HORRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

M I N U T E S

BOARD MEETING
District Office
April 27, 2015

The following persons were present:

Board of Education

Joe DeFeo, Chairman	Neil James	Sherrie Todd
Jeffrey Garland	Janice Morreale	Ray Winters
Holly Heniford	John Poston	

Horry County Schools Staff

Velna Allen	Diane Formhals	Valerie McNeil
Cindy Ambrose	Ashley Gasperson	Boone Myrick
Emily Borrello	Reggie Gasque	Bert Owen
Dawn Brooks	Tanya Gray	Beverly Pilkey
Daryl Brown	Ben Hardee	Mark Porter
Dottie Brown	Charles Hucks, Jr.	Angela Rush
Joe Burch	Natalie Hunnell	Heather Sheehan
Kimberly Byrd	Mollie Laut	Rhonda Snowden
Dena Chatfield	Janet Lawrence-Patten	Judy Stall
Carolyn Chestnut	HT Lee	Addie Swinney
Edi Cox	Paula Lee	Lora Tyler
Laura Farmer	Cindy Magrath	

1. OPENING APRIL 27, 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. Winters gave the invocation. Green Sea Floyds High Army JROTC presented the colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Approval of Agenda
A motion was made by Mr. James to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Morreale 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 April 13, 2015, Board meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

2. RECOGNITIONS

A. 2015 Technology Fair Best in Show
The Technology Fair Best in Show winners were introduced and they gave a brief overview of their projects. The winners of the Best in Show are as follows:

1) Elementary – Kingston Elementary, Eliza Sansbury, Emma Sansbury, and Raycie McDowell (Video Editing)

2) Middle – North Myrtle Beach Middle, Noah Williams and Will Williams (Multimedia)

3) High – Myrtle Beach High, Remy DiAngelo (Robotics – non-kit)

B. Paula Lee, Athletic Director for St. James High School, Certified Athletic Administrator, National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association
Ms. Lee is the second female in the State of South Carolina to have received this status.

C. John Gardner, CFO, Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting
This makes the thirteenth year that the District has won this award. Mr. Gardner recognized the staff in his Department for their diligence and hard work.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

a) Mr. Abdullah Mustafa, President of the Conway Branch of the NAACP, addressed the Board regarding supervision of students, and asking the Board to take a look at the disciplinary policy. Mr. Mustafa alleged that the disciplinary policy at some schools is discriminatory. Two students were in attendance with Mr. Mustafa. One of the students attends Whittemore Park Middle School. According to Mr. Mustafa, the student was suspended and he should not have been. Mr. Mustafa also alleged that the other student, who attends Carolina Forest High, was lynched, having told the principal two days prior that some girls were going to beat her up. When this occurred, this student was suspended. According to Mr. Mustafa, the community is organizing against Horry County Schools because of how African American children are being treated.

b) Jennifer Huber submitted a request to speak to the Board on April 13, 2015. She did not respond when called to address the Board.

c) Mary Wallace spoke regarding her grandson who attends Myrtle Beach Primary. According to Ms. Wallace, her grandson is in the special needs program. Ms. Wallace made arrangements for her grandson to be taken to the Boys and Girls Club after school. She received a call to pick her grandson up from the school. He had been taken home where no one was present. The bus driver, in turn, took him back to the school, and a school employee telephoned her and demanded he be picked up by 4:00 p.m. She is unhappy about the attitude displayed towards her by the school and for what she considered as a lack of concern for her grandson. Whoever put her grandson on the bus needs to be held accountable. Mr. Lance Wallace stated that the child returned home with a red eye and bruises on his face, and the

principal and the teacher who had supervision over the child had no knowledge of what had occurred. The adults have to take responsibility for their safety and education.

4. DISCUSSION

A. Instructional Materials

1) Adoption Committees' Recommendations
2) Memorandum: 2015-16 Textbook Recommendations

Bert Owen shared the annual process for selection of textbooks and instructional materials. Schools form committees with experts who work in those areas. All schools that teach from those topics are on those committees and they select from the list of instructional materials approved by the State. That process has been completed by our District and the recommendations have been provided to the Acting Superintendent for new materials in the area of cursive writing as well as replacement materials for middle school social studies, high school economics, and agricultural materials in the category of CATE.

B. Strategic Plan Update/AdvancED Accreditation
A copy of the 2015 Strategic Plan Update was provided. We are required by State law to have a five-year strategic plan. Our last plan developed was for 2011-2016. Each April we have to submit an update to that plan. This is the most significant changes we have had to submit in one year, primarily due to the changes in our assessments and our performance goals. We will have to develop a new five-year plan to be put into place by April 2016.

The AdvancED Accreditation is a five-year accreditation and the large review for Horry County Schools will be in May of 2016. The Board will be involved in the process.

C. OE-6 Quarterly Financial Report
John Gardner addressed the Board regarding the quarterly financial report ending March 31, 2015. A hard copy was given to Board members, and a copy was loaded into Granicus. Mr. Gardner reported that the District is right on track with projections. Mr. James questioned why the collections reported are under where we were at this time last year. Mr. Gardner said that the County implemented a new software system and the County was behind in sending out tax notices. We do believe the numbers will come in close to the projections.

D. Superintendent's Report

1) New Assessments

Dr. Maxey shared that testing does begin tomorrow for Districts across the State. Information was provided to the Board on the three types of tests that will be administered. Grades 3 – 8 will be taking the ACT Aspire, which is a timed test and is unlike previous testing. The ACT college admissions exam will be given to 11th graders, and a day will be spent taking WorkKeys, which is another ACT product that addresses our students' career readiness.

As a reminder, the Horry County Schools Teacher of the Year Banquet is scheduled for tomorrow evening at the Marriott Grande Dunes at 6:00 p.m.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Discussion of Personnel Matters

B. Superintendent Evaluation
Mr. DeFeo shared that all that will be discussed related to the Superintendent Evaluation is how the Board might do the evaluation. There will be no discussion on the evaluation itself, which is not due until June or July.

Mr. James made a motion to move into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Garland and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

The Board moved into Executive Session at 6:45 p.m.

A motion was made by Ms. Morreale to return to open session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Todd and carried unanimously. The Board returned to open session at 7:35 p.m. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

6. BUSINESS

A. Consider Approval of Purchase of Property
Daryl Brown shared that the District has been searching for appropriate property upon which to construct a new middle school for the Socastee attendance area. The property being recommended consists of 30 acres located off of Hwy. 707 and Big Block Road. It is recommended that the Board approve the purchase of this property for the sum of $1,050,000. $767,000 of this amount will come from the property acquisition fund and the remaining $282,000 will come from the residual funds from the Phase III building program. Mr. DeFeo added that we are paying a certain amount per acre, but should we find wetlands on the property, we would end up paying less.

Mr. James made a motion to approve the recommendation of the staff to purchase the property on Big Block Road. The motion was seconded by Mr. Poston and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

B. Consider Approval of Donation of 0.4 Acre to the Aynor-Galivants Ferry Cultural Heritage Foundation
Daryl Brown shared that Horry County Schools has received a request from the Aynor-Galivants Ferry Cultural Heritage Foundation asking for a donation of .4 acre of land on Jordanville Road. The property is the site of a building which the Foundation is currently utilizing as a museum. The donation of this property will allow the Foundation to seek grants and other funding in support of its mission. Horry County Schools does not currently use this property, and the donation of this property will not interfere with the District's access to Aynor High School stadium via Jordanville Road if such access were needed in the future. The property will be transferred as is and Horry County Schools will make no improvements to the site or facility.

The administration recommends the Board approve the donation of .4 acre of land on Jordanville Road to the Aynor-Galivants Ferry Cultural Heritage Foundation, a non-profit organization, with the understanding that should the Aynor-Galivants Ferry Cultural Heritage Foundation cease operation of the museum, ownership of the property will revert to Horry County Schools.

A motion was made by Mr. Garland to approve the recommendation as stated above. The motion was seconded by Mr. Winters and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

C. Financial Support for School Teams Participating in School-sanctioned National Competitions: Carolina Forest High School Robotics Team

John Gardner shared information regarding policy related to funding for school-sanctioned national competitions. This has been updated to add an Item #12, based upon Mr. James recommendation and which the Board approved. The item states that for teams with a registration fee greater than $10,000, these requests will be presented to the Board for special consideration. The Board may fund up to 50% of the registration fees if approved. This will allow the Board the governance to address special situations. As a point of clarification, registration fees are the total costs for the event. Mr. James shared that the original request submitted by Carolina Forest High School was for $11,646. They fell under the previous policy that allowed them $3,000. By adhering to Paragraph 12 within that policy, the Board could authorize up to $2,823 additional dollars. Carolina Forest High has overspent around $2,200, plus some additional expenses while competing in St. Louis.

Mr. James made a recommendation that the Board approve the additional $2,823 to support Carolina Forest High School's Robotics Team. The motion was seconded by Mr. Poston and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Monitoring Report: R-3 Science

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

C. Monitoring Report: OE-13 Quarterly Facilities Report

D. Personnel Recommendations as Required by Law

E. Approval of Requests for High School Diplomas

F. Education Fund Distribution – District 5

G. Education Fund Distribution – District 11

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

8. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. James and seconded by Mr. Garland to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



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

APPROVED:

_____May 11, 2015_____