BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
School Board Meeting Minutes
October 27, 2023
District Educational Services Center
Media Center
Hybrid Meeting

Members Present

Christina Gwozdz, Chair	Ingrid Boatright	Earl Campbell
Richard Geier, Vice Chair	Carlton Dallas	Chloe Gordon
Angela Middleton, Secretary	Elizabeth Hey	Victor Ney
	William Smith	Rachel Wisnefski

Member Absent
Elizabeth Hey
Victor Ney

Dr. Christina Gwozdz called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Mrs. Angela Middleton made the motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of receipt of legal advice regarding Receipt of legal advice regarding three pending legal claims and one settled legal claim covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); receipt of legal advice regarding public comments covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded by Mrs. Chloe Gordon. The motion passed 6/0. Ingrid Boatright, Carlton Dallas, Elizabeth Hey, Victor Ney, and Rachel Wisnefski were absent from the vote.

Dr. Christina Gwozdz called the meeting back to open session at 9:45 am

Action from Executive Session

Mrs. Angela Middleton made the motion that the Board approve the first reading of the revision to the Board's Public Comment Policy discussed in Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Chloe Gordon. The motion failed 4/4. Earl Campbell, Chloe Gordon, Carlton Dallas, and William Smith voted against the motion.

Mrs. Angela Middleton made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Chloe Gordon. The motion passed 6/0 Ingrid Boatright, Carlton Dallas, Rachel Wisnefski were absent from the vote. Elizabeth Hey and Victor Ney were absent from the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and a moment of silence was observed for the victims of the shooting in Lewiston, Maine.

Dr. Gwozdz stated that the media was properly notified.

Public Comment

- Ivie Szalai, Beaufort spoke about sexually explicit books in schools.
- David Cook (phone call), spoke about public comment and being banned from schools.

Board Determination on the Appeals from the Materials Reconsideration Committee
Reports for the following books:
#75 All Boys Aren't Blue by John, George M.
#76 Confess by Hoover, Colleen
#77 Cool for the Summer by Adler, Dahlia
#78 Half of a Yellow Sun by Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozi
#79 Hopeless by Hoover, Colleen
#80 Kingdom of Ash by Maas, Sarah J.
#81 Lolita by Nabokov, Vladimir
#82 November 9 by Hoover, Colleen
#83 Red at the Bone by Woodson, Jacqueline
#84 The Duff by Keplinger, Kody
#85 Tower of Dawn by Maas, Sarah J.

Mrs. Angela Middleton made the motion that the Beaufort County Board of Education uphold the findings from the book Review Committee on the book appeals that are listed.
#75 All Boys Aren't Blue by John, George M.
#76 Confess by Hoover, Colleen
#77 Cool for the Summer by Adler, Dahlia
#78 Half of a Yellow Sun by Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozi
#79 Hopeless by Hoover, Colleen
#80 Kingdom of Ash by Maas, Sarah J.
#81 Lolita by Nabokov, Vladimir
#82 November 9 by Hoover, Colleen
#83 Red at the Bone by Woodson, Jacqueline
#84 The Duff by Keplinger, Kody
#85 Tower of Dawn by Maas, Sarah J.
The motion was seconded by Mr. Carlton Dallas. The motion passed 7/0. William Smith and Rachel Wisnefski were absent from the vote.

Review of School Ratings
Dr. Mary Stratos introduced her staff, who presented on school ratings.

Underperforming School Designation and Board Quarterly Hearing
Dr. Stratos presented and introduced the principals of Robert Smalls Leadership Academy, Joseph Shanklin Elementary, and Whale Branch Elementary Schools.

Superintendent's Evaluation Proposed Changes from Results Committee
Ingrid Boatright, chair led the Board discussion on the proposed changes to the Superintendent's Evaluation.

Mrs. Angela Middleton made the motion that we have a Special-Called Meeting within the next two weeks to discuss proposed changes to the Superintendent's evaluation instrument. The motion was seconded by Mr. William Smith. The motion passed 9/0.

Board's Legislative Agenda
Earl Campbell, chair briefed the Board on the legislative priorities. The committee will bring back a final proposal to the Board after their next meeting. Ms. Lynn-Stokes will be providing additional information at the next Legislative meeting regarding Universal Pre-K and CTE (vocational classes) for possible inclusion on the Legislative Agenda.

2024 Board Meeting Calendar and Meeting Locations
Robyn Cushingberry presented two draft Board Meeting calendars for 2024. The difference between the calendars is Draft 1, the Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 for the election only. Draft 2, the Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 for the election and a business meeting.

Dr. Rachel Wisneski made the motion to accept version two. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carlton Dallas.

Dr. Christina Gwozdz made the amended motion to have draft two have meetings equally split north and south the Broad. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carlton Dallas. The motion passed 9/0.

Mr. William Smith amended the original motion to have two business meetings that should be added to the dates that have work sessions. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion failed 1/8. William Smith voted in favor of the motion.

The Draft 2 version passed with the meetings equally split north and south of the broad.

The next Board meeting is an Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent's evaluation on Monday, October 30.

The work session adjourned by unanimous consent at 1:49 p.m.

(Signature on Official File Copy) Date: November 7, 2023
Angela Middleton, Secretary, Board of Education
Minutes prepared by Robyn Cushingberry, Executive Assistant

Motion Summary

A motion was made to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of receipt of legal advice regarding Receipt of legal advice regarding three pending legal claims and one settled legal claim covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); receipt of legal advice regarding public comments covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded and passed 6/0. Ingrid Boatright, Carlton Dallas, Elizabeth Hey, Victor Ney, and Rachel Wisnefski were absent from the vote.

Action from Executive Session

A motion was made that the Board approve the first reading of the revision to the Board's Public Comment Policy discussed in Executive Session. The motion was seconded and failed 4/4. Earl Campbell, Chloe Gordon, Carlton Dallas, and William Smith voted against the motion.

A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded and passed 6/0 Ingrid Boatright, Carlton Dallas, Rachel Wisnefski were absent from the vote. Elizabeth Hey and Victor Ney were absent from the meeting.

A motion was made that the Beaufort County Board of Education uphold the findings from the book Review Committee on the book appeals that are listed.
#75 All Boys Aren't Blue by John, George M.
#76 Confess by Hoover, Colleen
#77 Cool for the Summer by Adler, Dahlia
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#85 Tower of Dawn by Maas, Sarah J.
The motion was seconded and passed 7/0. William Smith and Rachel Wisnefski were absent from the vote.

A motion was made that we have a Special-Called Meeting within the next two weeks to discuss proposed changes to the Superintendent's evaluation instrument. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0.

A motion was made to accept version two. The motion was seconded.

An amended motion was made to have draft two have meetings equally split north and south the Broad. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0.

An amended motion was made to the original motion to have two business meetings that should be added to the dates that have work sessions. The motion was seconded and failed 1/8. William Smith voted in favor of the motion.

The Draft 2 version passed with the meetings equally split north and south of the broad.