

HORRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES BOARD MEETING District Office August 10, 2015

The following persons were present:

Board of Education

Joe DeFeo, Chairman	Neil James	Sherrie Todd
David Cox, Vice-Chair	Janice Morreale	Ray Winters
Janet Graham	John Poston	

Horry County Schools Staff

Mary Anderson	Ben Hardee	Beverly Pilkey
Edward Boyd	Teal Harding	Lucas Richardson
Daryl Brown	Leann Hill	Angela Rush
Dottie Brown	Traci Hogan	Rhonda Snowden
Joe Burch	Charles Hucks, Jr.	Judy Stall
Dena Chatfield	H.T. Lee	Jackie Stanley
Edi Cox	Rick Maxey	Kristin Wilson
Kenneth Generette	Valerie McNeill	Mark Wolfe
Roger Gray	Boone Myrick	

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 AUGUST 10, 2015, AT 6:00 P.M. – CALL TO ORDER

A. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman DeFeo called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Winters gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. James to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Graham and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

C. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Cox to approve the June 29, 2015, minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Morreale and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

2. DISCUSSION

A. SCSBA Legislative Advocacy Conference, December 4-6, 2015, Hilton Head Island

Mr. DeFeo asked that Board members interested in attending the SCSBA Legislative Advocacy Conference in Hilton Head in December notify Rhonda Snowden as soon as possible.

B. OE-13: Facilities Quarterly Report

Mark Wolfe addressed questions regarding the report. As to the playground equipment, there have been some delays with trying to get the equipment off of the State contract due to confusion over shipping charges. Procurement is working with Facilities to get this resolved as quickly as possible. Ms. Morreale asked that Board members be provided an update as to when the playground equipment will be installed. There was concern about paving projects. Ms. Morreale stated that it is gravel at SSE and the student loop has not been paved at SJHS. Mr. Wolfe will check the status as he understood that all paving had been completed.

C. Solicitation RFP #1415-91 Design Requirements

Mr. DeFeo shared that a consultant, Louis Batson, was hired to assist with solicitation of the RFP. Mr. DeFeo added there was concern there is not enough money for the design-builders to do these projects. Mr. Batson recommends that all of the site work and infrastructure that is not on the property itself should not be included in the RFP. This will free up different amounts of money for each project. The bigger problem that Mr. Batson sees is that there are no plans. We do not have a site for one of the projects yet. Mr. Batson does not believe that bidders can give a price for items that have not yet been determined. A new concern is that there are issues that have to be dealt with such as the Community Appearance Board, traffic, etc. Another concern is that the conceptual design does not meet the requirements of the educational specifications. For example, some of the classrooms have no windows and access to the gymnasium requires going through the lobby and school because there is no other location from which to funnel people into the gymnasium. Mr. Batson's recommendation would allow the Selection Committee to have the RFPs that are submitted to only enter one design for each of these four selected design-builders. However, they will not be penalized for changing the design around for the purpose of adding windows to the classrooms or for solving the problem with access to the gymnasium. Doing so would not count against the bidders in points.

At this time, Mr. Ken Childs of Childs & Halligan, and Mr. Batson, consultant, were available for a live telephone conference.

Mr. Batson understands the concerns about the coordination, adding that he was led to pursue this option because we have one site that is not selected, one site that we know there are issues about handling traffic, and there are three sites that are established. There are a lot of unknowns outside of the property boundary infrastructure that he does not believe we will have answers for in time to get an accurate or good number for pricing. The contractors' design-build teams will throw money at it and there is no way for the District to track whether that money is appropriate or excessive for the work to be done. Mr. Batson would like to keep that money separate, but shortly after the teams are selected, to begin to coordinate either within the design-build team as an additional service, or as a separate group, coordinate possibly an umbrella group, or traffic engineer, to do all of those pieces.

Mr. Poston agreed that all that a design-build team could do at this point is to throw money at it. However, as a Board, we have to be sure we do not forget these other items from a cost standpoint and from a timing and coordination standpoint. Mr. Poston added that he feels we should go the route of low bidder due to the coordination required. Mark Wolfe stated that he feels that is the better choice for the District due to the coordination that will be required. Mr. Poston shared that handling these off-site issues may be handled most effectively through change orders.

