**BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**
**School Board Meeting Minutes**
**July 14, 2026**
**District Educational Services Center Media Center**

**Members Presents**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| David Carr, Vice Chair | Ingrid Boatright | Richard Geier |
| Victor Ney, Secretary | Christina Gwozdz | William Smith |

**Members Absent**
Carlton Dallas, Chair
Chloe Gordon
Isaac Gordon
Elizabeth Hey
Alphonso Small

Dr. Carr called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. but there was not a quorum. Dr. Carr stated that the Board would go through a process of information gathering until there is a quorum.

**Public Comments –** No Comments during the first period.

**Chair's Report –** No Chair's Report

**Committee Reports**

*Finance Committee:* Richard Geier provided an update from the July 2nd committee meeting. The committee reviewed the standard monthly reports. Colonel Geier stated that the Board's budget is reported to, or at 71.5 % expended through May 31st with $117,000 remaining in the account to cover any outstanding expenditure that will come through in the coming months. The committee reviewed the April Financial Transparency Report. The Transparency report was presented with major spending areas, construction amendments, building finishes, and contracted services. The district maintains a strong AA1/AA credit rating. The committee also discussed ongoing work on substitute teacher staffing changes and TIF/MCIP fund recovery efforts.

**Superintendent's Report**
Goal #1 Student Achievement

- 2026 Data Trailblazer Winner
- Winners of the Be Present S.C. Essay Contest
  Dr. Lee announced several recognitions including Pritchardville Elementary winning the 2026 Data Trailblazer Award and two students winning the Be Present South Carolina Essay Contest.

Other Matters

- Construction Update
  Mr. Augustine Vargas provided construction updates on multiple projects including progress on the 2023 bond referendum projects and ongoing 8% bond issue work.

**Public Comments**

- James Miller, Bluffton spoke on Synergistic academic improvement with band and other extracurricular activities.

The Board had a quorum at 5:30pm with the arrival of Mrs. Ingrid Boatright.

**Dr. Christina Gwozdz made the motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Victor Ney. The motion passed 6/0.**

**Mr. Victor Ney made the motion to approve OE5 Monitoring Report - Financial Planning. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 5/0/1. William Smith abstained from the vote.**

**Mr. Victor Ney made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 6/0.**

**Consent Agenda**

- June 9,2026 Board Meeting Minutes.

**Executive Session**

**Mr. Victor Ney made the motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of Employment Matter re: June 2026 Personnel Ratification Report; pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(1); receipt of legal advice related to social media covered by the attorney-client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 40-4-70(a)(2); receipt of legal advice related to pending and settled legal claims covered by the attorney-client privilege pursuant to s.c. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed Amendment #09 with M.B. Kahn Construction Co., for the Phase 1 Reroofing of Hilton Head Island High School scope of work Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 6/0.**

The Board moved into Executive Session at 5:35pm.

**Action from Executive Session**

Dr. Carr called the meeting back to open session at 6:46p.m.
**Mr. Victor Ney made the motion that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's recommendation for the employment listed on June 1, 2026- June 30, 2026 Personnel Ratification Report. The motion was seconded by Dr. Christina Gwozdz. The motion passed 5/1. William Smith voted against the motion.**

**Mr. Victor Ney made the motion that the Board of Education approve Amendment #09 with M.B. Kahn Construction Co., Inc for the Phase 1 Reroofing of Hilton Head Island High School for a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of $2,201,991.00. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 6/0.**

**Motion to adjourn by unanimous consent**.
The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

(Signature on Official File Copy) Date: August 4, 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 6/0.**

**A motion was made to approve OE5 Monitoring Report - Financial Planning. The motion was seconded and passed 5/0/1. William Smith abstained from the vote.**

**A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded and passed 6/0.**

**Consent Agenda**

- June 9,2026 Board Meeting Minutes.

**A motion was made to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of Employment Matter re: June 2026 Personnel Ratification Report; pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(1); receipt of legal advice related to social media covered by the attorney-client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 40-4-70(a)(2); receipt of legal advice related to pending and settled legal claims covered by the attorney-client privilege pursuant to s.c. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); discussion of negotiations incident to proposed Amendment #09 with M.B. Kahn Construction Co., for the Phase 1 Reroofing of Hilton Head Island High School scope of work Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was seconded and passed 6/0.**

**<u>Action from Executive Session</u>**

**A motion was made that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's recommendation for the employment listed on June 1, 2026- June 30, 2026 Personnel Ratification Report. The motion was seconded and passed 5/1. William Smith voted against the motion.**

**A motion was made that the Board of Education approve Amendment #09 with M.B. Kahn Construction Co., Inc for the Phase 1 Reroofing of Hilton Island High School for a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of $2,201,991.00. The motion was seconded and passed 6/0.**