

**BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**School Board Meeting Minutes**  
**September 20, 2022**  
**Hilton Head Library**  
**Hybrid Meeting**

**Members Presents**

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

Mr. David Striebinger called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**Dr. Christina Gwozdz made the motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Employment Matter re: Personnel Ratification Report and discussion of employment, appointment, promotion, compensation pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(1); receipt of information related to safety and security pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-20(c); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed St. Helena Elementary School for gym Entry Canopy Contract Amendment #29 to Ajax Building Company, LLC pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed Bluffton High School for the remaining Safety/Security Scope Contract Amendment #23 with M.B. Kahn Construction Co. Inc., pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded by Mr. Earl Campbell. The motion passed 9/0. William Smith and Rachel Wisnefski were absent from the vote.**

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

**Action from Executive Session**

**Mrs. Cathy Robine made the motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendations for employment listed on the July 1 to August 31, 2022 Personnel Ratification Report. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 7/0/3. Ingrid Boatright, William Smith, and Rachel Wisnefski abstained from the vote. Angela Middleton was absent from the vote. (The link to the July 1 to August 31, 2022 Personnel Ratification Report will be located here when available.)**

**Mrs. Cathy Robine made the motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to employ Lucia Miletto-O'Brien as Director of Transportation. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Tricia Fidrych. The motion passed 9/0/2. William Smith and Rachel Wisnefski abstained from the vote.**

**Mrs. Cathy Robine Motion that the Board of Education approve Amendment #23 with MB Kahn Construction for the remaining Safety/Security work at Bluffton High School based on the Guaranteed**

**Maximum Price (GMP) of \$2,073,671. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 10/0/1. Rachel Wisnefski abstained from the vote.**

**Mrs. Cathy Robine made the motion that the Board of Education approve Amendment #29 with Ajax Building Company for St. Helena Elementary School Gym Entry Canopy based on the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of \$376,873. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Tricia Fidrych. The motion passed 9/1/1. William Smith voted against the motion. Rachel Wisnefski abstained from the vote.**

**Mrs. Cathy Robine made the motion that the Beaufort County Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to immediately terminate the Armed Security Guard Services contract with Security Solutions of America and use emergency procurement to secure new armed security guard services through June 30, 2023 until a new company can be selected through the competitive bid process. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 10/1. William Smith voted against the motion.**

**Dr. Christina Gwozdz made the request to remove the September 9, 2022 Work Session minutes from the consent agenda and have them place under board action.**

**Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion to approve the agenda with the removal of the September 9, 2022 Work Session minutes from consent and placed under board action. The motion was seconded by Dr. Rachel Wisnefski. The motion passed 11/0.**

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 High School Sea Island Sound performed “Gonna Fly Now” (Theme from Rocky), “Can’t Help Falling in Love”, and the BHS Alma Mater under the direction of band director William Nichols.

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

- **August Student of the Month – Southern BCSD Hilton Head Island School for the Creative Arts 4<sup>th</sup> grade student Aaron Zavala.**

### **Public Comments**

- David Cook, Hilton Head Island spoke over his allotted time about Constitution Day, a surprise visit from the social worker at School for the Creative Arts, Summer Institute, the bathroom policy, and the AC unit in his son’s classroom.
- Susana Cook (phone call) spoke about how her husband has been labeled as a “troublemaker” within the district.

### **Chair’s Update**

Mr. David Striebinger shared information regarding the 2022 SCSBA Delegate Assembly and asked Board Members to email him if they are interested in being a delegate.

## **Committee Reports**

**Finance Committee:** Richard Geier, chair shared that the committee met on September 8 and shared information on their agenda items.

Mrs. Tonya Crosby presented information from the FY2021-2022 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Financial Report.

**Colonel Richard Geier made the motion to recommend the acceptance of the Minority Women Owned Business Enterprise Report for June 30, 2022. The motion was seconded by Dr. Rachel Wisniewski. The motion passed 11/0.**

**Colonel Richard Geier made the motion that the Finance Committee receive the monthly ESSER Update for vetting then given to the full Board on the next available meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 9/2. Melvin Campbell, and William Smith voted against the motion.**

The finance committee will discuss the Transparency report, 100k report, board monthly budget, ESSER report, and the long-term costs in salaries at their next meeting.

**Operations Committee:** Ingrid Boatright, chair shared an executive summary of the committee discussion that took place at their meeting last week at Battery Creek High School.

## **Superintendent's Report**

Goal #1 Student Achievement

- MTTTS  
Dr. Mary Stratos introduced ISD and Student Services staff who presented on Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS).
- EOC & Career Readiness Release  
Mr. Daniel Fallon presented on the high school end-of-course (EOC) assessments & career readiness release.

