

BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
School Board Meeting Minutes
July 11, 2023
District Educational Services Center
Media Center
Hybrid Meeting

Members Present

Christina Gwozdz, Chair	Ingrid Boatright	Earl Campbell
Richard Geier, Vice Chair	Carlton Dallas	Chloe Gordon
Angela Middleton, Secretary	Elizabeth Hey	Victor Ney
	William Smith	Rachel Wisnefski

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

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Employment Matter re: Personnel Ratification Report pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(1); discussion of information relating to security plans pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. 30-4-20(c). The motion was seconded by Mr. Earl Campbell. The motion passed 8/0. Chloe Gordon, Ingrid Boatright and Rachel Wisnefski were absent from the vote.

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

Action from Executive Session

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendations for employment listed on the June 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023, Personnel Ratification Report. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Angela Middleton. The motion passed 9/0. Chloe Gordon, and Rachel Wisnefski were absent from the vote.

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion for the Board to find that, during the public comment session of the Board meeting on June 27, 2023, a community member violated Board Governance Policy GC-23 and the expectations of the Board concerning public comment at Board meetings by throwing several objects at the Board members and hitting a Board member with one of the objects causing a material disruption of the Board meeting. I further move the Board issue a written directive to this community member to not further violate the rules for speaking at public comment sessions by taking physically aggressive actions during public comment at Board meetings, such as throwing objects at or in the direction of Board members or attending members of the public. The motion was seconded by Mr. Earl Campbell. The motion passed 9/0. Chloe Gordon, and Rachel Wisnefski were absent from the vote.

Mr. William Smith made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Angela Middleton. The motion passed 11/0.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and a moment of silence was observed in memory of Isaac Wilborn Jr, a former Principal at Hilton Head Island Elementary.

Dr. Gwozdz stated that the media was properly notified.

Public Comments

- Mare Deckard, Port Royal spoke regarding the new safety and security measures at the Board meetings.
- Rob York, Bluffton spoke regarding books in the libraries.
- Carol Lucas, Lady's Island spoke regarding choice of Books.
- Ivie Szalai, Beaufort spoke regarding the safety and security concerns at the Board meetings.
- Isabella Cook, student spoke regarding school experience.
- Susanna Cook, Hilton Head Island, spoke regarding books in school.
- David Cook, Hilton Head Island, spoke regarding school policy.

Committee Reports

Academic Committee: Chloe Gordon, chair shared an update from the academic committee meeting. Dr. Mary Stratos presented updates to Administrative Regulation IS-31.

Superintendent's Report

Goal #1 Student Achievement

- Advancement VIA Individual Determination (AVID)
Dr. Stratos introduced Elandee Thompson, Beaufort Middle School Principal, who presented on the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program.

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion to approve the adoption of the Local Board Approved Courses 6th & 7th grades AVID Electives. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Chloe Gordon. The motion passed 11/0.

Board Business

- Approval of Access Easement for Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority (BJWAS) Pump Station at Robert Smalls Leadership Academy School.

Mr. Robert Oetting presented information and answered questions concerning the Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority (BJWSA) pump station access easement at Robert Smalls Leadership Academy.

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion that the Board accept the access easement on the Robert Smalls Leadership Academy property as shown on the Plat of Pump Station Parcel & Access Easement for Beaufort Jasper Water & Sewer Authority and authorize the Superintendent to finalize the easement documents. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carlton Dallas. The motion passed 11/0.

- Anonymous Donation to Red Cedar for the Replacement of Faculty Exterior Sign Computer and Graphic in the amount of \$7000.00

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion that the Board accept the anonymous Donation to Red Cedar for the replacement of Faculty Exterior Sign Computer and Graphic in the amount of \$7,000. The motion was seconded by Mr. William Smith. The motion passed 11/0.

Consent Agenda

- June 27, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

Mr. William Smith made the motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Earl Campbell. The motion passed 11/0.

Future Agenda Topics

- Mr. William Smith would like to discuss school uniforms.

Public Comment

- Don Thomas, Hilton Head Island spoke about pornography in libraries.
- Angela Rossillo, (phone) spoke about books in schools and the curriculum.

Meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m. by unanimous consent.

(Signature on official File Copy) _____ Date: August 1, 2023

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 pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(1); discussion of information relating to security plans pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. 30-4-20(c). The motion was seconded and passed 8/0. Chloe Gordon, Ingrid Boatright 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 June 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023, Personnel Ratification Report. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0. Chloe Gordon, and Rachel Wisnefski were absent from the vote.

A motion was made for the Board find to that, during the public comment session of the Board meeting on June 27, 2023, a community member violated Board Governance Policy GC-2-23 and the expectations of the Board concerning public comment at Board meetings by throwing several objects at the Board members and hitting a Board member with one of the objects causing a material disruption of the Board meeting. I further move the Board issue a written directive to this community member to not further violate the rules for speaking at public comment sessions by taking physically aggressive actions during public comment at Board meetings, such as throwing objects at or in the direction of Board members or attending members of the public. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0. Chloe Gordon, and Rachel Wisnefski were absent from the vote.

A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Angela Middleton. The motion passed 11/0.

A motion was made to approve the adoption of the Local Board Approved Courses 6th & 7th grades AVID Electives. The motion was seconded and passed 11/0.

A motion was made that the Board accept the access easement on the Robert Smalls Leadership Academy property as shown on the Plat of Pump Station Parcel & Access Easement for Beaufort Jasper Water & Sewer Authority and authorize the Superintendent to finalize the easement documents. The motion was seconded and passed 11/0.

A motion was made that the Board accept the anonymous Donation to Red Cedar for the replacement of Faculty Exterior Sign Computer and Graphic in the amount of \$7,000. The motion was seconded and passed 11/0.

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded and passed 11/0.

Consent Agenda

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