HILTON HEAD ISLAND HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
August 21, 2025

SC Award Winning HHIHS SIC!! ***May 6, 2023, our SIC was awarded the 2023 State of South Carolina Riley Award for School Improvement Excellence! This annual award recognized our SIC for Outstanding Achievement and Exemplary Civic Engagement on behalf of our school. The award is based on our SIC Accomplishments for the 2021-22 school year school. This is the HIGHEST award given to a SC SIC! South Carolina law requires EVERY K-12 public school to have an SIC. There are over 1,200 K-12 public schools in SC.*** *HHI HS SIC was previously ranked as one of five finalists for the SC-SIC's annual Riley Award for School Improvement Council Excellence in both 2019 and 2018. May 1, 2021,* ***HHI High School's School Improvement Council was named the recipient of the South Carolina School Improvement Council's fourth annual Award of Merit for SIC Report to the Parents Excellence****. This award is intended to recognize Report content, clarity, and design appeal, as well as to stress the importance of the SIC Report to the Parents to school communities. HHI HS SIC received the award "for its outstanding efforts to excellently fulfill this required aspect of SC state law."*

NOTE**: South Carolina state SC-SIC's new website is: https://www.sc-sic.org. Helpful and useful SIC information and SIC SC State Law requirements are available on this site.**

SIC Meeting called to order at: 5:32 pm by SIC Chair Jennifer Walter. The meeting was held in the Media Center at HHIHS.

In Attendance: *Jennifer Walter (SIC Chair) Kristin Keller, Bill Payne, Krista Dunton, Vicki Watts, Keri Olivetti, Dory Mastrorocco (SGA President), Eleanor Best (SGA Vice President), Karen Metropolis, Mary Beth White, Chris Linkimer, Beth McCune, Paula Hurley, Wendy Serpe, Jennie Cerrati, Carlton B. Davis (Beaufort County School Board), Steve Schidrich(Principal), Margherita Haldenwang (Assistant Principal) and Debbie Wombal (Assistant Principal).*

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the May meeting were approved.

Principal Report: Mr. Steve Schidrich

- Mr. Schidrich introduced the school's two new assistant principals- Ms. Margherita Haldenwang and Ms. Debbie Wombal.
- Following the very sad passing of HHIHS AD Joe Monmonier over the summer, previous Assistant Principal, Dr. Hunter has taken the role of Interim Athletic Director. Dr. Williams will be assisting Dr. Hunter as he takes on this new role.
- Coach BJ Payne and Mr. Schidrich shared that the school would like to honor Coach Monmonier by naming the school's lacrosse field after him. Lacrosse was very important to Coach Monmonier as he was a former player and coach.
  In order to get the process of naming the field after Coach Monmonier, the idea has to be proposed to the SIC and voted upon by the council. The motion was made to vote on the renaming of the field and seconded. The vote was unanimously approved by the council. The next step will be writing a letter to the BCSD office and then sent to the State Board of Education. The hope is that the renaming will happen by the start of the LAX season in the spring. The field would affectionately be known as "The Joe".
- Mr. Schidrich shared information about the programs being funded by the MASP grant, (MSAP = Magnet School Assistance Program). Megan Jarrod is the program director. Programs like Change Makers, IB, and AVID benefit from the funds received through the grant. This year AVID is open to 9th graders and the hope is for it to also be available to 10th graders. The program is created to support students academically as well as to help prepare them for college and/or career of choice. Project Lead the Way is also

Principal Report Continued:

funded through MSAP grant monies. The grant is a 5 year, $15 million grant. It is the hope that AVID is able to stay as an option for students for a long time as it is a successful program that students and teachers approve of.

