BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
School Board Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2026
District Educational Services Center Media Center
Meeting Minutes

Member Presents

Carlton Dallas, Chair	Ingrid Boatright	Richard Geier
David Carr, Vice Chair	Chloe Gordon	Isaac Gordon
Victor Ney, Secretary	Elizabeth Hey	Alphonso Small
	William Smith	

Mr. Carlton Dallas called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Victor Ney made the motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Colonel Richard Geier. The motion passed 9/0. Elizabeth Hey was absent from the vote.

Chair's Report – Mr. Dallas's report highlighted various activities, such as the attendance meetings with a traveling contingent of educational and student services professionals to help the public understand the meet the state requirements for school attendance; the budget public forums, and the updated traveling pre-school bus, and encouraged board members to attend a completer ceremony at ACE.

Board Business Action – N/A

Committee Reports
Academic – David Carr, chair reported on the February 11, 2026 Committee meeting. The committee reviewed the Health Advisory Committee Membership list for potential new committee members. The Local Board Approved Courses were placed under the Superintendent's Report.

Finance – Richard Geier, chair and Tonya Crosby provided an update on the February 12th Committee meetings. The committee reviewed the standard monthly reports; the 2nd Quarter FY26 Financial Reports; OE-18 Monitoring Report Food Service, which was placed on the Consent Agenda.
Mrs. Crosby also provided a Bond Sale/Credit Rating Updated.

Operations – Victor Ney, chair reported on the February 10th Operations Committee meeting. The committee had a presentation from Mr. Joel Jaylor from Novant Health. The Group returned with updated information that was requested from the committee.

Mr. Victor Ney made the motion that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to negotiate an easement agreement with Novant Heath to include teacher housing, teaching partnership and to return to the Board with the final agreement for approval. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 8/1. William Smith voted against the motion. Elizabeth Hey was absent from the vote.

The committee reviewed OE-8 Facilities, which was placed on the Consent Agenda. The Committee reviewed the standard monthly construction, and maintenance and custodial reports.

Ms. Alice Walton presented AR HRS-56 Nonretaliation & Whistleblower Protection Policy and Procedure.

Superintendent's Report
Goal #1 Student Achievement

- Local Board Approved Courses
  Dr. Mary Stratos, and Ms. Karen McKenzie presented information on two Local Board Approved Courses: Spanish for Advanced Learners Hilton Head Island Middle School, and Spanish for Advanced Learners Hilton Head Island High School.

  Mr. Victor Ney made the motion that the Beaufort County Board of Education approve the course, Spanish for Advanced Language Learners for Hilton Head Island Middle School, and Spanish for Advanced Language Learners for Hilton Head Island High School presented on February 17, 2026. The motion was seconded by Mr. Alphonso Small. The motion passed 10/0.

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

- Student of the Month for Northern & Southern Beaufort County
  - October – Robert Smalls Leadership Academy, 8th grade student Mahki Jacobs
  - November– St. Helena Island Elementary School 4th grade 4th grade student Finn Kirkland
  - December – Lady's Island Middle School, 6th grade student Cole Porter
    Okatie Elementary School, 4th student Cristian Alveranga
  - January – Whale Branch Middle School, 7th grade student Princeton Henry
    Okatie Elementary School, kindergarten student Wren Thrasher
- Blue Ribbon Affiliate – BCSD Parents as Teachers Program

Mr. Victor Ney made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 7/0. Chloe Gordon, Elizabeth Hey and Alphonso Small were absent from the vote.

Consent Agenda

- OE-8 Facilities
- OE-18 Monitoring Report Food Service

Future Agenda Topics

- The cost of Graduation Ceremonies for the 8years

Announcements

- **N/A**

Public Comments

- Harper Hall, student from Lady's Island Middle School who advocated for an Auditorium at the new Lady's Island Middle School.
- Savannah Senah, vice president of the student government from Lady's Island Middle School who advocated for an Auditorium at the new Lady's Island Middle School.

Executive Session

- **Mr. Victor Ney made the motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of negotiations incident to proposed Amendment #1 with Thompson Turner Construction Co., Inc. for Lady's Island Middle School Early Release Package for Site Work 2023 Referendum Scope Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) Proposal pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. 30-4-70(a)(2); receipt of legal advice relating to pending legal claims covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded by Dr. David Carr. The motion passed 9/0. Chloe Gordon was absent from the vote.**

Action from Executive Session

Mr. Dallas called the meeting back to open session at 6:35pm.

Mr. Victor Ney made the motion that the Board of Education approve Amendment #1 with Thompson Turner Construction for the Early Release Package for the Sitework at Lady's Island Middle School for a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of $7,752,754.00. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 8/0. Chloe Gordon and Alphonso Small were absent from the vote.

Motion to adjourn by unanimous consent.
The meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.

(Signature on Official File Copy) Date: March 3, 2026
Victor Ney, Secretary, Board of Education
Minutes prepared by Robyn Cushingberry, Executive Assistant

Motion Summary

A motion was made to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0. Elizabeth Hey was absent from the vote.

A motion was made that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to negotiate an easement agreement with Novant Heath to include teacher housing, teaching partnership and to return to the Board with the final agreement for approval. The motion was seconded passed 8/1. William Smith voted against the motion. Elizabeth Hey was absent from the vote.

A motion was made that the Beaufort County Board of Education approve the course, Spanish for Advanced Language Learners for Hilton Head Island Middle School, and Spanish for Advanced Language Learners for Hilton Head Island High School presented on February 17, 2026. The motion was seconded and passed 10/0.

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded and passed 7/0. Chloe Gordon, Elizabeth Hey and Alphonso Small were absent from the vote.

Consent Agenda

- OE-8 Facilities
- OE-18 Monitoring Report Food Service

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