

**Horry County Board of Education
Minutes
February 24, 2014
Regular Board Meeting; District Office**

The following persons were present:

Board Members:

Joe DeFeo, Chairman	Janet Graham	John Poston
David Cox	Neil James	Pam Timms
Harvey Eisner	Karen McIlrath	Jimmy Washington
Jeffery Garland	Janice Morreale	

Superintendent:

Cindy Elsberry

District Office Staff:

Velna Allen	Judy Edwards	Traci Hogan
Cindy Ambrose	Laura Farmer	Charles Hucks
Mary Anderson	Martha Fout	Mollie Laut
Edward Boyd	Wanda Fulwood	Rick Maxey
Teal Britton	John Gardner	Boone Myrick
Daryl Brown	Kenny Generette	Lucas Richardson
Dottie Brown	Buddy George	Buffy Roberts
Carolyn Chestnut	Roger Gray	Heather Sheehan
Edi Cox	Ben Hardee	Judy Stall
Matt Dean	Leann Hill	Addie Swinney
		Tammy Trulove

Principals:

Dennis DeVorick	Mark Porter
Michelle Graham	April Scott
Angela Huggins	Diane Thompson
James LaPier	John Washburn

Media:

April Baker, News Channel 15	Vicki Grooms, Sun News
Heather Gale, Horry Independent	

Opening

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

ACTION: Upon motion by Mr. Cox, second by Mr. James, the Board unanimously approved the agenda.

A. Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance –

Mr. Cox said the invocation and the Carolina Forest Navy JROTC presented the colors for the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Approval of Agenda

ACTION: Upon motion by Mr. James, second by Ms. Timms, the Board unanimously approved the agenda with the correction that Recognitions will not include the Knights of Columbus.

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. Minutes - 2/5/14, 2/10/14

Motioned by Neil James seconded by Janice Morreale; the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the February 5, 2014 and February 10, 2014 meetings.

2. Public Comments

Pat Milley spoke to the Board regarding her concern for the rigorous schedule for students.

3. Recognitions

Dr. Elsberry recognized Wanda Fulwood for her outstanding contributions to Horry County Schools during her career. Dr. Elsberry noted that Ms. Fulwood will retire at the end of February after 37 years with the District. She has served as the Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Education since 1998, attending 406 Board of Education meetings.

4. Discussion

A. Monitoring Reports

1. Operational Expectations 4; Personnel Administration - Addie Swinney

Dr. Swinney presented the Board with the Personnel Administration report. Mr. James stated the he agrees that a compensation evaluation should be performed, given that the last one was performed in 2004.

B. Budget Development Status - John Gardner

Mr. Gardner delivered a recap of the Budget Workshop. Mr. Eisner inquired about purchasing buses. Mr. Gardner will bring back funding options for purchasing busses.

Mr., Poston asked about the \$7.2M designated as general fund balance utilization. Mr. Gardner explained that in comparing the 2013/14 budget to the 2014/15 budget, this is the deficit amount.

Mr. Cox asked what the staffing adjustments encompassed. Mr. Gardner answered that it reflects new teacher positions due to enrollment projections.

Chairman DeFeo noted the importance of having two preliminary budget approvals and then a final approval vote. He also voiced his concern over the mid-day bus driver position adjustments.

Mr. Garland cautioned that the State BSC (Base Student Cost) rate needs to be factored in and state employees are projected to get a 1.5% increase.

Mr. Gardner then reviewed proposed State mandates and funding sources.

Mr. James asked the timeframe anticipated for the State to make decisions. Mr. Gardner answered that the State has scheduled a meeting the first week in March and will present their estimates at that time.

Chairman DeFeo expressed concern over the timing of the budget process. He would like to see the budget vote earlier than scheduled (June 30th) with two preliminary votes, then the final vote. Mr. Gardner noted that the Board can vote to pass the budget at their discretion and that the timeframe was based on last year's budget calendar.

