

**BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**School Board Meeting Minutes**  
**October 19, 2021**  
**Hilton Head Island School for the Creative Arts**  
**Hybrid Meeting**

**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

Dr. Christina Gwozdz called the meeting to order at 4:30p.m.

**Mrs. Tricia Fidrych made the motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of receipt of legal advice covered by the attorney client privilege concerning fiscal authority pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of proposed contractor awards and contract negotiations for Capital Renewal renovation and Modifications Projects pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded by Mr. Earl Campbell. The motion passed 11/0.**

Dr. Gwozdz called the meeting back to open session at 6:00 p.m.

**Action from Executive Session**

**Mr. David Striebinger made the motion that the Board authorize the Superintendent to issue an award to Ajax Building Company, Charles Perry Partners, Inc., M.B. Kahn Construction Co., Inc., and Thompson Turner Construction to provide Capital Renewal Renovations and Modifications Projects – Pre- Construction/Construction Phase Services, as described in RFP #22-004. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to execute a contract with each firm upon the expiration of the protest period. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Cathy Robine. The motion passed 9/1/1. William Smith voted against the motion. Rachel Wisnefski abstained from the vote.**

**Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion to approve the agenda as presented with the removal of the October 5, 2021 minutes from consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melvin Campbell. The motion passed 10/1. William Smith voted against the motion.**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A moment of silence was observed in honor of former educator Maggie Pope.

Dr. Gwozdz stated that the media was properly notified.

**Performance**

The May River High School's Mastersingers choir performing "Seasons of Love" from Rent. Jason Snyder, Director of Choral and Orchestral Activities, spoke about the performance.

[https://youtu.be/gNo5coLA\\_4M](https://youtu.be/gNo5coLA_4M)

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

- Character Education Students of the Month of September
  - Northern BCSD - Michael Haynes-Echols, an eighth grader at Beaufort Middle School.
  - Southern BCSD - Cassie (CAH see) Donaldson, a fourth grader at Daufuskie Island Elementary.

### **Public Comments**

- Bryna Dean, spoke about quarantine, and redemption.
- Sean Apgar, spoke about quarantine, and fear mongering.
- Kate Chiafalo, shared concerns about outsourcing paraprofessional to ESS and the lack of communication to paraprofessional staff.

### **Chairman's Report**

Dr. Gwozdz shared an update on SCSBA Regional Advocacy Meeting that she and Mr. Earl Campbell attended, and reminded the Board of the Superintendent's evaluation schedule that was listed on the agenda. The Special Called Executive Session for the Superintendent's Evaluation will begin at 5:00 pm on Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup>.

### **Committee Reports**

*Finance Committee:* Richard Geier, chair shared that the committee met on October 14 and received a Sole Source procurement report and mileage rate update. The committee also discussed fiscal autonomy at the meeting.

*Operations Committee:* Tricia Fidrych chair, shared information from the committee meeting that was held on October 13. The Committee will meet again on October 26. Mrs. Fidrych stated that Mr. Corbin will provide the Construction update and the mid-program referendum reset that was presented to the Operations Committee meeting.

- Mr. Robert Corbin provided a construction update, then presented the mid-program referendum reset.

*Technology Committee:* David Striebinger, chair shared that the committee met on October 14 and reviewed OE 17-11, Broadband Expansion. The OE was placed on consent agenda.

### **Superintendent's Report**

#### **Goal #3 Fiscal Responsibility**

- Hilton Head Island TIF Updated – Mr. Reggie Murphy stated that Mr. Troyer was scheduled to update the Board on the Hilton Head Island TIF, but the Hilton Head Town Council meeting was still in session. The update will be rescheduled
- Update on Impact Fees - Dr. Rodriguez shared that he and Mrs. Tonya Crosby met with Beaufort County Administrator, Eric Greenway, on October 8 to discuss impact fees. Mr. Greenway shared that the intergovernmental agreement between the county and the Town of Bluffton has not been finalized. He and Mrs. Crosby also met with the Bluffton Town Manager on October 13. .

- Monthly Transparency, monthly \$100k, and Board monthly budget reports – Mr. Murphy was available to answer questions that the Board had on the monthly reports.
- ESSER Update -Mrs. Denise Mattson provided an update on ESSER funds.
  - Mrs. LaKinsha Swinton presented on counseling resources available to employees.
- Other Matters - COVID Update – Dr. Rodriguez stated that the numbers remain low. The data for the previous week - 6 positive staff member cases, 1 member quarantined, 38 positive student cases, 195 students quarantined.

**Dr. Rachel Wisnefski made the motion to approve the October 5, 2021 Board meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 10/0/1. Christina Gwozdz abstained from the vote.**

#### **Consent Agenda**

- OE16 - FOIA Monitoring Report for the Third Quarter
- OE17.11 – Broad Band Expansion

**Dr. Rachel Wisnefski made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. David Striebinger. The motion passed 10/1. William Smith voted against the motion.**

#### **Future Agenda Topics**

- Mr. William Smith would like an update on the HR grievances policy.

#### **Announcements**

Dr. Gwozdz reminded present Board members to take the Superintendent’s packet before they leave, and for those members who are not present to arrange to pick-up their packet.

Dr. Rachel Wisnefski announced that the Ad Hoc Bluffton Growth Committee meeting has been cancelled for the month of October due to the Special Called Executive Session Board meeting.

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:38 p.m.

(Signature on Official File Copy) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: November 2, 2021

David Striebinger, Secretary, Board of Education

Minutes prepared by Robyn Cushingberry, Executive Assistant

## Motion Summary

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### Action from Executive Session

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A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented with the removal of the October 5, 2021 minutes from consent agenda. The motion was seconded and passed 10/1. William Smith voted against the motion.

A motion was made to approve the October 5, 2021 Board meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and passed 10/0/1. Christina Gwozdz abstained from the vote.

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded and passed 10/1. William Smith voted against the motion.

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