

# **HORRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

## **MINUTES**

### **BOARD WORK SESSION**

**April 8, 2019**

**District Office**

**335 Four Mile Road**

**Conway, SC 29526**

**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.**

#### **Board of Education**

Ken Richardson

John Poston

David Cox

Holly Heniford

Janice Morreale

Neil James

Ray Winters

Shanda Allen

Sherrie Todd

#### **Horry County Schools Staff**

Velna Allen, Mary J. Anderson, Lisa Bourcier, Daryl Brown, Joe Burch, Edi Cox, Gaye Driggers, Diane Formhals, Kenneth Generette, Candace Lane, HT Lee, Ruth Lilly, Rick Maxey, Natasha McDonald, Boone Myrick, Heidi Oates, Mark Porter, Lucas Richardson, April Scott, John Washburn, Kristin Wilson, Mark Wolfe

#### **1. OPENING - APRIL 8, 2019 - 6:00 PM - CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Richardson called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

##### **a. Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance**

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

##### **b. Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made to approve the April 8, 2019, agenda.

**Moved By:** Mr. Winters

**Seconded By:** Ms. Heniford

The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**c. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made to approve the March 18, 2019, minutes as presented.

**Moved By:** Mr. Winters

**Seconded By:** Ms. Allen

The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**2. DISCUSSION**

**a. Technology Committee Report - Ms. Morreale**

Ms. Morreale shared an overview of the Technology Committee meeting from earlier today. Ms. Morreale shared a handout with the committee regarding the PDL program and the capital technology plans for the remainder of this budget year. Ms. Morreale remarked that the Technology Committee will meet again in three weeks to get some additional information and to discuss whether to defer the scheduled refresh of fifth grade devices.

**b. National Autism Awareness Month - Ms. Wilson**

Ms. Kristin Wilson, Executive Director of Federal Programs, shared the month of April is designated as "World Autism Month." Ms. Wilson stated this was an initiative to increase understanding and acceptance of people with autism. Ms. Wilson provided a presentation highlighting the services and support that HCS provides to students not only on the autism spectrum but all students with disabilities. Following the presentation, Mr. Cox asked if it was possible to provide Board members with a bulleted point list of items discussed. Ms. Wilson stated she would provide that information.

**c. Consider Approval of Site Location for New Horry County Education Center - Mr. Brown**

Mr. Brown addressed the Board regarding the approval of the site for the construction of the new Horry County Education Center. Mr. Brown noted that during the March 4, 2019, Board meeting, the Board approved the replacement facility with a budget of 13 million dollars. Mr. Brown also stated the administration was requesting approval for the new Horry County Education Center to be built on the western portion of the District's undeveloped property adjoining the west side of the main District Office property on Four Mile Road in Conway, SC. Mr. James commented that this recommendation was previously presented to the Facilities Committee, and the committee was in total agreement regarding this location for the new facility. Mr. Poston asked how much property

this facility would consume and how much would be left for further use. Mr. Brown stated the building would use approximately 17 acres of the 30 acres available. Mr. Wolfe stated that a section of the property contained wetlands but that there would be a small portion left after the building is constructed.

**d. Consider Approval to Enter Negotiations with Four Highest Ranked Offerors for Professional Design Services for Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing - Mr. Wolfe**

Mr. Wolfe addressed the Board seeking authorization to negotiate a fee structure with the four selected vendors for the purpose of performing future design work on mechanical, electrical, and/or plumbing (MEP) upgrades at various Horry County Schools locations. Mr. Wolfe noted it was primarily to hire mechanical engineers for HVAC systems (replacements, etc.) and associated electrical and plumbing. The four selected firms are as follows:

Owens and Associates, Inc., of Mr. Pleasant, SC

Buford Goff & Associates, Inc., of Columbia, SC

McKnight Smith Ward Griffin Engineers, Inc., of Charlotte, NC

Whole Building Systems of Charleston, SC

Upon successful negotiation, the fee structure will be brought back to the Board for approval.

Ms. Heniford asked why there were no local firms on the list. Mr. Wolfe stated that no local companies submitted their qualifications.

Mr. James expressed his concerns about streamlining the process.

Mr. Poston asked how many MEP firms were in the last IDC group. Mr. Wolfe stated that it was close to the same amount of firms and that amount was sufficient to handle the volume of work.

**e. Consider Recommendation to Demolish Warehouse Located by Horry County Schools Records Facility - Mr. Wolfe**

Mr. Wolfe addressed the board to consider authorizing the Facilities Department to pursue the abatement and complete demolition of the warehouse located between the Horry County Schools Records building and Conway High School on Highway 501. This structure was constructed in the late 1950's and is approximately 15,000 SF in total size. The District acquired the property around 1986, and it has been utilized by several different District departments over the last 30+ years. The building is primarily wood frame construction, but due to the building's age, condition, and disorderly floor plan, it is no longer conducive to any use by the District. The building also has approximately 700 SF of floor tile/mastic with asbestos-containing material that will require abatement before demolition. The deteriorated appearance of the structure is highly visible from

both Conway High School and our primary highway corridor into the area and does not represent us well. Because the structure offers no functional use for the District, continued maintenance and/or repairs to the structure are not recommended.

