

BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
School Board Meeting Minutes
August 2, 2022
District Educational Services Center
Hybrid Meeting

Members Presents

David Striebinger, Chair	Ingrid Boatright	Earl Campbell	I
Cathy Robine, Vice Chair	Melvin Campbell	Richard Geier	
	Christina Gwozdz	William Smith	
	Rachel Wisnefski		

Members Absent

Angela Middleton, Secretary
Tricia Fidrych

Mr. David Striebinger called the meeting to order at 4:30p.m.

Dr. Christina Gwozdz made the motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of legal advice regarding three pending claims covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); receipt of legal advice and attorney client privilege regarding pending worker's compensation claim pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); personnel matters; discussion of employment pursuant to S.C. Code 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 negotiations incident to proposed potential purchase of property in Bluffton, South Carolina pursuant to S.C. Code Ann Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded by Mrs. Cathy Robine. The motion passed 8/0. Angela Middleton and Tricia Fidrych were absent from the meeting. William Smith was absent from the vote.

Mr. David Striebinger called the meeting back to order at 6:01p.m.

Action from Executive Session

Mrs. Cathy Robine made the motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation for the monthly Adult Education/Home School Report for August 2022. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 9/0.

Mrs. Cathy Robine made the motion that the Board approve settlement authority in the pending worker's compensation case in the amount of \$93,179.81. The motion was seconded by Mr. Earl Campbell. The motion passed 9/0.

Dr. Christina Gwozdz made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Earl Campbell.

Dr. Rachel Wisnefski made the motion to amend the agenda to move the final approval of GC2.15 for adoption to under the Policy Committee report. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Cathy Robine. The motion passed 9/0.

The motion to approve the agenda passed 9/0.

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

Mr. Striebinger stated that the media was properly notified.

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

- Beaufort County School District award the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting
- **2021 -2022 Retirees**
 - Battery Creek High – Julia Blake, Diane Murray
 - Beaufort Elementary – Jacquelyn Milly, Catherin Power
 - Beaufort High – Ronald Lanham, Dawn Peebles, Charity Summers
 - Beaufort Middle – Hattie Green, Angela Jenkins, Hollis Lambert, Donna Nance, Karen Plair
 - Bluffton Elementary – Nancy Toggweiler
 - Bluffton High – Michael Tew, Dennis Vernon, Margaret Williams
 - Broad River Elementary – Kelly Adams, Nancy Parrish
 - Coosa Elementary – Amy Horne
 - District Office – Terry Bennett, Terry Bullock, David Earnest, Neva Edrington, Lisa Nelson, Sonia Perez Roberson, Valerie Zentner
 - Food Service – Florie Eugene
 - Hilton Head Early Childhood – Elizabeth Brown, Ginette Evans, Nancy Forbes
 - Hilton Head High – Lori Cohen
 - Hilton Head Island Elementary – Terri Foy, John Slaughter
 - Hilton Head Middle – Edward Digenova
 - Hilton Head School for the Creative Arts Elementary – Barbara Cifaldi
 - Lady’s Island Elementary – Lori Baggett, Barbara Doctor, Ronette Grant, Harry Smith
 - Lady’s Island Middle – Carmen Bell
 - May River High – Duncan Aspinwall-Winter, Susan Dee
 - M.C. Riley Elementary – Aurella Colella, Susan Tomlinson
 - McCracken Middle – Renata Booth, Tina Mercer, John Woodring
 - Mossy Oaks Elementary – Sherry Heyward, Michelle Libsitz, Dana Mullins
 - Okatie Elementary – Elizabeth Goodwin, Jamie Pinckney
 - Right Choices Program – Francina Dantzler, Philander McDomick
 - River Ridge Academy – Lorene Pryor, Deborah Wilkerson
 - Robert Smalls International Academy – Jennifer Shattuck
 - Shanklin Elementary – Ronald Eugene, Michael Mercer
 - St. Helena Elementary – Jalal Laurel
 - Transportation – Caesar Wright
 - Whale Branch High – Peter Burvenich, Robert Carlin, James Raymond, Richard Stowe
 - Whale Branch Middle – Venita Barnette, Roberts Smalls

Public Comment

- Wilda Chisolm, A former employee spoke regarding a grievance against the human resources department.

Chair’s Update

Mr. Striebinger shared a response from County Council member Paul Sommerville regarding the entrance to Beaufort High School.

Committee Reports

Academics Committee: Cathy Robine, chair stated the committee met on July 26 and revisited Administrative Regulation IS 38 and IS 38.1. The committee also received a presentation on OE 12. The next committee meeting is August 24 at 5 p.m.

Operations Committee: Ingrid Boatright, chair shared that the committee reviewed four Administrative Regulations – OS-30 Service Animals; OS-33 Safety Drills; SS-58 Crisis Plan; and SS-50 Suicide Awareness and Prevention.

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made that motion that the Board of Education approve the Fire and Safety Program for Beaufort County School District. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melvin Campbell. The motion passed 9/0.

