

# HORRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

## ***MINUTES BOARD MEETING District Office May 26, 2015***

The following persons were present:

### **Board of Education**

Joe DeFeo, Chairman	Holly Heniford	John Poston
David Cox, Vice-Chair	Neil James	Sherrie Todd
Jeffrey Garland	Kay Loftus	Ray Winters
Janet Graham	Janice Morreale	

### **Horry County Schools Staff**

Velna Allen	Diane Gaskins	Zachary McQuigg
Cindy Ambrose	Kenneth Generette	Boone Myrick
Mary Anderson	Roger Gray	Bert Owen
Bobbi Antonucci	Ben Hardee	Beverly Pilkey
Ashley Blankenship	Traci Hogan	Sandy Reyes
Daryl Brown	Charles Hucks, Jr.	Mary Beth Roach
Dottie Brown	Robin Jones	Angela Rush
Jeff Carland	Sandi Jones	Rhonda Snowden
Carolyn Chestnut	Janet Lawpath	Judy Stall
Edi Cox	Ruth Lilly	Tammy Trulove
Kim Floyd	Rick Maxey	Kristin Wilson
John Gardner	Jimmy McCullough	Mark Wolfe

### **1. OPENING MAY 26, 2015, AT 6:00 P.M. – CALL TO ORDER**

#### **A. Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, and Presentation of Colors**

Chairman DeFeo called the meeting to order. Mr. James gave the invocation. Myrtle Beach High School Navy JROTC presented the colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **B. Approval of Agenda**

Mr. DeFeo asked that we add an Item B under Recognitions, Aynor High School Softball Team. Another change needed is on Item 4.H – Establish Board Meeting Dates for January 1 – June 30, 2016. The Board meeting date for April 11, 2016, should be changed to April 18, 2016, due to a conflict with the National School Boards Association annual conference.

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

*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.*

### **C. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. James and seconded by Mr. Winters to approve the Minutes of the May 11, 2015, Board meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

## **2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Patricia Milley addressed the Board regarding textbook adoption.

## **3. RECOGNITIONS**

### **A. Career and Technology Education (CATE) Awards**

Teal Harding and Ben Hardee recognized CATE students who recently earned Career and Technology Education awards. Their advisors were also recognized.

### **B. Aynor High School Varsity Softball Team**

Teal Harding and Daryl Brown, along with Janet Lawrence-Patten and Doug Hinson, recognized the players of the Aynor High School Varsity Softball Team for having won the State Softball Championship this past Friday night. The coaches were also recognized. This is the first State Championship for Aynor High's Varsity Softball Team in 25 years.

## **4. DISCUSSION**

### **A. Monitoring Report: R-6 Personal Success and Citizenship**

Cindy Ambrose shared that the document provided in Granicus is a compilation of the work of Ben Hardee, Carolyn Chestnut, Boone Myrick, Edward Boyd, and others.

### **B. Facilities Committee – Allocate Additional Funding to Lease Modular Classrooms**

Mark Wolfe shared that the temporary classrooms we currently have no longer meet current code if we have them moved. Therefore, we cannot relocate them without incurring significant expense. These modular classrooms can be set up as individual classrooms or so that they have an interior corridor. The administration is asking for the Board's approval to enter into a leasing agreement. We conducted competitive bids and we selected the lowest responsive bidder. We would like to move forward so that we can meet the timelines for the modular classrooms that we need for the summer work. Mr. DeFeo added that this item is also under Consent on this Board meeting agenda due to time constraints and it has been before the Facilities Committee. Mr. James inquired regarding the costs involved. The first and last years of the lease are the most expensive. There is a set-up fee the first year and a removal fee the last year. The years in between carry a lease fee only. The \$400,000 shown as recurring is not the cost for each year. It is just that the first and last years are more costly. Mrs. Graham questioned the flexibility of the modular buildings as relates to the design and layout. Mr. Wolfe shared that the bid we put out allows for a maximum of eight classrooms due to fire code regulations. Once the units are put together, generally the intent is that they will remain together until they are removed. Mr. Cox questioned the life expectancy of the modular buildings. Mr. Wolfe responded that the buildings have a long life expectancy because they are built in a controlled environment. Ms. Morreale questioned the flexibility of placing more portables as growth occurs. The bid for the portables allows for us to place future orders as growth occurs without having to go through the bidding process again. Our plan is to allow attrition to take care of our currently owned portables. We do not plan to replace our currently

owned portables with leased portables. The portables we own that are in place are grandfathered in and still meet the code that was in place at the time the portables were installed. Mrs. Todd questioned maintenance of the modular classrooms. Mr. Wolfe stated the company will take care of maintenance of any major systems involving the modular classrooms. It was noted that canopies are not a part of this lease.

**C. Human Resources Committee – Increase Support for ESOL**

Ms. Morreale reported that the recommendation of the Human Resources Committee is that the request for ESOL support be increased to 15 from the 11 that was being recommended by administration. Mr. Gardner confirmed that the funding for the additional positions will come from the 2015-16 general fund teacher contingency without having to increase the overall budget. Because this is a recommendation from a Board Committee, we will put that under Item 4.D.6, that we increase the ESOL support positions to 15.

**D. Committee of the Whole**

This is a preliminary first reading and vote on the budget by a Committee of the Whole and is for consideration by the full Board under Business 6.B. An announcement will follow, and two weeks later the Board can vote on a final budget if they choose to do so. The Committee of the Whole is not binding. It is a Committee meeting.

**1) 2% Salary Increase for All Employees** – Mrs. Graham asked the cost for this in the budget. Mr. Gardner responded it would be approximately \$1.2 million to provide the salary adjustment for those employees who have maxed out on the salary scale. Mr. Garland confirmed with Mr. Gardner that this request is for a 2% salary increase for those employees who have maxed out on the salary scale as well as a step increase for those who have not maxed out on the salary scale, and not both a step and a 2% increase. Mr. James confirmed with Mr. Gardner that those employees who are at the top step of the salary scale have not received a salary increase for the past two years, and Mr. James stated he feels it appropriate those employees be given something. Mr. Gardner gave an analysis of employee salary information from 2009-10 through 2015-16. Mr. DeFeo added that the Board could entertain a motion to give a one-time bonus rather than a salary increase to employees who have reached the top of the salary scale, which would not affect future budgets, or this Committee could approve or reject the 2% salary increase as requested herein. Mr. James made a motion to approve the administration's recommendation. Mr. Garland seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of eight in favor and three opposed. Those opposed were DeFeo, Cox, and Morreale.

**2) Expand Dual Credit/Technical Scholars Program** – John Gardner addressed this item, which is to add an HVAC program in partnership with Horry Georgetown Technical College, at a cost of \$110,000, which is recurring. This would allow students to participate in a program that upon successful completion, would give the students a certificate of licensure, similar to the electrical program that we currently partnership with HGTC. This would also provide some additional funding for some dual credit courses we have through HGTC. A motion was made by Mr. Cox and was seconded by Mr. Garland. The motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**3) Additional Days for Clerical Assistance at the School Level** – John Gardner shared that administration has met with the Principals' Cabinet and several principals, and they have shared

they need additional clerical assistance in their schools, mainly to assist with matters like enrollment and guidance. Administration is proposing \$250,000 to assist in that area. The three Executive Directors for Elementary, Middle, and High, will come up with a formula for distributing these funds to the schools in the form of additional days. The principal will determine how to utilize the additional days. We have employees who are 190-day employees. This will allow the principal to give those employees some additional days to assist the schools. A motion was made by Mr. Cox to approve this request. The motion was seconded by Ms. Morreale and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**4) School-based Technology Support Staff (Middle and Secondary)** – John Gardner shared this is a request for \$850,000 to provide a support staff position at each of the middle and secondary schools to assist with the PDL initiative. This is not being requested for the elementary schools at this time because we are only implementing the PDL initiative at the 5<sup>th</sup> grade level. Once the PDL initiative is fully implemented at the elementary level, we will come back to the Board to request this assistance at the elementary schools. A motion was made by Mr. James to approve this request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Garland and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**5) Athletic Supplements and Additional Days** – Included in the budget is a request for approximately \$201,000 to add 30 additional days for the high school varsity football coaches and to have one supplement for all sports rather than the current 10-step supplement schedule. Currently the football coaches are on 190-day contracts and they receive a coaching supplement. The football coaches spend a lot of time during the summer working to get their teams ready for the upcoming season. The proposal is to make the varsity football coaching positions 220-days. In addition, our supplement schedule for athletics currently has 10 steps. We propose to do away with the 10-step schedule and just have one salary supplement for each sport. This would be similar to what we do with band, chorus, and orchestra. A motion was made by Mr. James to approve adding 30 additional days to the varsity football coaches' contracts, bringing them to 220-day contracts, and doing away with the 10-step supplement schedule for athletics and having one supplement for each sport. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cox and the motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**6) ESOL Support (11 Teachers and 1 Coach)** – Mr. DeFeo stated this will include the recommendation from the Human Resources Committee for an additional four ESOL teachers, to be paid from the 2015-16 teacher contingency fund. The original request for 11 teachers and 1 coach will be paid from this budget, at an approximate cost of \$886,000. A motion and second are not required because this is a recommendation from a Board Committee. The recommendation carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

