

HORRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES BOARD MEETING District Office May 22, 2017

The following were in attendance:

Board of Education

Joe DeFeo, Chairman	Janet Graham	John Poston
Neil James, Vice-Chairman	Chris Hardwick	Pam Timms
Shanda Allen	Holly Heniford	Sherrie Todd
David Cox	Janice Morreale	Ray Winters

Horry County Schools' Staff

Jeanna Allen	Kim Floyd	Rick Maxey
Velna Allen	Diane Formhals	Natasha McDonald
Mary Anderson	Billy Gainus	Norman McQueen
David Beaty	John Gardner	Boone Myrick
Elissa Blosser	Diane Gaskins	Mark Porter
Robin Bolling	Kenny Generette	Lucas Richardson
Edward Boyd	Ben Hardee	Angela Rush
Daryl Brown	Charles Hucks, Jr.	April Scott
Edi Cox	Holly Jackson	Rhonda Snowden
Jeanie Dailey	Robin Jones	Susan Spain
JD Davis	Candace Lane	Judy Stall
BJ DeCerbo	James LaPier	Demetrius Williams
Samantha DeCerbo	H. T. Lee	Mark Wolfe
Gaye Driggers	Quintina Livingston	Jim Wright

As required by SC Law 30-4-80, local news media were informed of the date, time, place, and agenda of this meeting. Copies of the agenda were posted at the District Office and distributed to schools for posting.

1. OPENING MAY 22, 2017, AT 6:00 P.M. – CALL TO ORDER

Chairman DeFeo called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

A. Invocation

Mr. Cox offered the invocation.

B. Presentation of Colors, Pledge of Allegiance

The Aynor High School Army JROTC presented the Colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Approval of Agenda

Mr. DeFeo shared the Human Resources Committee has voted to recommend adding an item to the budget recommendations since the budget will be before the Board tonight. The recommendation is to add under Discussion Item 4.D. Committee of the Whole, an assistant athletic director at each of the nine high schools at a cost of \$7,000 each.

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Cox and seconded by Ms. Heniford to approve the revised agenda as recommended. The motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

D. Approval of Minutes

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Cox and seconded by Mr. James to approve the May 8, 2017, Board Minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this

2. RECOGNITIONS

A. South Carolina Bar Association's Law-Related Education

Ms. Brenda Kidd of North Myrtle Beach Middle school was recognized for having been named the South Carolina Bar Law-Related Education Middle School Teacher of the Year for 2016-17.

Student Marina Ataalla of Carolina Forest High School was recognized for having been named the 2017 South Carolina High School Mock Trial Courtroom Sketch Artist Champion.

B. 2017 National History Day (South Carolina) Winners

Ms. Jeanie Dailey, along with Angela Dembiczak who is the South Carolina History Day Coordinator, recognized Horry County Schools' state level 2017 National History Day student winners as well as their teachers.

Ms. Marion Touzel of Ocean Bay Middle School was recognized for having been chosen as the first junior division teacher to be honored with the Dr. Ron Ingle S.C. History Day Teachers' Award.

C. 2017 CATE Awards Winners

The CATE Student Organization winners from state competition who have already moved forward and competed on a national level or will be competing by the end of the summer were recognized.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Dan DeLuca had previously signed up to speak during Public Comments. Mr. DeLuca did not come forward when called.

Ms. Shonda Sherman addressed the Board regarding concerns she has as a parent.

Mr. Lee Sherman spoke before the Board in support of his daughter, Ms. Shonda Sherman, and her concerns as a parent, as well as lack of band participation during the Thanksgiving Day parade in Bucksport.

4. DISCUSSION

A. Construction Update

Mr. Robbie Ferris shared videos and provided a progress update on the five new construction projects.

B. Facilities Committee Report

Mr. James gave a report from the Facilities Committee meeting held earlier today. In addition to the construction update, six other items were discussed, which included, 1) MBMS Conversion and Renovation, 2) Old Transportation Building, 3) Property Disposition (.2 of an acre at MBHS and the Old Loris Education Center), 4) FEMA Grant, 5) SJE/SJMS Loop Road, and 6) 2017-18 Meeting Date Schedule. Mr. James highlighted the discussion held by the Committee on each of the agenda items.