C. 2014/15 Academic Calendar

Dr. Elsberry informed the Board that there has been no decision by the State regarding the waiver for missed days. Dr. Maxey presented the 2014/15 Academic calendar. Mr. Eisner asked if it was about the same as last year. Dr. Maxey said yes, and the calendar takes testing dates issued by the State into consideration. It was also noted by Board members that the schedule had been well received this year.

D. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Elsberry noted that she has nothing further to add to the agenda item Calendar Adjustments. Dr. Elsberry introduced Boone Myrick to report on the Teacher Cadet Program. Ms. Myrick explained this program allows students to take dual-enrollment courses through Coastal Carolina University, and Francis Marion University. There are currently 7 schools offering this program which is taught at our schools by Coastal Carolina University and Francis Marion University approved Horry County Schools instructors. Course grades are recorded on both the high school transcript as well as the university transcript. There is no cost for the students.

5. Executive Session - for the Discussion of Personnel Matters

ACTION: Upon motion by Ms. Morreale, second by Mr. Eisner, the Board unanimously approved entering Executive Session.

ACTION: Upon motion by Mr. Garland, second by Ms. Timms, the Board unanimously approved re-entering Regular Session.

A. Personnel Recommendations as Required by Law

Dr. Elsberry made the following recommendations for Principals:

Burgess Elementary School: Samantha Coy

ForestBrook Elementary School: David Cupolo

Loris Elementary School: Angela Gore

Palmetto Bays Elementary School: Dawn McKinney

River Oaks Elementary School: Robert Homer

St. James Elementary School: Felisa McDavid

ACTION: Upon motion by Mr. Eisner, second by Mr. Washington, The Board unanimously approved the Personnel Recommendations as presented by Dr. Elsberry.

B. Conceptual Design General Parameters

Mr. James stated that the Board has been discussing the conceptual design process for some time and all are in agreement that the educational needs of the students must be met while staying within budgetary parameters. Given these facts, Mr. James proposed to the Board that a motion be made to give parameters to direct District staff for their use as they begin the conceptual design process utilizing the steering committee for elementary and middle/intermediate prototypes and for the additions needed at Midland Elementary, North Myrtle Beach Middle, the replacement of Socastee Elementary and the replacement of Horry County Educational Center (better known as the Alternative School).

Mr. Eisner suggested this be put in a motion which he would second to move the process forward.

Chairman DeFeo asked for discussion. There being none he questioned if the Board would like to discuss a budget for these items. Mr. Eisner stated that the budget will depend on the conceptual design outcome.

Mr. James made a motion to proceed with conceptual design process as approved at the October 21, 2013 meeting and discussed at the February 10, 2014 meeting which calls for the following projects: Midland Elementary School addition; North Myrtle Beach Middle School addition; Replacement of Socastee Elementary School; Replacement of the Horry County Educational Center; and the development of a prototype design for elementary and intermediate/middle schools.

Mr. Eisner seconded the motion. Chairman DeFeo cautioned against use of the word "prototype", Mr. James agreed to revise his motion replacing the word "prototype" with the word "model."

ACTION: Upon motion by Mr. James, second by Mr. Eisner, The Board approved the revised motion as presented by Mr. James. Mr. Poston recused himself from the vote.

C. Palmetto Academy of Learning Motorsports Amendment to Contract

Dr. Elsberry noted that this was reviewed at the last meeting.

ACTION: Upon motion by Mr. Eisner, second by Mr. James, The Board unanimously approved the Palmetto Academy of Learning Motorsports Contract Amendment as presented by Dr. Elsberry.

7. Consent Agenda

A. Personnel Recommendations as Required by Law - Addie Swinney

ACTION: Upon motion by Mr. Garland, second by Mr. Eisner, The Board unanimously approved the Personnel Recommendations as Required by Law.

8. Adjournment

ACTION: Upon motion by Ms. Morreale, second by Ms. Timms, The Board unanimously approved Adjournment.

Submitted by:

Leann Hill

*Executive Assistant to the Board of Education and
Superintendent*

Approved: 3/17/14