

HORRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES **BOARD WORK SESSION/SPECIAL CALLED MEETING** **District Office** **April 18, 2016**

The following persons were present:

Board of Education

Joe DeFeo, Chairman	Holly Heniford	Sherrie Todd
David Cox	Neil James	Ray Winters
Jeffrey Garland	John Poston	
Janet Graham	Pam Timms	

Horry County Schools' Staff

Mary Anderson	Reggie Gasque	Mark Porter
Elissa Blosser	Melissa Gause	Ben Prince
Terra Bodkins	Kenny Generette	Meg Quillen
Edward Boyd	Sie Gilbert	Lucas Richardson
Daryl Brown	Roger Gray	Buffy Roberts
Dottie Brown	Ben Hardee	Angela Rush
Carolyn Chestnut	Teal Harding	Scott Scrivner
Edi Cox	Charles Hucks, Jr.	Heather Sheehan
Meagen Cox	H. T. Lee	Jamie Nininger
David Cupolo	Ebony Livingston	Rhonda Snowden
Jeanie Dailey	Rick Maxey	Vicki Underwood
Dennis Devorick	Barbara McGinnis	Kristin Wilson
Kristin Dowling	Lisa Melchione	Mark Wolfe
John Gardner	Boone Myrick	Stephanie Yancey
Ashley Gasperson	Beverly Pilkey	

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 APRIL 18, 2016, AT 6:00 P.M. – CALL TO ORDER

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

A. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Cox offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Approval of Agenda

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

C. Approval of Minutes – March 21, 2016

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. James and seconded by Mr. Cox to approve the March 21, 2016, minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously and the minutes were approved. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

2. DISCUSSION

A. Resolution Adopting Horry County Government’s All-Hazards Mitigation Plan

Mr. Brown shared that it is time to consider renewing our commitment with Horry County Emergency Management. The most recent Hazards Mitigation Plan expired on January 6, 2016. This is a plan that should there be some type of natural disaster, it is a commitment to work in conjunction with other Horry County agencies. This item is also under Business for a vote by the Board, and upon approval, signature of the Board Chair.

B. Horry County Schools’ Strategic Plan and Read to Succeed Plan

Mr. Boyd shared that a copy of Horry County Schools’ Strategic Plan had been provided, which includes our Read to Succeed Plan. The State requires each five years that we develop a new plan and to develop five-year performance goals. We will submit this plan to the State Department on April 30. Following our visit by the AdvancED accreditation team on May 1 - 4, we will update our plan accordingly with any recommendations from the team, and submit a new plan later in the summer or early fall. This item will be on the agenda for the next meeting for approval by the Board.

C. Monitoring Report: OE-9 Communicating with the Public

Mr. Boyd shared that the monitoring report provided indicates the ways the District has communicated with the public on behalf of the Board in the past year.

D. Procedures for Filling Unexpired Term of District 4 Board Member Position

Mr. Generette shared that the information provided is in reference to filling the Board vacancy for District 4. Upon the Board’s ratification of the process, we will publish this notification tomorrow and it will run for 21 days, with a date for all interested to submit an application to the Superintendent’s Office by the end of the workday (4:30 p.m.) on Tuesday, May 10. The timeline for filling the vacancy and meeting the May 29 deadline to have the vacancy filled was shared. The person sworn in will serve from the date of being sworn in until the first meeting in January 2017. The electoral process will determine the individual who will fill the position for the ensuing term.

E. Board Committee Assignments

Mr. DeFeo shared that the Board should approve the membership of the Board Committees. After adding Ms. Graham to the Facilities Committee, this will be brought forward for approval of the full Board at our next meeting.

F. Technology Committee Report

Ms. Morreale serves as the Chair of the Technology Committee. She was unable to attend today’s meeting, and therefore, Mr. Winters provided a report from the meeting held earlier in the day. No action was taken by the Committee. There was discussion on sustainment of the PDLs. The Committee received recommendations on the purchase of new devices for the middle schools. The Committee also received information on the searchable database for Board motions. An email is to be sent to all Board members regarding the searchable database.

G. Human Resources Committee Report

Mr. Cox reported that this Committee met last month and discussion was held on at-will employees, athletic trainers, and a 2% pay raise for those employees who have reached the top step on the pay scale. There was unanimous consensus that athletic trainers be increased to two in our 3 and 4-A schools (schools with 1,000+ students), adding that based upon information received previously, approximately 79% of all 3 and 4-A schools in South Carolina employ two or more full-time athletic trainers. There was also a unanimous consensus not to grant the 2% pay raise for those employees who have reached the top step on the pay scale. Based on Ms. Anderson's presentation at a recent meeting on at-will employees, the Committee is in agreement with the vetting process and believes this will eliminate some of the previous questions from constituents. It was stated that as we go through the budget process, budget items will be considered individually rather than grouping items together from the Committees.

H. Budget Update

Mr. Gardner provided an update on where we are with the budget process, adding that the budget workshop will be held on May 9. Between now and May 9, we will plan to hold a Finance Committee meeting to review some of the budget items.