The Committee of the Whole was closed and those items presented here will be presented as a preliminary budget during Business.

#### **E. Modification of Short-term Capital Plan**

Dr. Maxey shared that we are under a procurement process for the purpose of constructing four middle schools and one elementary school. The conceptual designs originally prepared called for two of the middle schools to house a student enrollment of 1,200 and for two of them to house a student enrollment of 800. We have conducted a review of the population forecast for the attendance areas and

one thing we would like to be sure we clarify is that the new school for the St. James attendance area is listed as an intermediate/middle school. In looking at that particular school and the schools it will provide capacity relief for, it is the recommendation of administration that the student enrollment capacity of this school be increased from 800 to 1,200. The rationale is that if this is done with grades 5 and 6 at this intermediate school, it will offer capacity relief for St. James Elementary, Burgess Elementary, and Seaside Elementary Schools, at approximately 130 students from each school. It will also offer us the opportunity for 400 students to come from the existing St. James Middle School. From a capacity perspective, it seems to be a wise course of action to increase the size from 800 to 1,200. This will provide capacity relief as noted, as well as provide a cost savings to do this now rather than later. There are implications to consider when constructing this school as an intermediate school. However, these are things that we can accommodate. We will have to provide additional instructional support for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students, just as we do for any other middle school students to ensure they are afforded the same opportunities. It will require a coordination of different instructional models within one facility. We believe one floor can service the elementary grade and one floor can service the middle grade. This school will also be required to have a schedule time for start and dismissal to be aligned with other middle schools in order for the buses that will serve the middle school students attending this school to be able to go throughout the entire attendance area. Although these are challenges, they can be overcome. Therefore, the administration recommends going forward with the change to the student enrollment capacity of the school for the St. James attendance area from 800 students to 1,200 students. Mr. DeFeo noted that this change will offer a potential savings of \$30 million versus building an elementary school in the near future, as this will alleviate overcrowding in the elementary schools.

This item will be under Business for a vote of the Board tonight. Mr. James asked that Board members be ready to make a decision tonight due to the Selection Committee meeting again next week with the hope of finalizing the vendors and in preparation of issuing the RFP.

#### **F. Update on Sustainment/Modification Project List for Summer 2015**

Mark Wolfe provided an update on projects that are currently underway or will be soon for the summer.

#### **G. Waiver of Inclement Weather Day**

Kenneth Generette addressed the request for Board approval to waive the requirement for all staff and students to make up the day of school that was missed on February 24, 2015, due to inclement weather. This item will be under Business for a vote of the Board.

#### **H. Establish Board Meeting Dates for January 1 – June 30, 2016**

Chairman DeFeo shared that there is a list of Board meeting dates that are being presented under Business for a vote. The date of April 11, 2016, will be changed to April 18, 2016, due to the National School Boards Association annual conference that creates a conflict with holding a Board meeting on April 11, 2016. The Board meeting dates for July through December, 2015, have already been voted on by the Board.

#### **I. Superintendent's Report**

**1) Graduation Ceremonies** – Dr. Maxey reminded those present of our upcoming graduation ceremonies. An updated schedule of the ceremonies, along with Board member and staff attendees, was provided.

## **5. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Poston asked for clarification of Item 5-A, Discussion of Contract Negotiations, and specifically questioned to what contracts this item was relative. Mr. DeFeo responded that this is regarding contract negotiations about our attorneys – legal services.

