BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
School Board Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2024
Hilton Head Island Middle School
Hybrid Meeting

Members Present

Christina Gwozdz, Chair	Ingrid Boatright	Earl Campbell
Richard Geier, Vice Chair	Chloe Gordon	Victor Ney
Angela Middleton, Secretary	William Smith	

Members Absent
Carlton Dallas
Elizabeth Hey

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

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of receipt of legal advice regarding settled and pending claims covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); employment matter re: Personnel Ratification Report pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(1); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed agreement with Marine Corps Air Station pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed purchase of property in Southern Beaufort County pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); receipt of legal advice regarding property in Northern Beaufort County pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded by Mr. Earl Campbell. The motion passed 6/0. Chloe Gordon, and Angela Middleton were absent from the vote. Carlton Dallas and Elizabeth Hey were absent from the meeting.

Dr. Gwozdz called the meeting back to order at 6:02 p.m.

Action from Executive Session

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's recommendations for employment listed on the July 1, 2024 – July 31, 2024, Personnel Ratification Report. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 7/0/1. Angela Middleton abstained from the vote.

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion that the Board of Education approve the 10-year Intergovernmental support Agreement (GSA) with the Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort to provide materials, equipment, supplies, and services to MCAS Beaufort in support of operations and maintenance for an annual amount not to exceed $5,000.00. The Board shall be notified of each project by means of an individual amendment tied to the IGSA. The motion was seconded by Mr. Victor Ney. The motion passed 8/0.

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent the contract agreement with Clearview Homes for the Cherry Point Road property exchange which exchanges parcel D for parcel B as shown in the Conceptual Plan for Cherry Point. The motion was seconded by Mr. Victor Ney. The motion passed 7/1. William Smith voted against the motion.

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to issue an award to ESS Southwest, LLC, to provide Substitute Teachers and miscellaneous Staffing Services, as described in RFP #25-002. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to execute a contract with the contractor upon the expiration of the protest period. The motion was seconded by Earl Campbell. The motion passed 8/0.

Mr. Earl Campbell made the motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 8/0.

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

Dr. Gwozdz stated that the media was properly notified.

Student Performance – The May River High School Silver Sound performed *Louie, Louie*, and *Sharks on the Move* under the direction of Deborah Hamner.

Public Comments

- David Cook, Hilton Head Island, was told he could comment during the second public comment period, because his comments did not pertain to an agenda item under the first comment period. He continued his comments anyway, therefore the Chair called for a recess at 6:14 pm.

The Board came back to open session at 6:16pm.

CLOC Update

CLOC Chairs Mike McNally, (2019 Referendum Chair) and Ray Warco, (2023 Referendum Chair) presented updates to both 2019 and 2023 referendums.

Chair's Report

Dr. Gwozdz provided an update from the annual South Carolina School Board Association Law conference that was attended by a few Board members.

Committee Reports

Academic Committee: Chloe Gordon, chair provided an update from the July 17th committee meeting.

Finance Committee: Richard Geier, chair provided an update from the August 1st committee meeting.

Colonel Richard Geier made the motion that the Beaufort County Board of Education authorize the transfer of any increase in the FY24 fund balance above $7,900,000 from the General Fund to the Capital Projects Fund. The motion was seconded by Mr. Victor Ney. The motion passed 8/0.

Mrs. Tonya Crosby provided information regarding the fund balance.

Operations Committee: Victor Ney provided information from the July 23rd Committee meeting.

Superintendent's Report

Goal #1 Student Achievement

- Update on Teacher Opening Day

  Dr. Mary Stratos and Dr. N'kia Campbell shared how the school district prepared students and staff for the first day of the new school year.

Goal #3 Fiscal Responsibility

- Credit Rating Update

  Mrs. Crosby provided an update on the School District's credit rating.

Other Matters

- Cell Phone Policy Update

  Dr. Mellow Lee provided an update on the cell phone policy.

- Update from Right Choices Director

  Dr. Marlon Worrill provided the Board with an update on the Right Choices program.

Consent Agenda

- July 9, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

Mr. William Smith made the motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 8/0.

Public Comment

- Jim Miller, Bluffton spoke regarding the tenure of band directors.

The following Community members and students spoke regarding the band program at Battery Creek High School.

- Teri-Lyn Tamayo, Beaufort
- Judith Howard, Beaufort
- Jamie Finley, Beaufort
- Samantha Hodges, Beaufort
- DagMar Levine, Beaufort
- Iyunna Gardner, St. Helena Island
- Samari Gardner, St. Helena island
- Tacara Boles, Beaufort
- Angela Holland, Beaufort
- Franklin Samuel, Beaufort spoke regarding the Athletic Funds and the use of the funds for band.

Future Topics

- Visitor's Management System

The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:00 p.m.

(Signature on Official File Copy) Date: September 3, 2024

Angela Middleton, Secretary, Board of Education

Minutes prepared by Robyn Cushingberry, Executive Assistant

Motion Summary

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A motion was made to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and passed 8/0.

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A motion was made to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded and passed 8/0.

Consent Agenda

- July 9, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes