



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 Academy for Career Excellence (ACE)
Quarterly School Board Meeting Minutes
June 4, 2026**

Meeting Times

- Executive Session: 9:00 AM
 - General Session: 9:15 AM
-

Members Present

- Col. Richard Geier, Chair
- Ms. Eleanor Hazel, Vice Chair
- Mr. William Smith
- Dr. Deloris Young
- Mr. Maurice Lawyer

Member Absent

- Mr. Alphonso Small
-

Call to Order

Col. Geier called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM.

- A quorum was established
 - Media notification requirements were met
 - No public comments
 - Motion to enter Executive Session made by Ms. Hazel, seconded by Mr. Smith — passed unanimously
-

Executive Session

- Personnel Contractual Matters
-

General Session

The meeting reconvened at 9:15 AM.

- Pledge of Allegiance
 - Moment of silence
 - Personnel Matters Approved: Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Hazel — passed unanimously
 - Agenda Approved: Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Hazel — passed unanimously
-

Consent Agenda

- Approval of minutes for April 2, 2026 and April 30, 2026
 - Motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Hazel — passed unanimously
-

Director's Report (Dr. Lovecchio)

- Recognized:
 - Teacher of the Year: Mr. Vannorman (Welding)
 - Support Staff of the Year: Nurse Minasi
 - Capital Improvement Update:
 - Design phase in progress
 - Electrical drawings completed
 - Board requested a detailed spending and needs report
 - Partnerships & Programs:
 - Two students selected for Boeing Manufacturing Student Development Program (summer internships)
 - ACE became the first SC high school certified for Boeing's Pre-Employment Training Program (BPET)
 - Student recommendation process forthcoming; teacher training planned
 - Interest expressed in expanding program awareness to earlier grade levels
 - Student Highlights:
 - National Technical Honor Society recognition
 - Completer Ceremony (May 21): Barbering, Cosmetology, Culinary, EMS
 - Program Reach:
 - Serves two counties, eight high schools, and 6,988 students
 - Transportation provided from all schools
-

Budget Update (Katie Abar)

- Financials reported through April 30, 2026:
 - 72% of expenditures used
 - Key Challenges:
 - Unfunded state mandates
 - Reduced state funding
 - Rising costs (repairs, services, materials)
 - Salary Updates:
 - Teachers: \$2,500 increase + step + 3% COLA
 - Admin/Classified/Professional Staff: 3% COLA + step increase
 - Staffing:
 - Certified Staff: 21
 - Classified Staff: 6.5
-

Action Item: 2026–2027 Budget Certification

- Col. Geier asked for a motion to certify the Beaufort-Jasper ACE 2026–2027 Budget
 - Ms. Hazel made a motion that the Board certify the 2026–2027 Beaufort-Jasper ACE General Fund Budget in the amount of \$4,314,422, which was seconded by Dr. Young
 - Mr. Smith requested that more detailed budget information be provided to the Board prior to future meetings
 - Motion passed unanimously
-

Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 10:07 AM by unanimous approval
-

Highlights

- Completer Ceremony & NTHS Recognition
 - Teacher & Staff of the Year Awards
 - Teacher Salary Increases
 - 2026–2027 Budget Approved
-

Upcoming Meetings

- Governance Meeting: July 23, 2026
- Board Meeting: August 20, 2026