BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
School Board Meeting Minutes
June 10, 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	Victor Ney	Alphonso Small
	William Smith	

Member Absent
Elizabeth Hey

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 proposed selection of Construction Manager at Risk Services contract RFP #25-023, for Bluffton High School new construction of a new CTE Building and Riverview Charter School new construction of a gymnasium pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded by Mr. Victor Ney. The motion passed 7/0. Chloe Gordon, Isaac Gordon and William Smith were absent from the vote. Elizabeth Hey was absent from the meeting.

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 May 1, 2025 – May 31, 2025 Personnel Ratification Report. The motion was seconded by Mr. Alphonso Small. The motion passed 10/0.

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to issue an award for Construction Manager at Risk Services to M.B. Kahn Construction for the new construction of the Bluffton High School CTE Building and Thompson Turner Construction, for the new construction of the Riverview Charter School Gymnasium as described in RFP #25-023. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to execute a contract with the contractors upon the expiration of the protest period. The motion was seconded by Mr. Victor Ney. The motion passed 10/0.

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. David Carr. The motion passed 10/0.

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

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

- May Students of the Month
  - Northern BCSD 8th grade student Bryan Parker, Beaufort Middle School.
  - Southern BCSD 1st grade student Yelsy Funez Perez, Red Cedar Elementary

Chair's Report – No Report

Committee Reports

Academics – Chloe Gordon, chair asked that Dr. Stratos provide the Committee update. The Instructional Services brought items for review, State Textbook ancillary materials and items for approval, Local Approved Courses. The Local Approved Courses were placed under the Superintendent Report, and further information was provided under that report.

Dr. Stratos also stated that Mrs. Emily Gray shared Health Ancillary materials that are a component of the approved state adopted textbook materials. The committee reviewed all items and supported their use in middle and high school. The committee members were thanked for their time and hard work. The committee members are the following: Cynthia Coburn-Smith, Constance Pope, Wanda Glaze, Amy Prior, Tim Pearce, and Caitlyn Shacklock.

Operations – Victor Ney, chair provided an update from the June 5, 2025. The update included a Construction Update, Maintenance & Custodial Update, and discussion on FY2027 8% Project List.
The Committee requested three revised funding options, including one created from board Members input. The initial proposed list presented in April was for a total of $58.127 million. The feedback included prioritizing the following in order: safety and security, special education, fine arts, site preservation, and the DESC remodel. The staff presented five choices.

Mr. Victor Ney made the motion at that the Board of Education approve Choice #3 as listed in the amount of $34,999,227 as the final list of Capital Improvement Projects for FY27 8% Funding. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 8/2. Carlton Dallas and William Smith voted against the motion.

Superintendent's Report

Goal #1 Student Achievement

- Local Board Approved Courses
  Dr. Mary Stratos, and Ms. Karen McKenzie presented information on the AVID Elective courses. They are designed to support 6th, 7th, and 8th graded as they prepare to participate in advanced, high school credit, and college level coursework. Hilton Head Middle would like to provide an AVID program starting in the 2025-2026 academic year.

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion that the Board of Education approve the following Local Board Approved Courses, Hilton Head Island high School Grade 9 AVID, Hilton Head Island Middle Grades 6, 7, 8 AVID. The motion was seconded by Ms. Chloe Gordon. The motion passed 10/0.

Goal #3 Fiscal Responsibility

- Budget Update
  Mrs. Tonya Crosby provided an update on the FY2025-206 Budget. She provided a summary of the FY2025-026 Operating Budget. The County Council 1st reading of the Budget Ordinance was a unanimous approval on May 27th. The second reading was held on June 9th, and the third and final reading will take place on Monday, June 23rd at a location TBD.

Board Business – N/A

Consent Agenda

- March 20, 2025 Joint Board/SIC Meeting Minutes
- May 6, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes
- May 20, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

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

Future Topics

N/A

Public Comments

- Jim Miller, Bluffton, spoke on school bands.
- Jana and Johnnie Bryant, Bluffton, spoke on student discipline and re-entry into school at Bluffton High School.
- Quinisha Freeman, Bluffton spoke on bullying, and summer school.
- Sharon Beard, Beaufort spoke about students not being able to walk across the stage at the Battery Creek High School Graduation.

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

(Signature on Official File Copy)_____ Date: June 24, 2025
Ingrid Boatright, 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 10/0.

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