**f. Consider Possible Revisions to Board Governance: "GC-5 Board Committees," and "OE-13 Facilities" - Mr. Richardson**

Mr. Richardson addressed the Board requesting consideration to decrease the number of Board members on committees in an effort to streamline the processes concerning facility matters. Board members then discussed revising OE-13 in terms of selection committee composition by suggesting the use of Robert's Rules of Order, limiting the number of Board members on committees, and establishing a price ceiling to establish guidelines for the number of Board members who would participate on facility selection committees. Mr. Richardson then requested Mr. Generette to begin the process of revising these portions of Board Governance based upon these discussions and bring back possible wording for the Board to review.

**g. Monitoring Report: OE-9 Communicating with the Public - Mr. Generette**

Horry County Schools, through the Office of Communications, seeks to inform and involve both internal and external audiences by utilizing a variety of communication strategies and delivery platforms to promote awareness and enhance support for our collective goal of preparing students for college and career success.

Horry County Schools will work to ensure that the public is informed about the progress and performance of the District and our schools and will uphold high expectations for fostering a culture of transparency and meaningful public engagement.

Mr. Poston asked if we received any feedback from the public relative to the effectiveness of our communication. Mr. Generette stated that we did not have a formal assessment, but we do get feedback from individual posts, and we are able to measure clicks, demographics, peak times of participation, etc. Mr. Poston asked if HCS had other means of measuring the District's effectiveness in its current methods of communication. Mr. Generette remarked that we do not have something formal in place for this type of assessment, but we can explore how we can develop something to do so.

**h. Consider Approval to Issue 2019-20 Employment Contracts to Professional Personnel- Ms. Anderson**

Ms. Anderson addressed the Board to request approval to issue 2019-2020 employment contracts to professional personnel. Mr. Generette reminded Board members that if they had family members employed with the district to complete

a recusal form. Due to the potential for a conflict of interest, the following members submitted recusals: Mr. James, Ms. Allen, Mr. Cox, and Mr. Poston.

**i. 2019-20 Budget Update - Mr. Gardner**

Mr. Gardner addressed the Board regarding the 2019-2020 budget update. Mr. Gardner shared that including the current utilization of Fund Balance, the budget was approximately 13.3 million dollars out of balance. The Senate Finance Committee has completed deliberations to include an additional \$17 to base student cost. This would provide a roughly \$500,000 gain for HCS. Mr. Gardner stated the week of April 15 - 18, 2019, the Senate will meet again, and we will have further information at that time.

**3. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**a. Carolina Forest High School: AP Academy, STEM, and Other High School Opportunities**

Ms. Gaye Driggers, Principal, Carolina Forest High School, gave a presentation on the opportunities available at a traditional high school within Horry County School District. Ms. Driggers focused on the many options our students have for success.

**b. Tech Fair - April 10, 2019, at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

Dr. Maxey extended an invitation to attend the upcoming 10<sup>th</sup> annual Tech Fair on April 10, 2019, at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center. Dr. Maxey shared that the State Superintendent of Education, Molly Spearman, would be in attendance.

**4. ADJOURN BOARD WORK SESSION AND CONVENE SPECIAL-CALLED MEETING**

A motion was made to adjourn Work Session and convene Special-Called meeting.

**Moved By:** Ms. Allen

**Seconded By:** Mr. James

The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

5. **BUSINESS**

- a. **Consider Approval to Enter Negotiations with Four Highest Ranked Offerors for Professional Design Services for Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing - Mr. Wolfe**

A motion was made to allow Facilities to enter negotiations with the four highest ranked offerors for Professional Design Services for Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing.

**Moved By:** Mr. James

**Seconded By:** Mr. Winters

The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

- b. **Consider Approval to Issue 2019-20 Employment Contracts to Professional Personnel - Ms. Anderson**

A motion was made to allow Human Resources to issue employment contracts to the 2019-2020 Professional personnel. Mr. James, Mr. Poston, Ms. Allen, and Mr. Cox recused themselves from voting specifically on family members but will vote on the remainder of the recommendations.

**Moved By:** Mr. Winters

**Seconded By:** Ms. Todd

The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

- c. **Request the S.C. Legislature and/or State Board of Education to Forgive Days Missed Due to Hurricane Florence - Mr. Brown**

A motion was made for the Board to request a waiver for the missed instructional days, September 19, 20, and 21, 2018, due to Hurricane Florence, from either the South Carolina Legislature or State Board of Education pending the passing of an upcoming Bill concerning this matter.

**Moved By:** Ms. Allen

**Seconded By:** Ms. Morreale

The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**6. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**a. Discussion of Personnel Recommendation**

**b. Discussion of Potential Purchase of Property**

A motion was made to enter Executive Session at 7:13 PM for the purpose of discussing a personnel recommendation and the potential purchase of property.

**Moved By:** Mr. James

**Seconded By:** Mr. Winters

The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

A motion was made to return from Executive Session at 7:44 PM. Board Chair Richardson recused himself from discussion on Item 6.b., potential purchase of property, due to possible conflict of interest. The Board Vice-Chair noted that no action was taken during Executive Session.

**Moved By:** Mr. Winters

**Seconded By:** Ms. Todd

The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**7. CONSENT**

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

**b. Education Fund Allocation - District 11**

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

**Moved By:** Mr. Winters

**Seconded By:** Ms. Allen

The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 PM.

**Moved By:** Mr. Cox

**Seconded By:** Mr. James

The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**a. UPCOMING MEETING(S)**

- 1. Facilities Committee Meeting, April 29, 2019, 4:00 PM, C300**
- 2. Board Meeting, April 29, 2019, 6:00 PM, Board Room**

Respectfully submitted,



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Heidi Oates

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Horry County Board of Education

MINUTES APPROVED: 4/29/19