A motion was made by Mr. Cox and seconded by Ms. Morreale to move into Executive Session. The motion carried and the Board moved into Executive Session at 7:13 p.m. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

### **A. Discussion of Contract Negotiations**

### **B. Consideration of Student Appeal**

### **C. Discussion of Personnel Matters**

#### **Return from Executive Session**

A motion was made by Mr. Cox and seconded by Mrs. Loftus to return to open session. The motion carried and the Board returned to open session at 8:18 p.m. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

## **6. BUSINESS**

### **A. Consideration of Student Appeal**

Following discussion of this appeal in Executive Session, Ms. Heniford made the following statement and motion: Based upon the review and the written report regarding the student's appeal of assignment to the Alternative School program, I make a motion to uphold the District Appeal Board's decision to assign him to Alternative School until at least the end of the second semester of the 2014-15 school year. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Loftus and the motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

### **B. Preliminary Approval of the 2015-16 Superintendent's Comprehensive Budget**

This will be a vote to approve what was voted on earlier by the Board during the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Poston made a motion to approve what was approved during Discussion by the Committee of the Whole. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Todd and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

### **C. Board Governance Revisions**

Board Governance revisions were approved by the Committee of the Whole previously. Suggestions made at that time have been made as shown on the document presented. The suggested changes are that on GC-5, Item 4, the word, "Information" will be removed from Information Technology, and we will add, "He/she" may ask another board member to fill in their position for that meeting. On page 29 of OE-4, Item 4 will be changed to read, . . . according to an established hiring process, rather than having the principal hiring process written into Board Governance. A motion is not needed because this item has been before the Committee of the Whole. The recommended changes were voted on and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**D. Temporary Clerical Staffing at Schools for Summer Months**

Dr. Maxey stated that at our last Board meeting, Mrs. Graham shared that she had been approached by an individual who had young people who are high school and college age that could work temporarily that we might consider for staffing at our schools to provide temporary clerical assistance during the summer months. Mary Anderson followed up with the individual and the District can partake of this opportunity at no cost to the District. We believe this will be extremely advantageous, and if you couple that with the additional time that was mentioned earlier, it will serve to meet the needs of our schools by offering additional coverage in the offices during the summer. Mrs. Anderson will share the information about this opportunity for the temporary assistance available during the summer with principals and allow those principals who are interested to participate in this opportunity. The agency that is offering this opportunity for the District will be responsible for selecting and placing the persons who are a part of this program, which is through the Workforce Investment Act (WIA).

This item was placed under the Business section of the agenda due to the original request that the District be allowed to hire additional staff to assist with covering our front offices during the summer months. Because we have now learned of the opportunity offered to the District through WIA, we will not need a vote of the Board to utilize this service.

**E. Lease of Modular Classroom Units**

Chairman DeFeo asked for this item to be voted on prior to the Preliminary Approval of the Budget since it is part of the budget. A motion was made by Mr. James to approve the leasing of modular classrooms for temporary capacity relief, at a cost not to exceed \$400,000 for the 2015-16 school year. The motion was seconded by Mr. Winters and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**F. Modification of Short-term Capital Plan**

This is a recommendation to take the St. James attendance area middle school and make it an intermediate school, to approve the additional funding required from the undesignated capital funds, and to bring this school up to a student capacity of 1,200. A motion was made by Mr. James to approve this request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cox and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**G. Waiver of Inclement Weather Day**

A motion was made by Mr. Poston to waive for all students and staff the requirement for making up February 24, 2015, the date the District was closed due to inclement weather. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cox and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**H. Establish Board Meeting Dates for January 1 – June 30, 2016**

The schedule as presented should be revised to change the Board meeting date from April 11 to April 18, 2016. A motion was made by Mr. Cox and was seconded by Mr. Garland to approve the schedule as noted. The motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**7. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Personnel Recommendations as Required by Law**

**B. Monitoring Report: R-4 – Social Studies**

**C. Monitoring Report: OE-5 – Financial Planning**

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

**E. Act 155 Diplomas**

**F. Education Fund Distribution – District 3**

**G. Education Fund Distribution – District 10**

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

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mrs. Graham and seconded by Mr. James to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously and the Board meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rhonda Snowden". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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

**Approved:**

June 15, 2015