

BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
School Board Meeting Minutes
June 21, 2022
Hilton Head Library
Hybrid Meeting

Members Presents

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

Member Absent

Angela Middleton, Secretary

Mrs. Cathy Robine called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Dr. Christina Gwozdz made the motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of receipt of legal advice on bonds covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70 (a)(2); receipt of legal advice regarding pending claim covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); receipt of information related to security plans pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-20(c); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed James J. Davis Elementary School HVAC Replacements Amendment #12 to Ajax Building Company, LLC contract pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded by Mr. Earl Campbell.

Mr. David Striebinger amended the motion pursuant to S.C. Code Annotated Section 30-4-80(a), that the Board of Education finds that an exigent circumstance exists and that the following item be added to the Executive Session agenda; discussion of employment, appointment, promotion, compensation pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a). The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 9/0. Angela Middleton was absent from the meeting. Melvin Campbell was absent from the vote.

Dr. Christina Gwozdz made the final motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of receipt of legal advice on bonds covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70 (a)(2); receipt of legal advice regarding pending claim covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); receipt of information related to security plans pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-20(c); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed James J. Davis Elementary School HVAC Replacements Amendment #12 to Ajax Building Company, LLC contract pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of employment, appointment, promotion, compensation pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(1). The motion was seconded by Mr. Earl Campbell. The motion passed 9/0. Melvin Campbell was absent from the vote.

Mrs. Cathy Robine called the meeting back into public session at 6:02 p.m.

Action from Executive Session

Mr. David Striebinger made the motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendation to employ Carla F. Shelton as principal of Beaufort High School. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 9/1. William Smith voted against the motion.

Mr. David Striebinger made the motion that the Board of Education approve Amendment #12 with Ajax Building company, LLC for the James J. Davis Early Childhood Center HVAC Replacements based

on the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of \$837,767.44 using FY2023 8% Capital Projects funds. The motion was seconded by Mr. William Smith. The motion passed 9/0/1. Rachel Wisnefski abstained from the vote.

Dr. Christina Gwozdz made the motion to approve tonight's agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 10/0.

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

Mrs. Robine stated that the media was properly notified.

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

- **Character Education for May for Southern BCSD** – is Yahir Altuzar-Camacho, a fifth-grade student at River Ridge Academy

Public Comment

The following current and former teachers spoke regarding the FY 2022 budget.

- Karen Erwin, Beaufort
- Mardy Burleson, Bluffton
- Lauren Borasky, Okatie

Chair's Report

Mr. David Striebinger recognized Dr. Candace Bruder, for writing the Board's submittal of the South Carolina School Board Association Champions for Public Education Award nomination on behalf of the Citizen Led Oversight Committee (CLOC).

Mr. Striebinger also stated that any Board member interested in being on the Ad Hoc combined North/South of the Broad committee should notify Robyn Cushingberry.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee: Richard Geier, chair shared that the committee met on June 9th, and the following recommended motions came from the committee meeting:

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion that the Beaufort County Board of Education authorize the issuance of a not exceeding \$7,500,000 Tax Anticipation Note, series 2022, taxable or tax-exempt, of the School District of Beaufort County, South Carolina; authorizing the sale of said note to the South Carolina Association of Governmental Organizations pursuant to the terms of its TAN program; prescribing the terms and conditions under which the note may be issued; providing for the form of note; providing for the payment thereof; authorizing certain officials of the School District to determine certain matters relating to the note; and other matters relating thereto. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 10/0.

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion that the Beaufort County Board of Education accept the monitoring report of OE 5-Financial Planning. The motion was seconded by Dr. Rachel Wisnefski. The motion passed 10/0.

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion to bring the Monthly Transparency Report, the 100K Report and the Monthly Board Budget Report to the Finance Committee to be vetted and provided to the full Board on the agenda in an appropriate manner. The motion was seconded by Dr. Rachel Wisnefski. The motion passed 10/0.

Legislative Committee: Christina Gwozdz, chair shared that the committee met last week with the district's lobbyist, Lynn Stokes Murray. Ms. Stokes Murray will be at the July Board meeting with a presentation. The committee will begin work on legislative priorities and meet again in the late summer/early fall.

Operations Committee: Ingrid Boatright, chair provided information regarding the 8% project list process and spoke to the recommended motion that came out of Committee.