Goal #3 Fiscal Responsibility

- ESSER Update  
Mrs. Denise Mattson provided an update on ESSER funds.

## **Board Business**

- Discussion and possible vote on our Board's Legislative Proposal submitted to SCSBA.  
Dr. Christina Gwozdz led a discussion on the Board's legislative proposal submitted to SCSBA.

**Mrs. Cathy Robine made the motion to continue moving forward by bringing the proposed resolution changes to the floor of the delegation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Earl Campbell.**

**Dr. Rachel Wisniewski made the amended motion to add: "public in front of charter schools". The motion was seconded by Mr. William Smith. The amended motion passed 11/0.**

**Final motion to continue moving forward by bringing the proposed resolution changes and adding "public in front of charter schools" to the floor of the delegation passed 9/2. Ingrid Boatright and Richard Geier voted against the motion.**

- Approval of the September 9, 2022 Board Work Session Meeting Minutes

**Mrs. Cathy Robine made the motion to approve the September 9, 2022 Board Work Session Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Dr. Rachel Wisnefski. The motion passed 10/0/1. Christina Gwozdz abstained from the vote.**

**Dr. Rachel Wisnefski made the motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 11/0.**

**Consent Agenda**

- September 6, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes
- Monthly \$100K Report July, 2022
- Board Monthly Budget – September, 2022
- Transparency Report – July, 2022

**Announcements**

Dr. Rodriguez shared a message with the Hispanic population and shared information regarding National Hispanic Heritage Month.

**Public Comments**

- David Cook, (Phone Call) continued his comments from the first public comment session, including comments about parental education on parent’s rights, “woke” SEL curriculum, and school library books.

The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:45 p.m.

(Signature on Official File Copy) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: October 4, 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 Employment Matter re: Personnel Ratification Report and discussion of employment, appointment, promotion, compensation pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(1); receipt of information related to safety and security pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-20(c); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed St. Helena Elementary School for gym Entry Canopy Contract Amendment #29 to Ajax Building Company, LLC pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed Bluffton High School for the remaining Safety/Security Scope Contract Amendment #23 with M.B. Kahn Construction Co. Inc., pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded and passed 9/0. William Smith and Rachel Wisnefski were absent from the vote.

### Action from Executive Session

A motion was made to approve the Superintendent's recommendations for employment listed on the July 1 to August 31, 2022 Personnel Ratification Report. The motion was seconded and passed 7/0/3. Ingrid Boatright, William Smith, and Rachel Wisnefski abstained from the vote. Angela Middleton was absent from the vote.

A motion was made to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to employ Lucia Miletto-O'Brien as Director of Transportation. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0/2. William Smith and Rachel Wisnefski abstained from the vote.

A motion was made that the Board of Education approve Amendment #23 with MB Kahn Construction for the remaining Safety/Security work at Bluffton High School based on the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of \$2,073,671. The motion was seconded and passed 10/0/1. Rachel Wisnefski abstained from the vote.

A motion was made that the Board of Education approve Amendment #29 with Ajax Building Company for St. Helena Elementary School Gym Entry Canopy based on the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of \$376,873. The motion was seconded and passed 9/1/1. William Smith voted against the motion. Rachel Wisnefski abstained from the vote.

A motion was made that the Beaufort County Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to immediately terminate the Armed Security Guard Services contract with Security Solutions of America and use emergency procurement to secure new armed security guard services through June 30, 2023 until a new company can be selected through the competitive bid process. The motion was seconded and passed 10/1. William Smith voted against the motion.

A motion was made to approve the agenda with the removal of the September 9, 2022 Work Session minutes from consent and placed under board action. The motion was seconded and passed 11/0. Colonel Richard Geier made the motion to recommend the acceptance of the Minority Women Owned Business Enterprise Report for June 30, 2022. The motion was seconded by Dr. Rachel Wisnefski. The motion passed 11/0.

**A motion was made that the Finance Committee receive the monthly ESSER Update for vetting then given to the full Board on the next available meeting. The motion was seconded and passed 9/2. Melvin Campbell, and William Smith voted against the motion.**

**A motion was made to continue moving forward by bringing the proposed resolution changes to the floor of the delegation. The motion was seconded.**

**An amended motion was made to add: "public in front of charter schools". The motion was seconded and passed 11/0.**

**Final motion to continue moving forward by bringing the proposed resolution changes and adding "public in front of charter schools" to the floor of the delegation passed 9/2. Ingrid Boatright and Richard Geier voted against the motion.**

**A motion was made to approve the September 9, 2022 Board Work Session 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 11/0.**

**Consent Agenda**

- September 6, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes
- Monthly \$100K Report July, 2022
- Board Monthly Budget – September, 2022
- Transparency Report – July, 2022