I. Monitoring Report: OE-13 Facilities Quarterly Report

Mr. Wolfe provided information on the status of construction projects along with the Facilities Quarterly Report.

J. National School Boards Association Conference Recap

Mr. DeFeo shared that several Board members recently attended the National School Boards Association Conference. Mr. DeFeo, Mr. Cox, Ms. Heniford, and Ms. Graham highlighted information from sessions they attended.

K. Superintendent's Report

- 1) AdvancED Board Member Interviews – 10:45-11:45 a.m., Monday, May 2, 2016, AND AdvancED Exit Report – 3:30 p.m., May 4, 2016 – Dr. Maxey re-emphasized the importance of Board members participating in these two events.
- 2) HCS' Technology Fair – This past Wednesday, Horry County Schools sponsored its Technology Fair. This event keeps growing every year and is a phenomenal event in terms of student participation and gives us a great opportunity for our students to showcase their talents. There were more than 1,200 student participants with more than 500 entries. There were approximately 350 who competed in the Rubik's Cube challenge. We appreciate all of our staff who made this event happen and we are very proud of the work our students and teachers are doing.
- 3) Teal Harding shared information about the 4th annual Waves of the Future event that she attended at the Carolina Opry. This is hosted by the Chicora Rotary Club and is an opportunity to showcase the best students and teams of students who have auditioned by videotape and were selected to show their talent to a sold-out audience. There were 24 performances. Following the event, the Chicora Rotary Club presented a check to Horry County Schools in the amount of \$10,000 to be used to further the fine arts in Horry County Schools.

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Discussion of Contractual Arrangements Concerning Auditing Services

B. Receipt of Legal Advice Concerning Procedures for Filling Unexpired Term of District 4 Board Member Position

C. Discussion of the Employment of Personnel

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. James and seconded by Ms. Heniford for the Board to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of the items listed above. The motion carried unanimously and the Board moved into Executive Session at 6:51 p.m.

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Cox and seconded by Ms. Timms to return to open session. The motion carried unanimously and the Board returned to open session at 7:51 p.m.

4. BUSINESS

A. Resolution Adopting Horry County Government’s All-Hazards Mitigation Plan

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Poston and seconded by Mr. James to approve the Resolution as presented. The motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

B. Approval of Contractual Arrangements Concerning Auditing Services

Mr. Poston recused himself from all discussion on this topic during Executive Session and all committee meetings.

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Garland on behalf of the Finance Committee, who met and interviewed external auditing firms recently, to direct the District to enter into a contract for external auditing services with Elliott Davis Decosimo. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graham and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

C. Procedures for Filling Unexpired Term of District 4 Board Member Position

Board Action: A motion was made by Ms. Timms that the Board ratify the “Unexpired Term Fulfillment” process and conduct its review and interview of applicants for District 4 with an appointment voted upon and the vacancy filled no later than May 29, 2016. The motion was seconded by Ms. Heniford and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item. Mr. DeFeo added that he would like to encourage anyone who meets the criteria to apply, as it may be in the Board’s best interest to consider applicants who are willing to serve temporarily. This would avoid giving the appearance of interfering with the election of a Board member for the ensuing term.

D. Funding Support for Socastee High School, DECA Competitive Events Program, April 23-27, 2016, Nashville, Tennessee

Board Action: A motion was made by Ms. Timms that the Board approve the funding designations for Socastee High School to attend the National DECA competition in the amount of \$17,574. Ms. Timms shared that there may be funds available for the balance of the anticipated costs, which is \$3411.90, and therefore, the requested amount from the Board is \$17,574. The motion was seconded by Ms. Todd and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

E. Personnel Recommendations

Dr. Maxey made three principal recommendations to the Board, which are to become effective July 1, 2016. His recommendation for the new Carolina Forest area middle school principal is Mr. Ben Prince; the recommendation for the new Socastee area middle school principal is Ms. Lisa Melchione; and the recommendation for the new St. James area intermediate school principal is Mr. David Cupolo.

Board Action: Mr. Poston made a motion that the Board accept the recommendations of Dr. Maxey for these three principal positions, and added that he is very proud that we have such talent in Horry County Schools that we can find leadership within our own District and that this is a testimony to our staff and the work of this school district. The motion was seconded by Ms. Timms and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Personnel Recommendations as Required by Law
- B. Education Fund Distribution – District 4
- C. Education Fund Distribution – District 5
- D. Education Fund Distribution – District 7

The motion carried unanimously and the Consent Agenda items were approved as presented. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Board Action: A motion was made by Ms. Heniford and seconded by Ms. Graham to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:00 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: _____ May 9, 2016

Board Performance Indicators - 8 Responses

April 18, 2016

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.

36.7 / 4.59

The majority of agenda items focus on our core purpose.

37.9 / 4.74

Meetings

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

37.8 / 4.73

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

38.1 / 4.77

Community

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

33.5 / 4.19

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

35.1 / 4.39

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

38.8 / 4.85

Superintendent Relationship

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

38.3 / 4.79

Work / Policies

Board decisions are based on thoughtful analysis of available information.

37.9 / 4.74

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

34.8 / 4.35

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

35.2 / 4.40

Comments:

There were no comments.