- Construction Update-
    - Phase 1 - academic wing- is on schedule and expected move in will be May/June 2026.
    - Phase 2 - renovation of D-Hall/Art Hall, ROTC, Aux Gym starts May 2026. Expected completion will be Jan./Feb. 2027.
    - Dismantling of the end of A, B, and all of D and Z Halls begins May/June 2026.
    - New Cafeteria/Culinary/CTE wing expected completion and opening August 2028.
    - The new traffic circle is adding traffic concerns. Traffic leading to middle school is causing delays in moving through the circle in the morning. Ideas to alleviate the traffic back up include asking the middle school to open their doors at 8:10 rather than 8:15 and the possibility of adding a second lane to the circle. Both options are being discussed at this time.
- Staffing Update:
    - There are 20 new certified staff members at the start of the 2025-2026 school year.
    - New Social Worker and Bilingual Liaison
    - Current vacancies- Health Science, Business/CTE, Athletic Director, and 2 paraprofessionals.
    - The posting for the Athletic Director position will go out later this fall with interviews to begin in the spring.
    - There will be a national search for candidates and multiple stakeholders will be involved in the interview process.
- Gym Floor- the main gym suffered a leak from the roof that came down behind the walls. The gym floor buckled and is in need of repair. The roof will also be patched over the existing roof.The repair should be completed by the first week of October.
- A handout with the Executive Summary of the 2025-2026 School Renewal Plan was provided to the SIC. The plan includes the five year goals for 2024-2029 as well as the interim goals for the 2025-2026 school year.
    - Goals for the 2026-2027 school year will be discussed in January/February 2026.
    - The School Report Card will be released on October 15, 2025. Mr. Schidrich is hopeful for high ratings for HHIHS.
    - Homecoming Dance is Saturday, November 1, 2025 and Prom is Saturday, March 14, 2026.

Student Government Update: SGA President Dory Mastrorocco and VP Eleanor Best

- Dory shared that the school year has started off great. The SGA is working with the Interact Club to create themes and posters for this year's home football games.
- The SGA would like to find a way to honor Coach Monmonier. The football game on September 26, 2025 will be dedicated to honoring him and his induction to the Hall of Fame. Dory and Eleanor suggested that maybe students could wear purple to school that day in remembrance of Coach Monmonier and his favorite football team, the Baltimore Ravens.
- The concern regarding whether or not seniors would be allowed to paint their parking spaces this year. The issue is that seniors that park in the Elementary and Middle School lots may not be allowed to paint their spaces- specifically the Middle School due to it being newly paved. Mary Beth White added that other ideas are being considered for

Student Government Update Continued:

those seniors who park in those lots. Maybe they could share a space with another senior and paint together or perhaps they could paint on one of the building walls that will be torn down during construction at the end of the year. A decision was not made at this time.

- Can we have pep rallies before a home game? Mr. Schidrich answered that until the gym floor is repaired it may not be possible to have a pep rally due to not having a space to hold it. Outside is not a consideration at this time due to the heat. Once the gym floor is repaired, a pep rally can be held for the next home game as well as for the Homecoming game.

PTSO Update: Krista Dunton

- The PTSO will be set up at the first home game selling school T-Shirts during the 1st quarter.
- They are looking into designing t-shirts that are Athletic logos to add to the inventory.
- Feedback from Back to School Night was that lines/wait times to settle obligations were lengthy. Is there some way to expedite that process? Can fees be made more clear ahead of time and able to be paid online? Specifically library and class fees (Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior class fees).

SIC Chair Updates: Jennifer Walter

- Introduction of SIC members,
- Election of SIC Secretary and Vice Chairperson
    - Vicki Watts volunteered to serve as Secretary- a motion was made and seconded to elect Vicki as the new secretary. The vote was unanimous in favor of Vicki serving as the new secretary
    - Jennie Cerrati volunteered to serve as the VIce Chairperson-a motion was made and seconded to elect Jennie as the Vice Chair. The vote was unanimous in favor of Jennie serving as the new Vice Chairperson.
- To Do List-
    - Create SIC Goals for the 2025/26 school year.

SIC Goals for 2024-2025 School Year

- Oversee construction of new school, monitor progress, and communicate back to parents and community the status of construction and pertinent updates.
- Increase community and parent awareness and involvement of HHIHS.
    - Career Day, FAFSA, support school paper,
    - SIC Continue updating and producing HHIHS Parents' Handbook (Available in both English & Spanish)

- Additional goal ideas to consider adding to the list included:
    - A way to increase parent participation on the state survey.
    - Ideas to help teachers feel more supported.
    - Parent Workshops for rising 9th grade parents.

Open Discussion:

- Mr. Schidrich was asked if there is still the possibility for teacher housing to be built on land being offered by a donor. Mr. Carlton B. Dallas with Beaufort County School District was present and said that the discussion is still being had. The proposal is for 34 units of housing for teachers with a 99 year lease on the land.

Meeting Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm. Next meeting September 18, 2025, 5:30pm.

Minutes were submitted by Beth McCune, SIC Secretary 2023-2024, 2024-2025.