BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
School Board Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2025

Hilton Head Middle School

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 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 receipt of legal advice regarding purchase of properties in southern Beaufort County pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-40(a)(5); discussion of information relating to security plans pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. 30-4-20(c)and 30-4-7(a)(3). The motion was seconded by Dr. David Carr. The motion passed 7/0/1. Chloe Gordon, Isaac Gordon and Alphonso Small were absent from the vote. William Smith abstained 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 to a notice of intent to purchase on a property in Southern Beaufort County. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carlton Dallas. The motion passed 8/0. Chloe Gordon, Isaac Gordon and Alphonso Small were absent from the vote.

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. David Carr. Mr. William Smith requested the FOIA report be removed from Consent Agenda. The motion passed 11/0.

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

Colonel Geier stated that the media was properly notified.

Student Performance – The May River High School's Silver Sound Marching Band under the direction Of Deborah Hamner

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

- August Student of the Month
  - Southern BCSD 10th grade student Jackson Miller, May River High School
- The Innovation in Nutrition Education Award

Chair's Report – Colonel Geier updated the Board on the progress in having a joint meeting with County Council to discuss the Multi-County Industrial Park Initiative from USCB. He reminded the Board to send in any additional agenda topics, and to respond to Mrs. Cushingberry concerning the proposed dates that she sent out for the meeting.

Public Comments

- Anthony Cambria, Bluffton spoke on Academic Achievement

Committee Reports

Legislative Committee: Carlton Dallas, Chair provided an update from August 13, 2025, and the September 10th Committee meetings. The last two committee meetings were what was called and known in the area of innovation as ideation. The meetings had no constraints on what was discussed, but with some guidance from participants to think about things that affect the ability to educate our students that occur outside the fences of our school boards.
It was suggested that the Technology Committee take up the topic of screen time. Also, it was suggested that the Legislative Committee reach out to the Legislators regarding the initiative from USCB on the Sand Shark Project.

Operations Committee: Victor Ney, Chair provided an update from the September 9, 2025 Committee meeting.

Mr. Victor Ney made the motion that the Board of Education accept the Operations Committee's recommendation to name the Hilton Head Island High School Lacrosse field after Mr. Joe Monmonier in honor of his service to the Hilton Head Island High School's athletic program for 20 years. The motion was seconded by Dr. David Carr. The motion passed 10/0/1. William Smith abstained from the vote.

Mr. Ney continued with his update. The committee reviewed Administrative Regulations OS-41.1 Transportation Services, and a new AR OS-43 Automatic External Defibrillators. The committee had a Construction Update, Custodial and Maintenance, an HVAC update and the Willow Run Status.

Mr. Smith brought up his concern with the new contractor concerning filling vacant positions and not bringing back current employees.

Superintendent's Report

Goal #1 Student Achievement

- Instructional Support for ELA and Math
  Dr. Stratos, introduced Dr. Mona Lise Dickson, and Mrs. Melissa Murray, who presented Aligning Resources to Propel Outcomes for BCSD Students.

Board Business

- Donation from Bluffton Rush Foundation in the amount of $9,000 for update and add athletic signage on May River High School Campus.

  Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion that the Board of Education accept the donation from Bluffton Rush Foundation in the amount of $9,000 for updates and add athletic signage on May River High School Campus. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carlton Dallas. The motion passed 11/0.

- Discussion and recommended motion from Operations for Green Space.
  Mr. Victor Ney provided information that was shared at the Operations Committee on the Green Space discussion.

  Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to negotiate a contract and bring it back to the Board for Approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carlton Dallas. The motion passed 8/3. Ingrid Boatright, Elizabeth Hey, and Mr. Victor Ney voted against the motion.

Mr. Smith requested that the FOIA Report be placed back on the Consent Agenda.
Mr. William Smith made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Hey. The motion passed 11/0.

Consent Agenda

- 2nd Quarter FOIA Report
- August 5, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes
- August 22, 2025 Board Work Session Minutes

Future Topics

- Athletic State Champions from last school for Track & Field

Announcements

- Mrs. Elizabeth Hey shared that September is Suicide Prevention Month and shared about a walk that will take place in Shelter Cove on Saturday, October 18 in conjunction with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. The check-in time is 1:00 pm and the walk begins at 2:00pm.
- The Beaufort County Youth Conference, Saturday, September 20th at USCB , from 9:00 – 2:00pm

Public Comments

- Gina Johnson, spoke on Mental Health Awareness initiatives on school campuses.
- Jim Miller, Bluffton gave a brief review and progress on the band programs as he has been advocating for the band programs for the last three semesters.

The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:13 p.m.

(Signature on Official File Copy) Date: November 4, 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 receipt of legal advice regarding purchase of properties in southern Beaufort County pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-40(a)(5); discussion of information relating to security plans pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. 30-4-20(c)and 30-4-7(a)(3). The motion was seconded and passed 7/0/1. Chloe Gordon, Isaac Gordon and Alphonso Small were absent from the vote. William Smith abstained from the vote.

<u>Action from Executive Session</u>

A motion was made that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent to a notice of intent to purchase on a property in Southern Beaufort County. The motion was seconded and passed 8/0. Chloe Gordon, Isaac Gordon and Alphonso Small were absent from the vote.

A motion was made to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded. A request to remove the FOIA report be removed from Consent Agenda. The motion passed 11/0.

A motion was made that the Board of Education accept the Operations Committee's recommendation to name the Hilton Head Island High School Lacrosse field after Mr. Joe Monmonier in honor of his service to the Hilton Head Island High School's athletic program for 20 years. The motion was seconded and passed 10/0/1. William Smith abstained from the vote.

A motion was made that the Board of Education accept the donation from Bluffton Rush Foundation in the amount of $9,000 for updates and add athletic signage on May River High School Campus. The motion was seconded and passed 11/0.

A motion was made that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to negotiate a contract and bring back to the Board for Approval. The motion was seconded and passed 8/3. Ingrid Boatright, Elizabeth Hey, and Mr. Victor Ney voted against the motion.

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded and passed 11/0. Consent Agenda

- 2nd Quarter FOIA Report
- August 5, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes
- August 22, 2025 Board Work Session Minutes