



ACE

**Beaufort-Jasper Academy
for Career Excellence**

80 Lowcountry Drive
Ridgeland, SC 29936
843-987-8107

Dr. Michael Lovecchio, Director
Ms. Carrie Chappell, Asst. Director

Beaufort- Jasper ACE
Quarterly School Board Meeting
November 19, 2025
4:00 PM Executive Session
4:30 PM General Session

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Carlton Dallas, Chairman
Ms. Leah Frazier
Ms. Eleanor Hazel

Mr. Maurice Lawyer
Dr. Deloris Young

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Alphonso Small

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Dallas called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM.

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

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

Mr. Dallas asked for a motion to go into Executive Session. Ms. Frazier motioned to go into Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Lawyer. Motion Passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Personnel Contractual Matters

OPENING OF GENERAL SESSION at 4:30 PM

Mr. Dallas asked if there were any recommendations from the Executive Session. Ms. Frazier motioned to approve the recommendation from Dr. Lovecchio regarding Personnel contractual matters. Seconded by Dr. Young. Motion Passed unanimously.

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

Mr. Dallas asked if there was a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Hazel motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Ms. Frazier. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Dallas asked if there was a motion to approve the Minutes from the June 12, 2025, Board Meeting. Ms. Hazel made a motion to approve the Minutes, seconded by Mr. Lawyer. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS AND INFORMATION: Ms. Tonya Crosby and Ms. Katie Abar

Ms. Crosby talked about the structure of the funding between the Beaufort County School District and the Jasper County School District. There is an agreement from two-thirds of Beaufort County and One-Third of Jasper County. The majority of funding comes from both Districts.

Ms. Crosby spoke about the 2024-25 4th Quarter Summary. This is as of June 30, 2025. We had an increase from \$646 hundred thousand to \$827 thousand. We are in a very healthy position.

First Quarter Financial Report. 2025-26 1st Quarter Summary as of September 30, 2025. Total spending was 18% of the budget. Our Auditors are Manley-Garvin. We are expecting a clean audit. We will receive the results tomorrow. We have had several years of clean audits. It shows financial strength and stability. By state law, Beaufort County is appointed to oversee the operations of ACE. ACE is a separate legal entity.

The Auditors Manley-Garvin will be at the next Board meeting in February to present.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Lovecchio talked about what is happening at ACE. We have had blood mobiles, 2 each semester. Beaufort County showcase, Cosmetology went to TCL and paired up with the students, and worked on clients.

We are recruiting for next year. We visit all the high schools and bring students to explain the programs to future students. The interest is much higher than in previous years.

We have received STEM certification. We are the first Career Center to receive Cognia/STEM certification. Thanks to Ms. Chappell and our staff members.

WJCL visited Nail Technology and interviewed students who talked about the benefits of attending ACE.

The students are working on their resumes and LinkedIn accounts. Teaching the students how to apply for jobs.

Dr. Lovecchio talked about Tiered Certifications. Every CTE program at the school will have identified tiered certification tests and exam dates.

Dr. Lovecchio discussed our current enrollment and what we are expecting for next semester. He talked about how many students can actually attend ACE at one time and if there is an ability to add more students in the future.

Friends and Family Day saw strong participation, with approximately 45% of our students in attendance on a Saturday.

In October, the South Carolina State Superintendent visited ACE, where she met with students and participated in a roundtable discussion with both staff and students.

The Advisory Committee was here to meet with classes and discuss industry opportunities with the students. Each class has the opportunity to ask questions and meet people who are in the career field.

ACE was awarded a \$23,732 Safety Grant from the State of South Carolina. This will be used for new radios for the school. All the radios are outdated and do not work well. This will help with safety issues.

ACE will be hosting the Lataille Legacy Challenge on November 25, 2025. A Day of welding competition and education in honor of Ralph Lataille.

HIGHLIGHTS

Friends and Family

Good Audit outcome

Recruiting at schools with great results

State Superintendent visited ACE

WJCL did a news clip on ACE

ACE received a safety grant from the state

UPCOMING EVENTS

Continued Recruiting at the Feeder Schools

Lataille Welding Competition on November 25th

Completer Ceremonies on December 17th and 18th

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dallas asked for a motion to conclude the Board Meeting. Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Hazel. Seconded by Ms. Frazier. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:38 PM.

