



# ACE

**Beaufort-Jasper Academy  
for Career Excellence**

80 Lowcountry Drive  
Ridgeland, SC 29936  
843-987-8107

**Dr. Michael Lovecchio, Director**  
**Ms. Adrienne Jones, Asst. Director**

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Beaufort-Jasper ACE Board Meeting  
School Board Meeting  
December 14, 2023  
5:45 PM

**Members Present**

Col. Richard Geier, Chair  
Dr. Thomas Balliet, Vice Chair  
Mr. Earl Cambell

Mr. Carlton Dallas  
Ms. Joyce Gerald

**Members Absent**

Ms. Priscilla Fraser

Also present: Dr. Frank Rodriguez, Dr. Michael Lovecchio, Ms. Adrienne Jones, Ms. Tonya Crosby, Ms. Katherine Abar, Mr. Ford Blanchard and Ms. Antoinette Heyward

**Call to Order**

Roll call was taken. Ms. Priscilla Fraser and Dr. Rechel Anderson were absent from the meeting. The establishment of quorum was met.

Col. Geier called the meeting to order at 5:45p.m.

**Executive Session**

Col. Geier called for a motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of The Personnel Report. The motion was made by Carlton Dallas and seconded by Ms. Joyce Gerald.

- Hiring of the new Office Manager
- Resignation
- New Hires to fill Health Science Position for Spring
- Hiring of new Auto Collision Instructor for fall 2024

Col. Geier called for a motion to approve the Recommendations to Hire. The motion was made by Mrs. Joyce Gerald and seconded by Mr. Carlton Dallas. The motion passed 5/0. Ms. Priscilla Fraser was absent from the vote.

Col. Geier called the meeting back to open session at 6:00p.m.

## **Opening General Session**

Col. Geier called for a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was made by Dr. Thomas Balliet and seconded by Earl Campbell. The motion passed 5/0. Ms. Priscilla Frasier was absent from the vote.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and a moment of silence was observed. Jill Pongallo stated that the media was properly notified.

## **Consent Agenda**

Col. Geier made called for a motion to approve the Board meeting minutes from August 24, 2023, quarterly Board meeting minutes. The motion was made by Ms. Joyce Gerald and seconded by Dr. Thomas Balliet. The motion passed 5/0. Ms. Priscilla Frasier was absent from the vote.

## **Reports and Information**

- **Summary of the Audit Results 2023-24 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Summary**

The auditors report expresses an unmodified opinion on the financial statements. No material weaknesses relating to the audit of the financial statements were disclosed during the audit. No significant deficiencies related to the audit of the financial statements were disclosed during the audit. No instances of noncompliance related to the financial statements were disclosed during the audit.

Col. Geier called for a motion to approve the Audit Results. The motion was made by Carlton Dallas and seconded by Ms. Joyce Gerald. The motion passed 5/0. Ms. Priscilla Frasier was absent from the vote.

- **Budget Update by Ms. Tonya Crosby**

Ms. Crosby talked about the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Summary through December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023. State funding for State Classrooms was unknown at the time of the budget approval. The state eliminated this funding and consolidated EIA funds. The new EIA funds are restricted and are not eligible for transfer to the General Fund. As a result, 1 teacher has been moved to A30 (EIA funds).

Col. Geier talked about the disconnect between the funds from Jasper County and Beaufort County. He would like to see the 2 Superintendents come together at the board meeting and discuss this.

Dr. Rodriguez stated that they have looked into this but haven't had the opportunity to get together about this. They will get together soon. They talked about two boards meeting together. It could benefit both boards. We could have an evening meeting and

have the culinary students serve the board. Possibly take both boards on a tour of the school.

Dr. Lovecchio commented we have 2 dates in January for Principals to visit and we can open that to the board also. He will follow up and send an email.

- **Director's Report by Dr. Michael Lovecchio**

Dr. Lovecchio talked about the 2 Completer Ceremonies that we had on December 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Next semester we will have 185 students attending ACE.

ACE is a semifinalist for Palmetto's Finest. They visited us on December 6<sup>th</sup>. 4 judges came. The comments were very positive. They were very impressed. We will hear back at the end of January or early February.

Stokes Toyota donated Uniforms to us and are working on donating 2 Electric vehicles to us. They are great partners. The teacher is going to imbed that into the curriculum for the students.

Col. Geier commented that we need to do something to give Stokes Toyota recognition for all their donations. Maybe get it into the newspaper, get P.R. working on that. Dr. Lovecchio said he agreed.

### **Highlights**

- 2 Completer Ceremonies in December
- ACE is a semifinalist for Palmetto's Finest
- Stokes Toyota donated Uniforms and possibly 2 Electric Vehicles
- ACE received a grant from LOWE's for Mr. Bates in Building Construction for \$7500
- Health Careers students had one of the highest percentages of passing to become licensed CNA's.
- Culinary Arts class was published in Coastal Dining Magazine.
- ACE had 2 blood drives with many students participating as well as staff.

### **Upcoming Events**

February 29 – Spring CTE Advisory

March 21- Governance Meeting

March 18-22- Palmetto's Finest visit

March 28-30 Skills USA

April 25 – Board Meeting

May 24 – Completer Ceremony

## **Adjournment**

Col. Geier called for a motion to conclude the Board Meeting. Ms. Joyce Gerald. made the motion to conclude the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Carlton Dallas. Ms. Priscilla Frasier was absent from the vote. The motion passed 5/0. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:14p.m.