Mr. Winters offered a simplified explanation of what he has heard as, “Yes, we are removing these things, but we would be awarding to a particular party, subject to a good faith negotiation on these off-site items, post award.” Mr. Batson said this explanation is correct.

Mr. DeFeo asked if we allow leeway for the design-builders when educational specs or other items that the Steering Committee was very specific about wanting, when those items collide, will we allow them to deviate from the conceptual design in such a way that it will allow those concepts to be truly in the building. Mr. Poston said that we will have to be able to track that if we are to get a true comparison and should be done through bid addendums that will be identifiable, adding that we cannot give a design-builder the authority to do what he wants to do. If he wants to change the schematics, he has to float a bid question, and when Mr. Batson responds to the bid questions, it can be done in a format that all potential bidders see the change, so that all bidders have the same opportunities in the bid process. Mr. Batson added that this proposed addendum item was created to give the opportunity for the design-build teams to give their best resolution to the issue. It will be up to the District to decide whether to accept it or not accept it. The design-build teams are not being relieved of the responsibility of doing one or the other. They can suggest to make a modification. At the evaluation stage, you do not downgrade them for giving us their best judgment. The District then decides if we accept the suggested modifications, or we can choose not to accept the modification and require they follow the prototypical plan or the educational spec or that we will not allow any deviation to the plan as presented. We want the benefit of seeing if they can find a better way to solve the problem.

D. Capital Budget – Facility Construction Contingencies

Due to the discussion in the previous item, this is no longer up for consideration.

E. GC-6: Annual Work Plan

Dr. Maxey shared that according to Board Governance, Policy GC-6 calls for the development of an annual work plan for the Board to do its work and to monitor and review all policies and activities to improve Board performance. It is a plan that should correspond with the fiscal year and end on June 30th to allow the Superintendent to align internal and operational systems and processes. A draft of the proposed annual work plan for 2015-16 was presented for consideration, which is modeled off of the prior year’s work plan, with the exception of assessment scores which we get from the year just completed, which are available for us to begin reporting on as early as November. Therefore, we could be looking at literacy and numeracy in November and December, as opposed to February as it was on the previous work plan.

F. September Board Development Retreat

A copy of the 2015-16 Board meeting schedule was included. The Board Development Retreat was established as TBD in September. Following discussion of the options, several Board members indicated a preference to meet on Monday evening, September 21st.

G. Board Member School Visit Schedule

Options for Board members visiting the schools were discussed. A recommendation was made that we will develop a visitation schedule for the 1st quarter to be held on Wednesdays. Once developed, Board members will sign up for the school visitations they plan to attend. Should there be no one scheduled for specific visits, we will cancel the scheduled visit in advance so that the school will not make special plans for the visit. Should a Board member wish to visit a school outside of the schedule, they should contact the school to make arrangements. Ms. Morreale shared that she prefers to visit the schools with District staff

because they can point out things to the Board members that they might not otherwise have noticed or be aware of.

H. Superintendent's Report

1. August A-Team Meeting

Dr. Maxey reported that last week the District held the beginning of the year administrative team meeting. It was a very high energy meeting and Dr. Maxey feels very positive about it. We are excited about what we are about to embark on with this school year.

2. Status Report for Start of School

We are ready to start school on August 20. We do have some teacher vacancies. On August 3rd, we held New Teacher Academy at AAST. We had over 230 new teachers present. As of today, we have 41 regular education teacher vacancies and we have eight special education teacher vacancies. These numbers cover all three levels. We are continuing to interview and consider candidates and hope to have a number of these filled. We will have some vacancies, but principals will do what is necessary to make the system move forward and to meet the needs of the children.

As far as operations, we have no issues that we are aware of related to buses or buildings.

3. AdvancED Accreditation

This is something that all school districts across the county seek, which is the endorsement of an accrediting agency saying that the district is doing everything it is supposed to do that meets quality standards as far as education is concerned. What was previously known as SACS has become AdvancED. It is a continuous improvement process that we can embed in our work. Edward Boyd shared that this process occurs every five years. The District will get a report on what we are doing really well and recommended actions. We will take those recommended actions and build our District's strategic plan for the next five years. At that point, we are accredited by the AdvancED Board of Directors for a term of five more years.

