



ACE

**Beaufort-Jasper Academy
for Career Excellence**

80 Lowcountry Drive
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Dr. Michael Lovecchio, Director

Beaufort-Jasper ACE
Quarterly School Board Meeting
August 22, 2024
12:45 PM Executive Session
1:00 PM General Meeting

Members Present

Dr. Thomas Balliet, Chairman
Mr. Earl Campbell
Ms. Priscilla Fraser

Col. Richard Geier
Ms. Joyce Gerald

Also present: Dr. Michael Lovecchio, Dr. Frank Rodriguez, Dr. Sam Whack, and Tonya Crosby

Absent from meeting

Mr. Carlton Dallas, Vice Chairman

Call to Order

Dr. Thomas Balliet called the meeting to order at 12:47 PM.

Roll was taken. The establishment of a quorum was met.

The media was properly notified and there were no public comments.

Executive Session

Dr. Thomas Balliet called for a motion to go into Executive Session. Col. Richard Geier made the motion to go into Executive Session. Seconded by Ms. Joyce Gerald. The motion passed 5/0.

- Personnel Contractual Matters

Dr. Thomas Balliet called the meeting back to order at 1:01 PM.

Opening General Session

Dr. Thomas Balliet asked if there were any recommendations from the Executive Session. Ms. Priscilla Fraser made the motion to accept the Personnel contracts. Seconded by Ms. Joyce Gerald. The motion passed 5/0.

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

Dr. Thomas Balliet called for a motion to approve the agenda. Col. Richard Geier made the motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Ms. Priscilla Fraser. Motion passed 5/0.

Consent Agenda

Dr. Thomas Balliet called for a motion to approve the minutes from June 13, 2024. Ms. Joyce Gerald made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Mr. Earl Campbell. Motion passed 5/0.

Reports and Information

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

Ms. Crosby gave an update of the preliminary year end of 23/24. Final year end has not been finalized yet. Predicting to come in with 100% of the budget. Revenues are coming in just a little below 3.3 million dollars.

We are expecting to increase the Fund balance by \$108,000. This will be about 19% of the budget. Ms. Crosby would like to wait a little longer into the year to see if there needs to be any adjustments.

Elliot Davis is no longer our Auditor. Manley Garvin is the new Auditor. They are more costly now with the demand going up and the price going up, it may possibly double in price.

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

Dr. Lovecchio introduced the new staff members at ACE. Nurse Kelly Minasi, AJ Connelly, Ashley Vazquez, Jodi Knorr and Michael Adcock.

He talked about School Goals for 2024/2025. People and professionalism, Tiered Certifications and Content Writing with Collins writing.

ACE would like to increase the testing percentage in Barbering and Cosmetology. We are working on different ways to reach a higher number.

Dr. Lovecchio talked about a program called M.A.S.H. This is for students that are non-compliant. They have a working lunch with support to help them with their assignments so they can return to regular lunch activities. This will help to develop a culture of student accountability.

S.S.T., the Student Support Team, meets every Monday and decides on a plan to help the students that are struggling in different areas.

Dr. Lovecchio explained the different school program capacities and the waiting list. All our classes are full. ACE would like to add a second Barbering teacher. That would require more cost for a room and equipment.

The ACE Employability Rubric was explained and how it is used with the instructor and students. How soft skills are used for the student's resumes.

- **Policy Revisions**

CURRENT POLICY

Periodically, the BJACE Director will examine budget categories and estimate the year-end status of each. Based on these estimates, the Superintendents authorize the BJACE Director to make minor budget transfers within the function categories; however, the Superintendents must approve any transfers in excess of \$10,000 in advance and in writing. Budget transfers will be reported during the quarterly financial reports provided to the Board.

PROPOSED POLICY

Periodically, the BJACE Director will examine budget categories and estimate the year-end status of each. Based on these estimates, the Superintendents authorize the BJACE Director to make minor budget transfers within the function categories; however, the Beaufort County School District CFO must approve any transfers in excess of \$10,000. Budget transfers will be reported during the quarterly financial reports provided to the Board.

POLICY DGA – AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES

CURRENT POLICY

In cases of emergency, the BJACE Assistant Director is authorized to sign checks with express prior approval from the BJACE Director, or if she/he is unavailable, the Chief Financial Officer for the Beaufort County School District.

PROPOSED POLICY

In cases of emergency, the Chief Financial Officer of Beaufort County School District is authorized to sign and approve financial documents, or if she/he is unavailable, the Director of Finance for the Beaufort County School District.

Dr. Thomas Balliet called for a motion to approve the proposed revisions in BJACE Policies DBJ and DGA as presented. Ms. Joyce Gerald made the motion that the Beaufort Jasper ACE Board approve the proposed revisions in BJACE Policies DBJ and DGA as presented. Seconded by Col. Richard Geier. Motion passed 5/0.

- **Facility Improvements**

We need several improvements to the building. HVAC, Electrical upgrades, plumbing. We would like to upgrade to Natural Gas. We need new wiring, some doors need to be replaced, architectural upgrades, asbestos issues, and a new PA system. We are trying to prioritize these issues.

We are looking into pricing and what are the most important areas that need to be taken care of first and how we will be funding these needs.

Highlights

Programs are full

Upcoming Events

Advisory Meeting October 8th

College Application Day October 15th

Friends and Family Day November 2nd, 9 AM to 1 PM

Board Meeting November 20th, 1:45PM

Adjournment

Dr. Thomas Balliet called for a motion to conclude the Board meeting. Ms. Joyce Gerald made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Earl Campbell. Motion passed 5/0. The meeting concluded at 2:02 PM.