

BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
School Board Meeting Minutes
May 17, 2022
Hilton Head Island Library
Hybrid Meeting

Members Presents

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

Members Absent

Ingrid Boatright
Rachel Wisnefski

Mr. David Striebinger called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Dr. Christina Gwozdz made the motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Receipt of legal advice related to impact fees covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); receipt of legal advice related to one pending claim covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contract extension for financial advisor services with Compass Municipal Advisor, LLC pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contract extension for banking services with First Citizens Bank pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed Safety/Security Technology Infrastructure GMP at M.C. Riley School, Amendment #5 to Ajax Building Company contract pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed Safety/Security Technology Infrastructure and Athletics GMP at Beaufort Middle School, Amendment #7 to Thompson Turner contract pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed Safety/Security Technology Infrastructure GMP at Lady's Island's island Elementary School, Amendment #7 to Thompson Turner contract pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed Safety/Security Technology Infrastructure GMP at St. Helena Island Elementary School, Amendment #4 to Ajax contract pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed renovations at Hilton Head Island Middle School, Amendment #2 to Thompson Turner contract pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded by Cathy Robine. The motion passed 9/0. Ingrid Boatright and Rachel Wisnefski were absent from the meeting.

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

Action from Executive Session

Mrs. Angela Middleton made the motion that the Board of Education approve a five (5) year contract with Compass Municipal Advisors, LLC commencing on July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2027. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 8/1. William Smith voted against the motion.

Mrs. Angela Middleton made the motion that the Board of Education approve to extend the current contract with First Citizens Bank for a period of one (1) year. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 9/0.

Mrs. Angela Middleton made the motion that the Board of Education approve the corrected Amendment #5 with Ajax Building Company for Safety/Security and Technology/Infrastructure at M.C. Riley Elementary School based on the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of \$867,643. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Cathy Robine. The motion passed 9/0.

Mrs. Angela Middleton made the motion that the Board of Education approve Amendment #7 with Thompson Turner Construction for Safety/Security, Technology/Infrastructure and Athletic at Beaufort Middle School based on the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of \$3,299,996. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Cathy Robine. The motion passed 9/0.

Mrs. Angela Middleton made the motion that the Board of Education approve Amendment #3 with Ajax Building Company for Safety/Security and Technology/Infrastructure at Lady's Island Elementary School based on the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of \$786,481. The motion was seconded by Colonel Richard Geier. The motion passed 9/0.

Mrs. Angela Middleton made the motion that the Board of Education approve Amendment #4 with Ajax Building Company for Safety/Security and Technology/Infrastructure at St. Helena Elementary School based on the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of \$1,397,363. The motion was seconded by Mr. William Smith. The motion passed 9/0.

Mrs. Angela Middleton made the motion that the Board of Education approve Amendment #2 for the renovation work at Hilton Head Island Middle School with Thompson Turner Construction for a Guaranteed Maximum Price in the amount of \$28,326,789. The motion was seconded by Mr. William Smith. The motion passed 9/0.

Dr. Christina Gwozdz made the motion to approve the Board of Education agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Tricia Fidrych. The motion passed 9/0.

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

Mr. Striebinger stated that the media was properly notified.

Student Performance

The Beaufort Middle School Gifted/Talented Gryphon Musicians performed the Beaufort Middle school Alma Mater and Up Town Funk under the direction of music teacher Amanda Trimpey.

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

- **SC National History Day Written Competition** – Emily Henderson, 10th grade student at Bluffton High School
- **Character Education for March for Southern BCSD**- is Jackson Mazey, 10th grade at May River High School.

- **Character Education for April** for Southern BCSD – Madalyn Ricciardi, 4th grade at Red Cedar Elementary.
- **River of Words Cover of the Publication Winner** – Ahtziry Camacho, 7th grade at H.E. McCracken Middle School
- **Teachers of the Year and Support Staff of the Year recognitions**

The 2022-2023 Teacher of the Year and Support Staff of the Year for the following schools are:

Adult Education

TOY: Peggie Darien

SOY: Nykerria Aiken

Battery Creek High

TOY: Justine Hardy

SOY: Quintin Moultrie

Beaufort Elementary

TOY: Paige Grennan

SOY: Shannon Switzer

Beaufort High

TOY: Dawn Peebles

SOY: Christina Allen

Beaufort/Jasper Academy for Career Excellence

TOY: Edwin Tucker

SOY: Steve Bove

Beaufort Middle

TOY: Jordan Pender

SOY: John Uhlman

Bluffton Elementary and ECC

TOY: Laura Bradley

SOY: Sharonne Allen

Bluffton High

TOY: Jeron Martinez

SOY: Kathy Oslon

Bluffton Middle

TOY: Kinsey Butler

SOY: Debbie Cepollina

Broad River Elementary

TOY: Tracy Maxwell

SOY: Alicia Shaw

Coosa Elementary

TOY: Jennifer Lyles

SOY: Kimberly Fickes

H.E. McCracken Middle

TOY: Kelly McMahan

SOY: Lisa Paquin-Groth

Hilton Head Early Childhood Center

TOY: Teresa Nelson

SOY: Chris Ponsini

Hilton Head Island High

TOY: Garret Talarczyk

SOY: DaisyDianne Morgan

Hilton Head Island IB Elementary

TOY: Helen Ashston

SOY: Gayle Oslund

Hilton Head Island Middle

TOY: Dr. Laverne Stewart

SOY: Stephanie Vanderpool

Hilton Head Island School for the Creative Arts

TOY: Emily Jeffords

SOY: Judith Clouse

Joseph S. Shanklin Elementary

TOY: Cathy Cobbs

SOY: Luann Jayne

Lady's Island Elementary

TOY: Angela Tidwell

SOY: Julie Riddle

Lady's Island Middle

TOY: Marta Smith

SOY: Tammy Smith

May River High

TOY: Karri Kearns

SOY: Melissa Halsey

Michael C. Riley Elementary

TOY: Victoria Cockrell

SOY: Kevin Fulton

Mossy Oaks Elementary

TOY: Becky Schlack-Babb

SOY: Jodi Knorr

Okatie Elementary

TOY: Diane Woods

SOY: Kate Leighton

Port Royal Elementary

TOY: Kimberly Islas

SOY: Holly Mehrer

Pritchardville Elementary

TOY: Rosemary Birchall

SOY: Julie Houchin

Red Cedar Elementary

TOY: Aneta Garbutt-Cummings

SOY: Melody Wright

River Ridge Academy

TOY: Lauren Borasky

SOY: Lindsay Catanzaro

Robert Smalls International Academy

TOY: Amber Reeves

SOY: Raquel Hernandez Cardenas

St. Helena Island Elementary

TOY: Cheilon Preston

SOY: Rebekkah Mickel

Whale Branch Early College High

TOY: Robert "Jack" Bryant

SOY: Sharika Green

Whale Branch Elementary/Davis ECC

TOY: Cindy Crosby
SOY: Shonda Royals

Whale Branch Middle

TOY: Blakely Fowler
SOY: Angela Wright

Transportation Department

SOY: Kimiko Miller

Office of Early Childhood Education

SOY: Mayra Toro

Right Choices

SOY: Onika Wright

District Office: Melissa Hibbs, Operations Specialist in the Finance Department

Public Comments

- Matthew Dailey, Hilton Head Island, spoke about a mortgage program for teachers.
- David Cook, Hilton Head Island, spoke about student's opting out of taking state assessments and teacher salaries with the stipulation that they receive training on student and parent constitutional rights.
- Linda M. Moyd Hill, St. Helena Island, spoke about teacher salaries.
- Leah Greco, a school psychologist spoke regarding increasing school psychologist's salaries.
- Wen Wu, BCSD teacher spoke regarding teacher salaries.
- Mary Moyd, St. Helena Island, spoke about the Beaufort High colors and mascot.
- Susan Watson, (Phone), spoke about her student's bullying experience with H.E. McCracken.
- Joseph Castagnino, (Phone), spoke about the school district.
- Jennifer Gleitsmann, Hilton Head Island, spoke regarding teacher salaries.

Committee Reports

Academics Committee: Cathy Robine, chair shared that the committee met on May 4 and received presentations on AR IS-4 School Year Calendar; school libraries and librarians; and text- book adoption. The next Academic Committee meeting will be in June.

Finance Committee: Richard Geier, chair shared that the committee met on May 10 and received several briefings. They received presentation on a 3rd quarter financial report; a report on the model procurement code and code exemptions.