C. Finance Committee Report

Mr. Poston provided a report from the Finance Committee meeting held on May 17, 2017. The Committee discussed two items, which included, 1) Multiyear General Fund Budget, and 2) Funding Flexibility. The Finance Committee requested the multiyear budgeting information which was provided, as the Committee believes this will be beneficial to the Board each year to be able to look forward and back as future plans are made and budgets developed. Funding flexibility is on the agenda for discussion later in tonight's meeting and Mr. Gardner will address this item at that time.

Mr. Gardner give a brief synopsis of the information presented in the multiyear budget document and answered Board member's questions.

D. Committee of the Whole

1) Preliminary Approval of the 2017-18 Superintendent's Comprehensive Budget

Mr. DeFeo explained that the Committee of the Whole will vote on each of the items being recommended by the Finance Committee, as well as the item for assistant athletic director positions that was added to the list during the Approval of the Agenda vote earlier in the meeting, which adds \$7,000 per school, for a total of \$63,000, plus benefits, all of which are listed below. Mr. DeFeo added that there may be amendments to the recommendations or an up or down vote on each item.

Other Expenditure Adjustments (Revised and Ranked by Finance Committee)

1. Step Increase for Other Eligible Employees – This item was unanimously approved by the Board.

2. 1% Salary Increase for Employees Not Eligible for Step – A motion was made by Ms. Heniford and seconded by Mr. James to amend this item to provide for a 2% salary increase for employees not eligible for the step increase. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Student Population Growth Furniture Request – This item was unanimously approved by the Board.

4. Signing Bonus for Critical Needs Teachers – A motion was made by Mr. James to proceed with this item in the budget for 2017-18, with the understanding that there are details to be worked out and the for the administrative staff to develop goals/incentives and have a plan resubmitted to the Board prior to offering it as a recruiting tool. The motion was seconded by Mr. Winters. Mr. Poston then offered that the use of signing bonus terminology be removed from this line item and for this budget item to be for critical needs teacher recruitment and retention. Mr. James and Mr. Winters stated their agreement

with Mr. Poston's suggestion. Ms. Morreale asked for clarification that this will include retention of our current critical needs teachers. Upon a vote, this item was approved unanimously as noted.

5. Building Services Staff – Summer cleaning for the new schools and additional square footage to pay for additional work days – This item was unanimously approved by the Board.

6. Building Services Supplies – This is a percentage increase for inflation – Upon a vote, this item was unanimously approved by the Board.

7. Seven Additional Days for Instructional Support – This request was originally for 10 days and upon recommendation of the Finance Committee, was reduced to seven days – These are days to be used by principals at their discretion for planning and scheduling for the upcoming year – planning professional development and curriculum work at the school level – Ms. Morreale made a motion that this item be reduced to four days. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cox. Upon a vote, the motion carried with a vote as follows: in favor – Heniford, Todd, Winters, Cox, Morreale, Timms, and Graham; opposed – James, Poston, Hardwick, and Allen.

8. Equipment (less \$375,750 for common area furniture replacement) – This item was unanimously approved by the Board.

9. Maintenance Staff (7 positions reduced to 4) – This is a request for more staff due to the additional square footage of the schools as well as coverage for long-term medical absences, vacations, etc. and this is to help serve as a flex crew. When/if not needed to cover an area, they would work in the area of preventative maintenance. Ms. Allen confirmed that her recommendation for the reduction to four positions specified as being for two HVAC positions, one electrician, and one mechanical position.

A motion was made by Ms. Timms and seconded by Ms. Morreale to approve this item as originally requested which was to provide seven maintenance positions, one of which will be a manager. The motion failed with a vote as follows: opposed – Heniford, Winters, James, Graham, Poston, Hardwick, and Allen; voting in favor – Todd, Cox, Morreale, and Timms.

A motion was then offered by Mr. Hardwick to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve four positions. After further discussion, Mr. Hardwick rescinded his motion.

A motion was then made by Mr. James to approve six technician positions as originally requested and specifically excludes the manager position. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hardwick and carried as follows: in favor – Heniford, Todd, Winters, Cox, Morreale, James, Timms, Graham, and Hardwick; opposed – Poston and Allen.

