BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
School Board Meeting Minutes
May 6, 2025
District Educational Services Center
Hybrid Meeting

Members Present

Richard Geier, Chair	David Carr	Leah Frazier
Carlton Dallas, Vice Chair	Chloe Gordon	Isaac Gordon
Ingrid Boatright Secretary	Elizabeth Hey	Victor Ney
	Alphonso Small	William Smith

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

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion for the following matters: Employment Matter re: Personnel Ratification Report pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(1); Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed Amendment #76 with Thompson Turner Construction for Pritchardville Elementary School 9PVES) Lighting Upgrades 8% CIP Scope Guaranteed maximum Price (GMP) Proposal pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed Amendment #78 with Thompson Turner Construction for District Education Services Center (DESC) Phase 3 Renovations 8% CIP Scope Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) Proposal pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements related to properties in Northern Beaufort County pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded by Mr. William Smith. The motion passed 10/0. Chloe Gordon was absent from the vote.

Action from Executive Session

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

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's recommendations for employment listed on the April 1, 2025 – April 30, 2025 Personnel Ratification Report. The motion was seconded by Mr. Victor Ney. The motion passed 10/0/1. William Smith voted against the motion.

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion that the Board of Education approve Amendment #76 with Thompson Turner Construction, Inc. for the Pritchardville lighting upgrades based on the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) proposal of $769,176. The motion was seconded by Ms. Chloe Gordon. The motion passed 11/0.

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion that the Board of Education approve Amendment #78 with Thompson Turner Construction, Inc. for the District Educational Services Center phase 4 renovations based on the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) proposal of $2,195,099. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carlton Dallas. The motion passed 11/0.

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Víctor Ney. The motion passed 10/0/1. William Smith abstained from the vote.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A moment of silence was observed. Colonel Geier stated that the media was properly notified.

Students Performance – The Coosa Elementary Drum Line performed.

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

- February Student of the Month
  - Northern BCSD 7th grade student Lusila Garcia Barrios, Whale Branch Middle School
- March Students of the Month
  - Northern BCSD 7th grade student Makhi Fripp, lady's Island Middle School
  - Southern BCSD 4th grade student Ella Cooler, Okatie Elementary School
- 2025 BCSD Middle School Track and Field Awards
- Choral Concert Performance Assessment – Beaufort High School
- Battery Creek High School Welding Awards

Chair's Report

- Colonel Geier announced that the Teacher of the Year and Support Staff of the Year will be announced during the week at each school and that Board members will be taking part with staff members in the surprise celebrations.

Committee Reports

Academics – Dr. Stratos stated that the Academic committee didn't have a report for this meeting, but the Health Advisory Committee did meet. The committee reviewed the middle and high school curriculum. There was not a recommendation coming out of committee. The staff provided an update to the committee membership. Dr. Stratos also thanked the Board members that have been attending the meetings.

Finance – Carlton Dallas, chair provided an update and stated that the Mrs. Crosby and her team have been feverishly on the budget. His update was from the April 10th Finance Committee meeting. There is a recommended motion for OE-5 Financial Planning, but Mr. Carlton stated that there will be no action or discussion on OE-5.

Mrs. Boatright reminded the Board the reason for not having the discussion or vote on OE-5 is that the Board's policy GC2-15 states that the Board should have a discussion at one session of the Board prior to being approved at a subsequent board meeting. The discussion for OE-5 should take place at the current meeting, then it can be voted on at the next.

Ms. Crosby gave a summary and the reason for the recommended change to OE-5 and answered questions. The next Finance Committee is scheduled for May 15th.

Legislative – Carlton Dallas, chair provided an update from the April 11th committee meeting and the direction in which the committee is moving in. He also asked the Board to review the House and Senate Bills that have been prefiled, as well as the SCSBA Legislative update to establish the Board's Legislative priorities.

Operations - Victor Ney, chair provided an update from the April 8th committee meeting. The update included information on the SS-19 Student conduct on Buses, Construction Update, Maintenance & Custodial Update, and the FY2027 8% CIP List.

Superintendent's Report

Goal #1 Student Achievement

- Academic Calendar
- Waive the Day for Hilton Head Island Middle School

Dr. Mary Stratos presented an Executive Summary of the three options for the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 Academic School Year Calendars. Mr. Nick Flowers provided data that showed how teachers and parents voted on the calendar options.