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion that the Beaufort County Board of Education adopt the SC 2020 Model School District Procurement Code. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Angela Middleton. The motion passed 9/0.

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion that the Beaufort County Board of Education approve the Beaufort County School District procurement code exemptions as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 8/0/1. William Smith abstained.

Mrs. Kaylee Yinger and Mrs. Tonya Crosby addressed the Board's questions.

Operations Committee: Tricia Fidrych, committee member shared that the committee met on May 11th and received a first quarter FOIA report and a presentation on a joint grant request with the Town of Bluffton. Mr. Robert Oetting addressed the Board's questions.

Mrs. Tricia Fidrych made the motion that the Board of Education approve the draft letter regarding the Town of Bluffton Application for the section 319 Grant. The motion was seconded by Colonel Richard Geier. The motion passed 9/0.

The next Operations Committee meeting will be May 18, 12 p.m. at the district office to discuss 8% projects.

Mr. Oetting provided a construction update.

Superintendent's Report

Goal #1 Student Achievement

- Textbook Adoption
Dr. Mary Stratos, Mr. Nick Flowers and Ms. Karen McKenzie presented a presentation on 2021-2022 textbook adoption.

Goal #3 Fiscal Responsibility

- Monthly Transparency Report
- Monthly \$100K Report
- Board Monthly Budget
Mrs. Tonya Crosby addressed the Board's questions related to the monthly transparency, monthly \$100k, and Board monthly budget reports.
- ESSER Update
Mrs. Denise Mattson provided an update on ESSER funds.

Board Business

- 2022-2023 Budget Certification
Colonel Richard Geier made the motion that the Beaufort County Board of Education approve and certify the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$298,133,593 with an operations millage of 125.6 mills. The motion was seconded by Mr. Earl Campbell. The motion passed 9/0.

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion that the Beaufort County Board of Education approve and certify the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Debt Service Fund Budget in the amount of \$81,084,495 with a Debt Service Millage of 36.3 mills. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 8/0/1. William Smith abstained.

- Approval of Textbook Adoption for 2022-2023 School Year
Mrs. Cathy Robine made the motion that the Beaufort County School District Board of Education approves the proposed textbooks adoption selection in accordance with SC State Board of Education Regulation 43-70 and BCSD Administrative Regulation IS 36 as presented at the May 17, 2022 Board of Education meeting at no cost to the district and upon availability of state funding. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melvin Campbell. The motion passed 9/0.
- SCSBA Request for 2022-2023 Legislative Proposals and Changes to SCSBA Constitution.

Board members discussed the South Carolina School Board Association's (SCSBA) request for 2022-2023 legislative proposals and changes to the SCSBA Constitution. The Legislative Committee will bring back to the full Board any recommendations.

Consent Agenda

- May 3, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes
- OE16.1 and 16.2 FOIA – 2022 First Quarter Monitoring Report

Dr. Christina Gwozdz mad the motion to accept the items on the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Angela Middleton. The motion passed 8/1. William Smith voted against the motion.

Future Agenda Topics

- William Smith would like an update about missing information on the new website.

Announcements

Dr. Rodriguez shared information from middle school athletics.

Public Comments

- Fitz McAden, Hilton Head Island spoke about public awareness regarding the FY 2022-23 budget.

Meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

(Signature on Official File Copy) _____ Date: June 7, 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 Receipt of legal advice related to impact fees covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); receipt of legal advice related to one pending claim covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contract extension for financial advisor services with Compass Municipal Advisor, LLC pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contract extension for banking services with First Citizens Bank pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed Safety/Security Technology Infrastructure GMP at M.C. Riley School, Amendment #5 to Ajax Building Company contract pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed Safety/Security Technology Infrastructure and Athletics GMP at Beaufort Middle School, Amendment #7 to Thompson Turner contract pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed Safety/Security Technology Infrastructure GMP at Lady's Island's island Elementary School, Amendment #7 to Thompson Turner contract pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed Safety/Security Technology Infrastructure GMP at St. Helena Island Elementary School, Amendment #4 to Ajax contract pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed renovations at Hilton Head Island Middle School, Amendment #2 to Thompson Turner contract pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded and passed 9/0. Ingrid Boatright and Rachel Wisnefski were absent from the meeting.

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