10. Maintenance Supplies – This item was unanimously approved by the Board.

11. JV Lacrosse – This item was unanimously approved by the Board.

12. Assistant Athletic Directors – at a cost of \$79,720, which is \$7,000 each for the nine high schools, plus benefits – The motion carried with a vote as follows: in favor – Heniford, Todd, Winters, Cox, Morreale, James, Timms, Graham, Hardwick, and Allen; opposed – Poston.

Mr. DeFeo stated that with this action, the Board has passed a preliminary budget and asked that Mr. Gardner put this information together for the next Board meeting where the Board will hold a Special- Called meeting to vote on the budget. Unless there are complications, the Board will vote to pass the final budget. There will be time allowed for public input during that meeting. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on the budget items listed above.

E. Funding Flexibility

Mr. Gardner shared this is similar to what was done last year, which utilizes some excess funds by allowing the District to request a flexibility waiver for the Four-Year-Old Early Childhood funds in the amount of \$1,000,000. These funds will be transferred to the EIA initiative: Students at Risk of School Failure, where a larger population can be served. This item comes on a recommendation from the Finance Committee and will be brought back to the Board for consideration at the next meeting.

F. Authorizing Expenditures from Revenues Collected from the Education Capital Improvements Sales and Use Tax

Mr. Gardner stated this is the same item discussed at our previous meeting and is on the agenda for any needed additional discussion. This is a request for the Board to authorize the expenditure of not to exceed \$43,600,000 from sales tax revenues for the direct payment of costs for approved projects including classroom and instructional technology and the short-term facilities plan. This item is also on today's agenda under Business for consideration by the Board.

G. Consideration for Professional Design Service for Renovations/Upgrades to the Socastee High School Auditorium

Mr. Wolfe shared that this is a request for approval of the Board to enter into negotiations with Miller Design Services, PA, for professional design services for renovations/upgrades to the Socastee High School auditorium. This item will be brought back before the Board for consideration at the next meeting.

H. Advisory Board Membership

Mr. Poston noted that the District's Policy Manual states that the Board of Education shall set the size of the Advisory Boards and also states that the Advisory Boards will each have a minimum of five members, adding that although it is not stated in the Policy, the Board has typically correlated the number of positions on the Advisory Boards with the number of schools in the attendance area. In three of the District's attendance areas, new schools are being added. Mr. Poston would like for the Board to consider adding an additional position on the Carolina Forest Attendance Area Advisory Board due to the opening of Ten Oaks Middle School. While giving thought to this request, Mr. Poston sought input from Ms. Morreale and Ms. Timms due to an additional school being added in each of their respective attendance areas. Ms. Timms and Ms. Morreale voiced their agreement with Mr. Poston's recommendation that an additional Advisory Board position be added for the Carolina Forest, Socastee, and St. James attendance areas due to the new schools being added. Mr. DeFeo stated this will be on the agenda for the next meeting for consideration by the Board. Mr. DeFeo asked that Mr. Poston prepare a motion for the next meeting to add the additional Advisory Board positions as noted.

I. Draft Board Meeting Schedule – 2017-18

At our prior Board meeting, it was requested by a Board member that we consider beginning the Board meetings at 5:30 p.m. to allow executive sessions to be held at the beginning of the meeting. Mr. Generette offered that if executive sessions are to be held at the beginning of the Board meetings, the

meetings will have to be called to order first. The Board could then immediately go into executive session. The executive session could be held and then continue with the meeting at 6:00 p.m., or immediately following the executive session if the executive session extends past 6:00 p.m. Another option would be to come out of executive session at 6:00 p.m. and continue the executive session later on during the meeting. Based upon discussion by Board members, the meeting start time for the 2017-18 school year will be tentatively scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m. Should an adjustment be needed, the Board may reconsider this start time at a later date.

J. Superintendent's Report

1) New Bus Camera Demonstration – Mr. Jim Wright gave a demonstration of the new bus camera system expenditure that the Board previously approved. Transportation administration is very pleased with the system so far.