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Contractual Matter Related to the Purchase of Property

B. Discussion of Personnel Matters

A motion was made by Mr. James and seconded by Mr. Cox to move into executive session. The motion carried and the Board moved into executive session at 7:10 p.m. to discuss: A. Contractual Matter Related to the Purchase of Property; and B. Discussion of Personnel Matters. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

Return from executive session

A motion was made by Mr. James and seconded by Mrs. Graham for the Board to return from executive session. The motion carried and the Board reconvened in open session at 8:28 p.m. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

4. BUSINESS

A. Personnel Recommendations

Dr. Maxey shared that he had two personnel recommendations to make this evening. The first is for the position of Interim Chief Academic Officer, and Dr. Maxey recommends that Boone Myrick be named to this

position for the 2015-16 school year, with the understanding that we will advertise for a permanent replacement during this school year. Mr. Cox made a motion to approve the recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Poston and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

The position of Chief Officer for Support Services was vacated by Dr. Maxey when he became Interim Superintendent. Daryl Brown has filled in this position in the interim. Dr. Maxey recommends that Daryl Brown be named the new Chief Officer for Support Services for Horry County Schools. Mr. James made a motion to approve the recommendation as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Winters and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

B. Solicitation RFP #1415-91 Design Requirements

The recommended motion as presented by Childs & Halligan was read by Mr. DeFeo as follows: I move that the Board modify its previous approval of two of the design requirements of the five projects within RFP #1415-91, the Total Approved Project Budgets and conceptual designs, and authorize the following changes in these design requirements:

1. Design and construction costs of utilities infrastructure, public roadways, traffic control devices/systems and other improvements which are located outside of the District-owned property boundaries of a project are excluded from the Total Approved Project Budget of each project. The Total Approved Project Budget of each project includes all site-related costs within the District-owned property boundaries such as drives, walks, playgrounds, parking lots, road work, storm water systems, water, sewer, electric, and other utilities, exterior lighting, landscaping, signage, and other improvements normally included in the design and construction of a school.
2. RFP Section 4.2 is amended to clarify that no points will be deducted from the HCS conceptual design implementation evaluation for modification of the conceptual design to enable improved daylighting of classrooms or controlled access to the concession/ticket and restroom areas near the entrance of the gym as shown on the middle and intermediate school model conceptual designs.

Mr. James made a motion to approve the recommendations regarding the modifications to the RFP. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cox and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

C. Capital Budget – Facility Construction Contingencies

No discussion was held or action taken on this item.

D. Advisory Board Appointments

Mr. Poston made a motion to appoint the following Advisory Board members for the

Carolina Forest Advisory Board:

Ms. Terri Custer – Re-appointment for a 1-year term
Mr. Tim Phillips – Re-appointment for a 2-year term
Mr. Robert Ellis – Re-appointment for a 2-year term
Ms. Jennie Iagulli – Re-appointment for a 1-year term
Ms. Kelly Handley – New appointment for a 2-year term
Mr. Christopher Hanna – New appointment for a 2-year term

The motion was seconded by Mr. Winters and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

Mrs. Todd made a motion to appoint the following Advisory Board member for the

Myrtle Beach Advisory Board:

Mr. Chris Butler – New appointment for a 1-year term

The motion was seconded by Mr. Winters and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

Mr. Cox made a motion to appoint the following Advisory Board members for the

Loris Advisory Board:

Sammy Stalvey – Re-appointment for a 2-year term

Laura Powers – Re-appointment for a 2-year term

The motion was seconded by Mr. James and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item. Mr. Cox clarified following the meeting that he intended both of the Loris re-appointments to be for two year terms.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Personnel Recommendations as Required by Law

B. Home School Applications

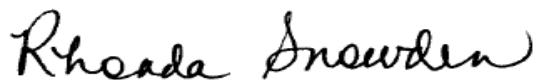
C. Education Fund Distribution – District 5

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

6. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Cox to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Poston and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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

Approved: August 24, 2015