

BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
School Board Meeting Minutes
November 15, 2022
Hilton Head Library
Hybrid Meeting

Members Presents

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

Member Absent

Rachel Wisnefski

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

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of receipt of legal advice related to a contractual matter covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); receipt of legal advice regarding two 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 CBRE-Heery contract amendment #7 for construction management services pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded by Mr. Melvin Campbell. The motion passed 9/0. Rachel Wisnefski was absent from the meeting.

Dr. Christina Gwozdz called the meeting back to order at 6:00 p.m.

Action from Executive Session

Mrs. Angela Middleton made the motion that in light of the positive results of the Superintendent's evaluation, I move that the Board take the following actions: (1) extend the Superintendent's contract by one year through June 30, 2028; (2) increase his salary by 5% such that his annual salary will be \$251,254.50; and (3) increase the annual contribution to the Superintendent's annuity by 1% such that the total annual contribution will be 16% of his salary. The motion was seconded by Mr. Earl Campbell. The motion passed 7/1/1. William Smith voted against the motion. Melvin Campbell abstained from the vote.

Mrs. Angela Middleton made the motion that the Board of Education approve Amendment #7 with CBRE-Heery which authorizes a Not to Exceed limit of \$1,755,753 for the year 2023 program management plan. The motion was seconded by Mr. Earl Campbell. The motion passed 9/1. William Smith voted against the motion.

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Earl Campbell. The motion passed 9/0.

The Pledge of allegiance was recited. A moment of silence was observed for Sam Murray, former Port Royal town mayor and principal of James Davis Elementary School.

Dr. Gwozdz stated that the media was properly notified.

Student Performance

The Lady's Island Middle School Instrumentalist virtually performing "Rock & Roll" and "400 Degrees" under the direction of Band Director Steven Johnson.

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

- **October Student of the Month Southern Beaufort County School District** – Bluffton Middle School 8th grade student Krystal Buck.
- **Secondary Level Art Educator of the Year** – Patty Schoelkopf, Hilton Head Island High School
- **SC State Fair Art Awards, Hilton Head Island High School**
- **Girl's Tennis State Championship, Hilton Head Island High School**
- **Michelin Junior Design Challenge Winner Kyla Moore, May River High School**

Public Comments

The following community members spoke regarding book banning.

- Carter Hoyt
- Karen Gareis, Bluffton
- Cindy Sturgi, Bluffton
- Mare Deckard, Port Royal
- Lauren Martel, Bluffton
- Julie Matthews, Beaufort
- Ivie Szalai, Beaufort
- Melissa Tullino, Bluffton
- Joe Castagnim, Bluffton

Mrs. Cathy Robine made the motion to continue public comment. The motion was seconded by Mr. William Smith. The motion passed 9/0.

The following community members spoke about the registration process, standardized testing, and book bans.

- Michael Covert, (Phone Call)
- Angela Rossillo, (Phone Call)
- Emily Mayer, (Phone Call)
- Lynz Piper-Loomis, (Phone Call)
- Jodie Srutek, (Phone Call)
- Nancy Ross, (Phone Call)
- Leanne Howard, (Phone Call)

Chair's Report

Dr. Gwozdz provided information regarding the Board Assistant's evaluation.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee: Richard Geier, chair shared that the committee met on November 10. The committee reviewed budget reports and Mrs. Tonya Crosby provided a summary of the ESSER dashboard update.

Topics for the next finance meeting include a timeline for human capital and loss of ESSER funds, evaluation of OE 18 and a review of the first of annual audits. The next meeting is December 7 at 5 p.m.

Operations Committee: Ingrid Boatright, chair shared that the committee reviewed OE 4 Personnel Administration.

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion that the Board of Education accept OE-4 Personnel Administration. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Tricia Fidrych. The motion passed 9/0.

The next Operations committee meeting is November 16 at 2 p.m. at the district office to receive a safety and facilities update. The committee is scheduled to meet on December 9 to focus on Human Resources.

Policy Committee: Tricia Fidrych, chair shared that the committee discussed Health Advisory Committee.

Mrs. Tricia Fidrych made the motion that the Beaufort County Board of Education approve the bylaws for the BCSD Health Advisory Committee. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Cathy Robine. The motion passed 9/0.

The committee also reviewed the Public Comment Card.

Mrs. Tricia Fidrych made the motion that the Board Accept the new Public Comment Card. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Cathy Robine. The motion passed 9/0.

Future Agenda Topics

- Mrs. Boatright would like an update on Dr. Rodriguez's committee that he asked Board members to submitted names for.
- Mr. William Smith would like to discuss school start times.

Announcements

Dr. Gwozdz shared that the Board will have a Work Session on Friday, November 18, and that the Teacher Forum Legislative Breakfast is scheduled for November 17.

Public Comment

The following community members spoke about book bans.

- Jim Stephenson, Hilton Head Island
- Debra Stephenson, Hilton Head Island
- Ivie Szalai, Beaufort
- Julie Matthews
- David Cook, Hilton Head Island, spoke about book ban and SIC election fraud.
- Jodie Sruitek, (Phone Call) spoke regarding misinformation being spread in public comment.

The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

(Signature on Official File Copy) _____ Date: December 13, 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 a contractual matter covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); receipt of legal advice regarding two 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 CBRE-Heery contract amendment #7 for construction management services pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded and passed 9/0. Rachel Wisnefski was absent from the meeting.

Action from Executive Session

A motion was made that in light of the positive results of the Superintendent's evaluation, I move that the Board take the following actions: (1) extend the Superintendent's contract by one year through June 30, 2028; (2) increase his salary by 5% such that his annual salary will be \$251,254.50; and (3) increase the annual contribution to the Superintendent's annuity by 1% such that the total annual contribution will be 16% of his salary. The motion was seconded and passed 7/1/1. William Smith voted against the motion. Melvin Campbell abstained from the vote.

A motion was made that the Board of Education approve Amendment #7 with CBRE-Heery which authorizes a Not to Exceed limit of \$1,755,753 for the year 2023 program management plan. The motion was seconded and passed 9/1. William Smith voted against the motion.

A motion was made to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0.

A motion was made to continue public comment. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0.

A motion was made that the Board of Education accept OE-4 Personnel Administration. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0.

A motion was made that the Beaufort County Board of Education approve the bylaws for the BCSD Health Advisory Committee. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0.

A motion was made that the Board Accept the new Public Comment Card. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0.