BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
School Board Meeting Minutes
August 4, 2026
Hilton Head Island Middle School
Media Center

Members Presents

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

Members Absent
Chloe Gordon
Alphonso Small

Mr. Carlton Dallas called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. (Technical issues affecting remote participants caused the delay in starting the meeting).

Mr. Victor Ney made the motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. David Carr. The motion passed 9/0. Chloe Gordon and Alphonso Small were absent from the meeting.

Public Comments – No Comments during the first period.

Chair's Report - Mr. Dallas highlighted state policy changes, district financial strength, construction updates, academic performance gains, and recognition of district leaders. He also provided an introduction for the work that Mr. Ney will present on the Policy Manual Review.

Mr. Victor Ney presented a governance Compliance audit with recommendations regarding committee, board communications, monitoring reports, policy revisions, governance calendars, and self-evaluation.

Mr. Victor Ney made the motion to stand up the policy committee immediately and the Board Secretary be the chair of the policy committee. The motion was seconded by Dr. David Carr.

Mr. William Smith amended the motion to postpone the establishment of the Policy Committee until after the work session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carlton Dallas. The motion failed 3/6. Ingrid Boatright, Richard Geier, Isaac Gordon, Christina Gwozdz, Elizabeth Hey, and Victor Ney voted against the motion.

The original motion to stand up the policy committee immediately and the Board Secretary be the chair of the policy committee passed 7/2. Carlton Dallas and William Smith voted against the motion.

Committee Reports
Academics: David Carr, chair, provided a summary of the May 18th and July 21st Academic Committee meetings. The summary included an update from the Health Advisory Committee and their work on the virtual high school health course development. The work is expected to be completed by August 5th.

Also, the committee reviewed IS-43- Grading and Assessment Systems and IS48 – Promotion/Retention and Acceleration of Student regulations. The committee was provided with updates on grading practices, promotion and retention regulations, and credit recovery.

Dr. Cox outlined the district's proposed inter-district transfer administrative regulation, explaining how non-resident students from across South Carolina can apply to attend Beaufort County schools starting with the 2026-2027 school year, with applications starting in February 2027. The committee discussed potential impacts on border schools and program-specific enrollment.

Superintendent's Report

Goal #1 Student Achievement

- Magma Math
  Dr. Stratos and staff presented Magma Math implementation plans. Magma Math is a K-12 platform built around one idea: math is a thinking process, not just an answer. The presentation provided a description of the platform, the benefits, and additional math resource updates.

Other Matters

- Opening Day
  Dr. Lee reported on a successful district wide opening-day professional development event for the teachers and staff.

Mr. Victor Ney made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda items. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ingrid Boatright. The motion passed 9/0.

Consent Agenda

- June 23, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes
- July 14, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

Future Topics

- Inter-Transfers – Jasper County- Ingrid Boatright
- AI Policy Development – Ingrid Boatright

Announcements

- Ingrid Boatright announced why school started on Friday for the public.

Public Comments
N/A

<u>Executive Session</u>

Mr. Victor Ney made the motion to go into Executive Session for the following purpose: Personnel Matter re: Ratification Report pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(1);
discussion of negotiations incident to proposed Amendment #01 with McKnight Construction for the construction of Palmetto Early Childhood Center Early Site Package and Earthquake Drains scope of work Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) proposal pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2);
discussion of negotiations incident to proposed Amendment #10 with Thompson Turner Construction for the construction of the new May River Elementary School Playground scope of work Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) proposal pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2);

Receipt of legal advice related to pending legal claims covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); receipt of legal advice related to Willow Run 9th Amendment covered by the attorney client privilege pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70(a)(2); 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). The motion was seconded by Dr. David Carr. The motion passed 9/0.

The Board moved into Executive Session at 6:48pm.

Action from Executive Session

Mr. Dallas called the meeting back to open session at 7:45p.m.

Mr. Victor Ney made the motion that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's recommendation for the employment listed on July 1, 2026 – July 31, 2026 Personnel Ratification Report. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Hey. The motion passed 8/1. William Smith voted against the motion.

Mr. Victor Ney made the motion that the Board of Education approve Amendment #01 with McKnight Construction Company, Inc., for the construction of the Palmetto Early Childhood Center Early Site Package and Earthquake Drains scope based on the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of $6,452,413.97. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Hey. The motion passed 9/0.

Mr. Victor Ney made the motion that the Board of Education approve Amendment #10 with Thompson Turner Construction, Inc. for the construction of the new May River Elementary School Playground based on the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of $852,312. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Hey. The motion passed 9/0.

Mrs. Ingrid Boatright made the motion to go back into Executive Session to add an additional personnel item and to hear an exigent situation. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Hey. The motion passed 8/0/. Carlton Dallas did not vote.

The Board returned to Executive Session at 7:49pm.

Mr. Dallas called the meeting back to open session at 8:07pm.

There was no action coming out of Executive Session.

Mr. William Smith made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Elizabeth Hey. The motion passed 9/0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:09pm.

(Signature on Official File Copy) Date: September 1, 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. Chloe Gordon and Alphonso Small were absent from the meeting.

A motion was made to stand up the policy committee immediately and the Board Secretary be the chair of the policy committee. The motion was seconded.

A motion was made to amend the motion to postpone the establishment of the Policy Committee until after the work session. The motion was seconded and failed 3/6. Ingrid Boatright, Richard Geier, Isaac Gordon, Christina Gwozdz, Elizabeth Hey, and Victor Ney voted against the motion.

The original motion to stand up the policy committee immediately and the Board Secretary be the chair of the policy committee passed 7/2. Carlton Dallas and William Smith voted against the motion.

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda items. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0.

Consent Agenda

- June 23, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes
- July 14, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

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<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 July 1, 2026 – July 31, 2026 Personnel Ratification Report. The motion was seconded and passed 8/1. William Smith voted against the motion.

A motion was made that the Board of Education approve Amendment #01 with McKnight Construction Company, Inc., for the construction of the Palmetto Early Childhood Center Early Site Package and Earthquake Drains scope based on the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of $6,452,413.97. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0.

A motion was made that the Board of Education approved Amendment 10 with Thompson Turner Construction, Inc. for the construction of the new May River Elementary School Playground based on the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of $852,312. The motion was seconded and passed 9/0.

A motion was made to go back into Executive Session to add an additional personnel item and to hear an exigent situation. The motion was seconded and passed 8/0/. Carlton Dallas did not vote.