2) "Bridge Project" – Conway High School and St. James High School – Dr. Maxey shared a video and highlights from the recent, "Bridge Project," that was shared by Conway High School and St. James High School students during a program recently held at Conway High School. Dr. Maxey is hopeful for the continuation of this project in the future for our students because of the leadership growth experience and to build a greater understanding of the greater Horry County community.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Discussion of a Contractual Matter for Legal Services

B. Consideration of Student Appeal

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Hardwick and seconded by Mr. James to enter into executive session for discussion of the above-named items. The motion carried and the Board moved into executive session at 8:14 p.m. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Cox and seconded by Mr. James to return to open session. The motion carried and the Board returned to open session at 9:13 p.m. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

6. BUSINESS

A. Approval of Contract for Legal Services

Dr. Maxey shared that administration recommends contracting for legal services and according to the Horry County Schools' Procurement Code, contracts for certain services including the services of attorneys, shall not be awarded without approval of the Superintendent and Board of Education. Mr. Generette stated that administration recommends the Board consider and approve seeking legal services from the law firm of Womble, Carlyle, Sandridge and Rice to provide information as relates to legal opinions in reference to our construction contracts on the current building projects, procurement matters, as well as the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. James to approve the Superintendent's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Heniford and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

B. Consideration of Student Appeal

Board Action: A motion was made by Ms. Timms that based upon the Board’s review and consideration of the record concerning the student’s appeal and his assignment to the Alternative School, to modify the District Appeal Board’s decision to carry the equivalent Alternative School assignment over to the 2017-18 school year. The motion was seconded by Mr. Poston and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

C. Authorizing Expenditures from Revenues Collected from the Education Capital Improvements Sales and Use Tax

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. James that the Board authorize the expenditure of not to exceed \$43,600,000 from sales tax revenues for the direct payment of costs for approved projects including classroom and instructional technology and the short-term facilities plan. The motion was seconded by Mr. Poston and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

D. Safe Routes to School (SCDOT Grant)

Board Action: A motion was made by Ms. Timms and seconded by Mr. Hardwick to approve the reduction in scope of work for the Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Project as recommended by District staff and by the City of Conway to include only the Snowhill Drive and Sherwood Drive section. The motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

E. Draft Board Meeting Schedule – 2017-18

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Hardwick and seconded by Mr. Poston to table this item until the next meeting at which time the proposed Board meeting schedule will include the proposed start times. The motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

F. Board Committee Assignments

Mr. DeFeo stated that Ms. Todd desired to serve on the Horry County Board of Education Human Resources Committee.

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. James and seconded by Ms. Timms to approve adding Ms. Todd to the Human Resources Committee. The motion was approved unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. James to approve the Consent Agenda items as follows:

- A. Personnel Recommendations as Required by Law;**
- B. Monitoring Report: OE-5 Financial Planning;**
- C. Monitoring Report: OE-13 Facilities Quarterly Report;**
- D. Education Fund Distribution – District 2;**
- E. Education Fund Distribution – District 5;**
- F. Education Fund Distribution – District 6; and**

G. Education Fund Distribution 9

The motion was seconded by Mr. Hardwick and the Consent Agenda items were approved unanimously as presented. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Board Action: A motion was made by Ms. Timms and seconded by Ms. Heniford to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 9:19 p.m. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT RESULTS

A summary of the responses follows.

Respectfully submitted,



Rhonda Snowden
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and
Horry County Schools' Board of Education

Approved: June 5, 2017

Board Performance Indicators - 9 Responses

5/22/17

5= strongly agree, 4 = agree, 3 = neither agree nor disagree, 2 = disagree, 1 = strongly disagree

Date

Agenda

Reports are clear, well prepared and provide adequate information for decision making.

42 / 4.67

The majority of agenda items focus on our core purpose.

42 / 4.67

Meetings

Our meetings are businesslike, results-oriented and we function like a team.

42 / 4.67

Our discussions are cordial and well balanced (not dominated by just a few members.)

42 / 4.67

Community

Board members make reasonable efforts to inform themselves about education through school visits, professional meetings and outside reading.

39 / 4.34

Board members meet reasonable expectations of involvement by participating in school and other public meetings as representatives of the Board.

41 / 4.56

Board members efficiently address issues and concerns brought to them by the public.

40 / 4.45

Superintendent Relationship

The Board seeks and values the input of the Superintendent as issues are discussed and decisions are made.

43 / 4.78

Work / Policies

Board decisions are based on thoughtful analysis of available information.

43 / 4.78

Board members balance the issues of their district with the needs of the entire school district.

39 / 4.34

The Board places emphasis on building consensus among members through open and honest communication.

40 / 4.45

Comments:

There were no comments.