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion to approve the deed of right of way at River Ridge Academy to Beaufort County. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Cathy Robine. The motion passed 9/0.

The next committee meeting is August 10 at 4:00 p.m.

Policy Committee: Rachel Wisniewski shared that the committee met on July 14. (Dr. Wisniewski gave the report since the chair was absent.)

Dr. Rachel Wisniewski made the motion for final approval of policy GC2.15 and for adoption. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 9/0.

Dr. Rachel Wisniewski made the motion to approve OE8.11 to state “Shall ensure that District Administrative Regulations regarding creation or changes to school logos & crests are outlined, monitored and followed.” And move current OE8.11 to OE8.12. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 9/0.

Dr. Rachel Wisniewski made the motion to approve OE8.10 and GC3.8 with the additions of GC3.9 and GC3.10. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 9/0.

Superintendent’s Report

Goal #1 Student Achievement

- Instructional 2022-2023 Kick-Off
The Instructional Services Department staff [presented information](#) on instructional programs for the 2022-23 school year and addressed the Board’s questions.

Other Matters

- Back to School Expo
Dr. Rodriguez shared his experience at the Back-to-School Expo.

Board Business Action

- Final approval of Policy OE6.16 for Adoption
Dr. Rachel Wisniewski made the motion for final approval of Policy OE616 for adoption. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 8/0/1. William Smith abstained from the vote.

- Approval of rescheduling August 26, 2022 Work Session to September 9, 2022.
Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion to move the August 26, 2022 Work Session to September 9, 2022. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melvin Campbell. The motion passed 8/1. Christina Gwozdz voted against the motion.

Consent Agenda

- July 12, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes
- OE12 Instruction Program

Dr. Rachel Wisnefski made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 8/0/1. William Smith abstained from the vote.

Future Agenda Topics

- Mrs. Ingrid Boatright would like information on Technology/Stem Education.
- Mr. Mel Campbell would like to discuss suspending the Student Athletic Grade Point Average Administrative Regulation for another year.

Announcements

- Mr. Striebinger shared that Beaufort Regional Chamber of Commerce is hosting an Educator Appreciation Event Tuesday, August 9, 2022 3:30 – 6:00pm at Tabby Place in downtown Beaufort.
- Dr. Rachel Wisnefski wished everyone a good year as we begin the next school year.
- Mr. Earl Campbell shared that the Adult Education Graduation is Saturday, August 6, 2022 at 10 a.m. on Saturday at Whale Branch High School.
- Dr. Rodriguez provided information on the first day of Summer Institute and announced the Top 5 finalists for 2022-23 District Teacher of the Year:
 - Kinsey Butler, band teacher at Bluffton Middle School
 - Justine Hardy, health science teacher at Battery Creek High School
 - Karri Kearns, math teacher at May River High School
 - Jennifer Lyles, third grade teacher at Coosa Elementary School
 - Dr. Laverne Stewart, language arts teacher at Hilton Head Island Middle

Public Comments

- Wilda Chisolm, a former employee wanted to share documents regarding a grievance against the human resources department.

The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:29 p.m.

(Signature on Official File Copy) _____ Date: August 16, 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 legal advice regarding three pending claims covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); receipt of legal advice and attorney client privilege regarding pending worker's compensation claim pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); personnel matters; discussion of employment pursuant to S.C. Code 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 negotiations incident to proposed potential purchase of property in Bluffton, South Carolina pursuant to S.C. Code Ann Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded and passed 8/0. Angela Middleton and Tricia Fidrych were absent from the meeting. William Smith was absent from the vote.

Action from Executive Session

A motion was made to accept the Superintendent's recommendation for the monthly Adult Education/Home School Report for August 2022. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0.

A motion was made that the Board approve settlement authority in the pending worker's compensation case in the amount of \$93,179.81. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0.

A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded.

An amended motion was made to amend the agenda by moving the final approval of GC2.15 for adoption to under the Policy Committee report. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Cathy Robine. The motion passed 9/0.

The motion to approve the agenda passed 9/0.

A motion was made that the Board of Education approve the Fire and Safety Program for Beaufort County School District. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0.

A motion was made to approve the deed of right of way at River Ridge Academy to Beaufort County. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0.

A motion was made for final approval of policy GC2.15 and for adoption. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0.

A motion was made to approve OE8.11 to state "Shall ensure that District Administrative Regulations regarding creation or changes to school logos & crests are outlined, monitored and followed." And move current OE8.11 to OE8.12. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0.

A motion was made to approve OE8.10 and GC3.8 with the additions of GC3.9 and GC3.10. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0.

A motion was made for final approval of Policy OE616 for adoption. The motion was seconded and passed 8/0/1. William Smith abstained from the vote.

A motion was made to move the August 26, 2022 Work Session to September 9, 2022. The motion was seconded and passed 8/1. Christina Gwozdz voted against the motion.

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded and passed 8/0/1. William Smith abstained from the vote.

Consent Agenda

- July 12, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes
- OE12 Instruction Program