

Horry County Board of Education



Finance Committee Meeting

Friday, May 1, 2015

Board Members Present

John Poston, Board Member and Finance Committee Chair
Jeffrey Garland, Board Member and Finance Committee Member
Janet Graham, Board Member and Finance Committee Member
Joe DeFeo, Board Chairman

Staff Present

Rick Maxey, Acting Superintendent
Cindy Ambrose, Chief Academic Officer
Carolyn Chestnut, Chief Officer for Instructional Support Services
John Gardner, Chief Financial Officer
Kenneth Generette, Staff Attorney
Addie Swinney, Chief Human Resources Officer
Polly Dean, Administrative Assistant

1. WELCOME

Mr. Poston called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm and welcomed those in attendance. Each person in attendance introduced themselves.

2. ACKNOWLEDGE COMPLIANCE WITH FOIA – JOHN GARDNER

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 the schools for posting.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Ms. Graham and seconded by Mr. Garland, the agenda was unanimously approved.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Ms. Graham and seconded by Mr. Garland, the minutes from the March 9, 2015 were approved.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2015-16 BUDGET

John Gardner provided an overview to the committee of the 2015-16 budget to be presented to the Board of Education May 11, 2015 which reflects what is new with the general fund revenue that includes a modest increase in property taxes, an additional \$100 per weighted pupil from the State, loss of lottery funding for K-8 and additional funding for employee health insurance. The budget would include a 2% salary increase for all regular full-time employees (anyone who receives a contract), a .24% increase in retirement (employer portion), .16% increase in retirement (employee portion), 3.2% increase in health insurance (employer portion), an increase in 1,221 new students, charter school enrollment/formula change, increase in fixed costs, personalized digital learning initiative for 5th graders, school based technology support for middle and high schools, ESOL support (adding 11 new teachers for 15-16), athletic supplements and additional days, dual enrollment courses/Technical Scholars program and new Tech Network initiative. Bottom line-no tax increase for 2015-16 and utilization of up to \$8.5 million from the uncommitted fund balance. Actual amount is \$8,372,381.

It was agreed upon by the committee there would be no formal opinion based on the day's conversation.

B. PROCUREMENT OF LEGAL SERVICES

John Gardner provided an overview of the procurement of legal services and provided a handout and a survey of school district legal representation. Under the current state and Horry County Schools' procurement code, these items are exempt and do not require solicitation of bids. Mr. Gardner did point out to the committee that under Horry County Schools' procurement code, it does state that, "*No contract for the services of attorneys shall be awarded without the approval of the Superintendent and the Board.*"

Ms. Janet Graham asked how long the school district been receiving legal services from Childs and Halligan. Dr. Rick Maxey responded he had spoken with Mr. Ken Childs and Horry County Schools does not have a contract with the legal firm and we have been receiving services from the firm for about the last 20 years. It was also noted by Mr. Kenneth Generette, we currently do not have a contract with McNair Law Firm.

Mr. Poston asked Mr. Gardner to gather information to bring to the board regarding how much had been budgeted for legal services for the last 5 years (not to include the current school year) to compare to actually how much we have spent.

This item will be discussed at the next Finance Committee meeting.

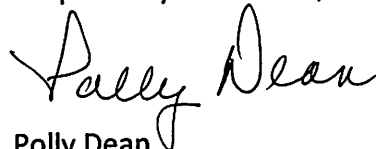
C.NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting of the Finance Committee will be scheduled for some time in September, 2015. Discussion items to be included on the agenda: Procurement of Legal Services.

6.ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Garland and seconded by Ms. Graham to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and Mr. Poston adjourned the meeting at 1:04 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Polly Dean

Administrative Assistant, Fiscal Services

Approved:

9/16/15