the African American History Education Conference scheduled for February 2022.
- Mrs. Ingrid Boatright would like to discuss international teachers and visas.

Future Topics

- Mrs. Cathy Robine would like to revisit profile of a Beaufort County graduate.

Announcements

Mr. William Smith announced the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has rejected Gov. Henry McMaster and State Attorney General Alan Wilson's challenge to a federal ruling that allowed school districts to require masks.

Public Comments

- David Cook spoke about the social-emotional survey sent home for parents to fill out.

The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:46 p.m.

(Signature on Official File Copy) _____ Date: October 19, 2021

David Striebinger, Secretary, Board of Education

Minutes prepared by Robyn Cushingberry, Executive Assistant

Motion Summary

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A motion was made to approve the items on the consent agenda. The motion was seconded and passed 10/0.

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