

# HORRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

## MINUTES

### BOARD MEETING

December 6, 2021  
District Office  
335 Four Mile Road  
Conway, SC 29526

#### Board of Education

Ken Richardson

Neil James

W Russell Freeman

Sherrie Todd

David Cox

Helen Smith

Janet Graham

Melanie Wellons

James Edwards

#### Horry County Schools Staff

Velna Allen, Mary Anderson, David Beaty, Lisa Bourcier, Daryl Brown, Joe Burch, Dena Chatfield, John Gardner, Rick Maxey, Boone Myrick, Heidi Oates, Lucas Richardson

**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.**

#### 1. **OPENING - December 6, 2021 - 6:00 PM - CALL TO ORDER - BOARD MEETING ROOM**

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

##### a. **Invocation - Mr. Edwards**

Mr. Edwards offered the invocation.

##### b. **Presentation of Colors and Pledge of Allegiance - Aynor High School Army JROTC**

The Aynor High School Army JROTC presented the Colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

##### c. **Introduction of Board Members - Mr. Richardson**

Board Members introduced themselves and indicated the areas they represent.

**d. Approval of Agenda - Mr. Richardson**

A motion was made to approve the December 6, 2021, agenda as presented.

**Moved By:** Mr. James

**Seconded By:** Mr. Edwards

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**e. Approval of Minutes - Mr. Richardson**

**1. November 15, 2021**

A motion was made to approve the November 15, 2021, minutes as presented.

**Moved By:** Mr. Cox

**Seconded By:** Ms. Smith

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**2. DISCUSSION**

**a. Facilities Committee Report - Mr. James**

Mr. James shared that during the Facilities Committee Meeting earlier in the day, the five following topics were discussed: Approval of Conceptual Design of New Whittemore Park Middle; Selection of Tennis, Track & Turf Contractor; Selection of HCS Regional Bus Lot Engineering Firm; Selection of Facility Condition Assessment Consulting Firm; and Use of Facilities Fee. The first four items will be presented during the Discussion portion of the agenda. The Use of Facilities Fee will be brought forward for discussion in February once the staff has determined definitions for the usual fees and how they can be used.

**b. South Carolina School Boards Association Legislative Advocacy Conference & Delegate Assembly Summary - Ms. Graham**

Ms. Graham and Mr. Edwards attended the 2021 SCSBA Legislative Advocacy Conference and Delegate Assembly this past weekend. Items discussed during the Conference included budget, vacancies, staffing issues, redistricting, incentives, and broadband for rural areas. Additional topics included retired teachers caps on salary, and mental health support of staff and teachers. Ms. Graham noted Horry County is Region 4 and is now a standalone region.

**c. Redistricting in Horry County, SC - Mr. Richardson**

Mr. Richardson briefly discussed redistricting in Horry County. Mr. Richardson noted this was the first time HCS was included in preliminary meetings on redistricting. Mr. Richardson shared it is very early in the planning and additional meetings are upcoming. Ms. Graham noted that redistricting utilizes data acquired through the latest decennial census, the 2020 Census.

**d. Consider Approval of Conceptual Design of New Whittemore Park Middle School - Mr. Burch**

Mr. Burch provided the Board with a brief history regarding the ongoing construction process for the New Whittemore Park Middle School.

- On September 13, 2021, the Board approved the selection of Pike McFarland Hall Associates as the architectural firm to design the New Whittemore Park Middle School.
- On September 27, 2021, the Facilities Committee was informed of the individuals serving on the New Whittemore Park Middle School Design Committee.
- On October 7, 2021, the contract with Pike McFarland Hall Architects was completed.
- Design Committee meetings began immediately to develop the conceptual building and site plans:
  - The Design Committee included Daryl Brown, Quintina Livingston, Marcus Timmons, Candace Lane, Frank Smith, Joe Burch, Ben Prince, and Kristen Wilson. Breakout sessions included leadership from Safety/Security, Maintenance, Fine Arts, Media & Library Sciences, Nutrition Services, Transportation, Athletics, Student Services, and Technology,
  - The Design Committee met 3 times, and there were 3 additional breakout sessions with various disciplines,
  - Tours were conducted of both the current Whittemore Park Middle School and Black Water Middle School,
  - Significant input was received from Whittemore Park Middle School staff members on programs and needs.
- October 8 – First Design Committee Meeting
- October 14 – Design Committee Breakout Session
- October 27 – Second Design Committee Meeting
- November 3 – Design Committee Breakout Session
- November 11 – Design Committee Breakout Session
- November 19 – Third Design Committee Meeting

Mr. Burch is seeking Board approval of the Conceptual Design of the New Whittemore Park Middle School and begin Schematic Design work.

**e. Consider Selection of Tennis, Track & Turf Contractor - Mr. Burch**

Mr. Burch provided the Board with a brief history regarding the ongoing process for completing several athletic improvement projects for tennis, track, and turf.

