

BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
School Board Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2024
Hilton Head Middle School
Hybrid Meeting

Members Present

Richard Geier, Vice Chair

Ingrid Boatright
Carlton Dallas
Elizabeth Hey
William Smith

Earl Campbell
Chloe Gordon
Victor Ney
Rachel Wisnefski

Members Absent

Christina Gwozdz, Chair

Angela Middleton, Secretary

Colonel Richard Geier called the meeting to order at 5:00p.m.

Mr. Victor Ney made the motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of legal advice regarding pending and settled legal claims covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); employment matter regarding Personnel Ratification Report pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(1); Adult Ed/Home School Report pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-40(a)(4). The motion was seconded by Mr. Carlton Dallas. The motion passed 9/0. Christina Gwozdz, and Angela Middleton were absent from the meeting.

Colonel Geier called the meeting back to open session at 6:10 p.m.

Action from Executive Session

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendations for employment listed on the January 1, 2024 – January 31, 2024 Personnel Ratification Report. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carlton Dallas. The motion passed 9/0.

Dr. Rachel Wisnefski made the motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 9/0.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and a moment of silence was observed.

Colonel Geier stated that the media was properly notified.

Student Performance -M.C. Riley Elementary's Song and Dance Ensemble performing "Leadership Day Mashup" under the direction of music teacher Melanie Nolan.

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

- **Students of the Months**
 - November – M.C. Riley 2nd grade student Brock Rangel
 - December – H.E. McCracken Middle School 7th grade student Taylor Herren
- **National Interscholastic Athletic Administrator 2023 Bruce D. Whitehead Distinguished Service Award** – Carlos Cave

- **National School Counseling Week**

Committee Reports

Academic Committee: Dr. Stratos presented information from the Academic Committee because there were technical difficulties hearing Ms. Gordon. Karen McKenzie and Melissa Murray presented textbook adoptions for grades K-12 all English Language Arts for the start of the 2024-2025 school year.

Mr. William Smith made the motion that the Beaufort County Board of Education approves the following textbook adoptions for grades K-12 all English Language Arts for the start of the 2024-2025 school year:

- **Kindergarten - grade five (5) - 2023 Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company: HMH Into Reading Middle school grades 6-8 2023, Savvas Learning Company LLC; my Perspectives English Language Arts South Carolina (6-8)**
- **High School English 1-4 - 2023, Savvas Learning Company LLC: myPerspectives English Language Arts South Carolina (9-12).**

The motion was seconded by Dr. Rachel Wisnefski. The motion passed 9/0.

Mrs. McKenzie provided information on the process to gather input on the calendar options for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 academic years. Dr. Mary Stratos presented the five options for both academic years.

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion that the Board of Education approve the School Year (SY) 2024-25 Option 2 calendar and SY 2025-26 Option 2 calendar. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carlton Dallas. The motion passed 8/1. William Smith voted against the motion.

Superintendent's Report

Goal #1 Student Achievement

- **TCL Rising Tide Partnership & USCB Hotel 7 Tourism Management**
Mrs. Karen Gilbert provided executive summaries of two new partnerships – the Technical College of the Lowcountry Rising Tide Partnership and the USCB Hotel and Tourism Management partnership.

Board Business Action

- **Donation from Friends of Shanklin in the amount of \$5,380.84 for virtual field experience for 3rd-5th grade students.**
Dr. Rachel Wisnefski made the motion to accept the donation from Friends of Shanklin in the amount of \$5,380.84 for virtual field experience for 3rd – 5th grade students. The motion was seconded by Mr. William Smith. The motion passed 9/0.
- **Discussion of Board Members Serving on Other Local Boards**
Board members determined that this topic was previously discussed and there was no added information.
- **Recommended Motion from Policy committee on Proposed Public Comments Policy, 2nd Reading.**
Dr. Rachel Wisnefski made the motion to strike Section II.C of Proposed Public Comments policy GC-2. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carlton Dallas. The motion passed 8/1. Victor Ney voted against the motion.

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. Rachel Wisnefski. The motion passed 8/0/1. William Smith abstained from the vote.

Consent Agenda

- January 16, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes
- January 26, 2024 Board Work Session Meeting Minutes

Future Topics

No Future Topics were added.

Announcements

- Colonel Richard Geier distributed information regarding the Health Advisory Council and shared the makeup of the Council membership.
- Mr. Carlton Dallas praised Ms. Gilbert and Dr. Lovecchio, ACE's Director, for their presentation, and shared information regarding CPR and stop the bleed training he received by the district and fire department. He shared that the public could request Narcan from the fire department.
- Mr. Victor Ney shared that the first of the Special Education Advisory Committee was February 6. The next meeting is March 11 at 3:30 p.m. at the district office.
- Dr. Rachel Ms. Wisnefski encouraged participation in the Bluffton special election.
- Mrs. Ingrid Boatright shared her experience attending the Incubate Debate competition.
- Dr. Rodriguez shared dates of the upcoming African American History Conference, February 15-17, and shared that he attended the Palmetto's Finest finalist announcements today with Dr. Lovecchio, and ACE was included as a finalist.
- Mr. William Smith asked to keep Battery Creek's basketball coach in prayers due to the passing of his daughter.

The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent 8:10p.m.

(Signature on Official File Copy) _____ Date: February 20, 2024

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 legal advice regarding pending and settled legal claims covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); employment matter regarding Personnel Ratification Report pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(1); Adult Ed/Home School Report pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-40(a)(4). The motion was seconded and passed 9/0. Christina Gwozdz, and Angela Middleton were absent from the meeting.

Action from Executive Session

A motion was made to approve the Superintendent's recommendations for employment listed on the January 1, 2024 – January 31, 2024 Personnel Ratification Report. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0.

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

A motion was made that the Beaufort County Board of Education approves the following textbook adoptions for grades K-12 all English Language Arts for the start of the 2024-2025 school year:

- Kindergarten - grade five (5) - 2023 Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company: HMH Into Reading Middle school grades 6-8 2023, Savvas Learning Company LLC; my Perspectives English Language Arts South Carolina (6-8)
- High School English 1-4 - 2023, Savvas Learning Company LLC: myPerspectives English Language Arts South Carolina (9-12).

The motion was seconded and passed 9/0.

A motion was made that the Board of Education approve the School Year (SY) 2024-25 Option 2 calendar and SY 2025-26 Option 2 calendar. The motion was seconded and passed 8/1. William Smith voted against the motion.

A motion was made to accept the donation from Friends of Shanklin in the amount of \$5,380.84 for virtual field experience for 3rd – 5th grade students. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0.

A motion was made to strike Section II.C of Proposed Public Comments policy GC-2. The motion was seconded and passed 8/1. Victor Ney voted against the motion.

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded and passed 8/0/1. William Smith abstained from the vote.

Consent Agenda

- January 16, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes
- January 26, 2024 Board Work Session Meeting Minutes