Mr. William Smith made the motion that the Board of Education adopt the 2026- 2027 Academic Calendar Option 2. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 10/01. Chloe Gordon abstained from the vote.

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion that the Board of Education adopt the 2027-2028 Academic Calendar Option 2. The motion was seconded by Mr. Victor Ney. The motion passed 9/0/1. Isaac Gordon was absent from the vote. Chloe Gordon abstained from the vote.

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion that the Board of Education as per SC Code, 1976, as amended Section 59-1-425, waive having a makeup day for Hilton Head Island Middle School for the missed academic day April 23, 2025, due to a power outage. The motion was seconded by Mr. Victor Ney. The motion passed 10/0. Isaac Gordon was absent from the vote.

Goal #3 Fiscal Responsibility

- FY 2025-26 Proposed Budget

Mrs. Tonya Crosby presented the Proposed General Fud Budget for discussion. The presentation included the following:

- Comprehensive Budget
- General Fund Budget Summary
- General Fund Budget Highlights
- Summary of Major Budget Changes
- Financial Three-year Comparative Budget – General Fund
- Financial Three-Year Comparative Budget – Debt Service
- Preliminary In$ite Report
- General Fund Long-Term Budget Projections -Five Years
- Proposed Teacher Salary Schedule 2025-2026
- Weighted Staffing Allocation
- PreK-8 School Staffing Allocation
- Middle Schools Staffing Allocation
- High School Staffing Allocation

The 2025-2026 Budget schedule

- May 20, 2025 Board Meeting – Certify Budget
- May 27, 2025County Council Reading
- June 9, 2025 County Council Reading
- June 23, 2025

Board Business – N/A

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carlton Dallas. The motion passed 10/0.

Consent Agenda

- February 18, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes
- April 1, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes
- April 25, 2025 Work Session Meeting Minutes

Future Topics

N/A

Announcements

- Ingrid Boatright announced that it is Nurses Week and that she appreciates all that they do for our students.

Public Comments

- Jim Miller, Bluffton spoke on solo and ensemble bands.

- Mary Foster, Beaufort spoke about Teacher Appreciation, and the removal of pride stickers and the pride flags in the schools.
- Janet Gould, from the League of Women Voters of Beaufort. She reiterated their support and appreciation for teachers.
- Thomas Belasco, Beaufort spoke about the removal of the pride stickers, and flags in the schools.
- Myra K. Belasco, Beaufort spoke about the removal of the pride stickers, and flags in the schools.
- David Cook (phone Call), spoke on Rights to student privacy.

The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:15p.m.

(Signature on Official File Copy) Date: June 10, 2025
Ingrid Boatright, Secretary, Board of Education
Minutes prepared by Robyn Cushingberry, Executive Assistant

Motion Summary

A motion was made to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion for the following matters: Employment Matter re: Personnel Ratification Report pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(1); Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed Amendment #76 with Thompson Turner Construction for Pritchardville Elementary School 9PVES) Lighting Upgrades 8% CIP Scope Guaranteed maximum Price (GMP) Proposal pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed Amendment #78 with Thompson Turner Construction for District Education Services Center (DESC) Phase 3 Renovations 8% CIP Scope Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) Proposal pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements related to properties in Northern Beaufort County pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded and passed 10/0. Chloe Gordon was absent from the vote.

<u>Action from Executive Session</u>

A motion was made that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's recommendations for employment listed on the April 1, 2025 – April 30, 2025 Personnel Ratification Report. The motion was seconded and passed 10/0/1. William Smith voted against the motion.

A motion was made that the Board of Education approve Amendment #76 with Thompson Turner Construction, Inc. for the Pritchardville lighting upgrades based on the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) proposal of $769,176. The motion was seconded and passed 11/0.

A motion was made that the Board of Education approve Amendment #78 with Thompson Turner Construction, Inc. for the District Educational Services Center phase 4 renovations based on the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) proposal of $2,195,099. The motion was seconded and passed 11/0.

A motion was made to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and passed 10/0/1. William Smith abstained from the vote.

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A motion was made to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded and passed 10/0.

Consent Agenda

- February 18, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes
- April 1, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes
- April 25, 2025 Work Session Meeting Minutes