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion that the Operations Committee recommend to the full Board the FY2024 8% Capital Projects Executive Summary as presented in an amount not to exceed \$25,000,000 using 8% capital funds. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melvin Campbell. The motion passed 9/1. William Smith voted against the motion.

Mr. Robert Corbin presented a construction update.

The Operations Committee will be on July 6 with human resources initiatives as an agenda item.

Superintendent's Report

Goal #1 Student Achievement

- Summer Programming Summary
Dr. Mary Stratos, and her staff presented a summer programming summary.

Goal #2 Highly Qualified Teachers and Administrators

- Introduction of New Personnel
Dr. Rodriguez introduced new principals for the following schools:
 - Tracy Lanese, Okatie Elementary School
 - Elandee Thompson, Beaufort Middle School
 - Carla Shelton, Beaufort High School
 - Michelle Brockway, Hilton Head Island Elementary School
 - Clinton Austin, Hilton Head Island Middle School
- Teacher Alternative Certification Information
Dr. Rodriguez provided information about alternative certification options for teachers.

Goal #3 Fiscal Responsibility

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

Other Matters

- Beaufort High School History Preservation
Dr. Rodriguez provided a brief update on the preservation of Beaufort High School's history.

Board Business Action

- Approval of \$25million Bond Resolution for FY2024 8% Projects
Mrs. Crosby and Ms. Frannie Heizer provided bond information to the Board.

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion that the Beaufort County Board of Education authorize the issuance and sale of not exceeding \$25,000,000 general obligation bonds, series 2022d, or such other appropriate series designation, of the school district of Beaufort County, South Carolina; fixing the form and details of the bonds; delegating to the superintendent or his lawfully authorized designee the authority to determine certain matters relating to the bonds; providing for the payment of the bonds and the disposition of the proceeds thereof;

and other matters relating thereto. The motion was seconded by Mr. Earl Campbell. The motion passed 9/1. William Smith voted against the motion.

- Approval of the Nomination for the SCSBA 2022 Champion of Education Award
Dr. Christina Gwozdz made the motion to approve the nomination of the Citizen Led Oversight Committee and submitted to the SCSBA by July 1, 2022 for the 2022 Champion of Education Award. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Tricia Fidrych. The motion passed 10/0.

Dr. Rachel Wisnefski made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 10/0.

Consent Agenda

- June 7, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes Draft
- OE-5 Financial Planning Report

Future Agenda Topics

- Mr. William Smith would like information on how the recession will affect the district moving forward.
- Mrs. Boatright would like information on mental health initiatives.
- Mr. Melvin Campbell would like information on the demographics of administrators and certified staff.

Public Comments

- Mrs. Moyd-Hill, Beaufort spoke regarding Beaufort High School's colors and mascot.

Dr. Christina Gwozdz made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Dr. Rachel Wisnefski. The motion passed 10/0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

(Signature on Official File Copy) _____ Date: July 12, 2022

Angela Middleton, Secretary, Board of Education

Minutes prepared by Robyn Cushingberry, Executive Assistant

Motion Summary

A motion was made to go into Executive Session for the purpose of receipt of legal advice on bonds covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70 (a)(2); receipt of legal advice regarding pending claim covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); receipt of information related to security plans pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-20(c); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed James J. Davis Elementary School HVAC Replacements Amendment #12 to Ajax Building Company, LLC contract pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded.

An amended motion was made pursuant to S.C. Code Annotated Section 30-4-80(a), that the Board of Education finds that an exigent circumstance exists and that the following item be added to the Executive Session agenda; discussion of employment, appointment, promotion, compensation pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a). The motion was seconded and passed 9/0. Angela Middleton was absent from the meeting. Melvin Campbell was absent from the vote.

A final motion was made to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of receipt of legal advice on bonds covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70 (a)(2); receipt of legal advice regarding pending claim covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); receipt of information related to security plans pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-20(c); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed James J. Davis Elementary School HVAC Replacements Amendment #12 to Ajax Building Company, LLC contract pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of employment, appointment, promotion, compensation pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(1). The motion was seconded and passed 9/0. Melvin Campbell was absent from the vote.

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A motion was made to approve the nomination of the Citizen Led Oversight Committee and submitted to the SCSBA by July 1, 2022 for the 2022 Champion of Education Award. The motion was seconded and passed 10/0.

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded and passed 10/0.

Consent Agenda

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