- May 17, 2021, the Facilities Committee approved Phase 3 Tennis and Track funds through the annual Building Modification budget.
- On June 21, 2021, the Facilities Committee and Board of Education approved the funding plan for the 2021-24 Building Program which included adding artificial turf fields as potential projects.
- On October 25, 2021, the Facilities Committee approved the use of the Integrated Project Delivery model for the upcoming work.
- On November 15, 2021, the Board approved the list of 2021-24 Building Program projects which included adding artificial turf fields at 8 high school stadiums and other associated work.
- RFP #2122-22VS was issued for Integrated Project Delivery Services from a qualified general contractor for the 2021-24 Building Program work related to athletic improvements. The evaluation committee consisted of Neil James, Joe Burch, Jason Cox, Ara Heinz, and Frank Smith. The committee recommends Contract Construction, Inc. be selected as the general contractor.
  - These Phase 3 projects include:
 

Socastee High:	New track, artificial turf, and visitor side bleachers
Carolina Forest High:	New artificial turf
Conway High:	New track
Loris High:	New artificial turf
Myrtle Beach High:	Replace 4 tennis courts
North Myrtle Beach High:	Resurface tennis courts
St. James High:	New artificial turf

Mr. Burch is seeking board approval for Contract Construction, Inc. to serve as the general contractor to construct the Phase 3, 4, and 5 athletic projects. A guaranteed maximum price for phase 3 will be developed once final designs are completed. Mr. James shared if approved, the project will begin in February with hopes of completion by the end of 2022.

**f. Consider Selection of HCS Regional Bus Lot Engineering Firm - Mr. Burch**

Mr. Burch provided the Board with a brief history regarding the ongoing process for designing and constructing the HCS Regional Bus Lot:

- On May 17, 2021, the Facilities Committee approved the allocation of funds for a full design package for the HCS Regional Bus Lot on property purchased on George Bishop Parkway.
- A Request for Qualifications #2122-21VS was issued and two submittals were received from interested firms. Both firms were forwarded by procurement to the evaluation committee. The evaluation panel included Frank Smith, Ben Prince, and Helen Smith.

- On October 29, 2021, the evaluation panel met to review submittals, and both firms were chosen to be interviewed.
- Interviews were held on November 12, 2021, and the evaluation committee selected Development Resource Group, LLC for recommendation to the Board.

Mr. Burch is seeking Board approval to authorize the Facilities Department to enter into contract with Development Resource Group, LLC for the full design services for the New HCS Regional Bus Lot. Staff has negotiated the design services in the amount of \$214,250.00. Design services are within budget. Mr. James noted the first six months of 2022 will be for design and the last six months for construction of the project.

**g. Consider Selection of Facility Condition Assessment Consulting Firm - Mr. Burch**

Mr. Burch provided the Board with a brief history regarding the ongoing process for selection of a facility condition assessment consulting firm:

- On May 17, 2021, the Facilities Committee approved the budget for a district-wide Facility Condition Assessment (FCA) to update the previous FCA completed in 2012.
- A request for proposals RFP 2122-11MJ Consulting Services for Facility Condition Assessment was issued. Five firms submitted proposals, and five firms were deemed responsive and responsible. The evaluation committee consisted of Joe Burch, Frank Smith, Ben Prince and Roberta Antonucci.
- On November 16, 2021, the committee met to review the proposals and selected all five firms to be interviewed. Interviews were held on December 2, 2021, and the evaluation committee recommends Cardno GS, Inc. for selection.

Mr. Burch is seeking Board approval of Cardno GS, Inc. to provide consulting services in conducting a district-wide Facility Condition Assessment for all HCS facilities pending successful negotiations of fees and costs.

**h. Monitoring Report: OE-6 Financial Administration - Mr. Gardner**

Monitoring Report OE-6 was presented. Mr. Gardner shared the District has received an unmodified audit opinion for the 2021 FY. The auditor's unmodified opinion on our financial statements concludes Horry County Schools financial statements fairly present the District's financial position and results of operations. An unmodified opinion is the highest audit opinion that may be received from an external auditor. Mr. Gardner noted that at the January 10, 2022, Board Work Session, the District's Auditor will be in attendance and present the 2021 audit at that time.

**i. Monitoring Report: OE-7 Asset Protection - Mr. Gardner**

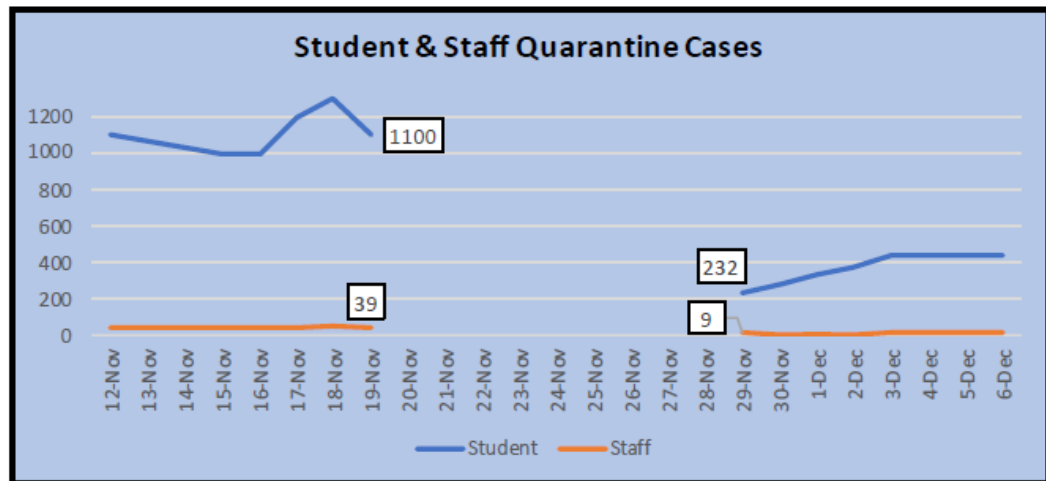
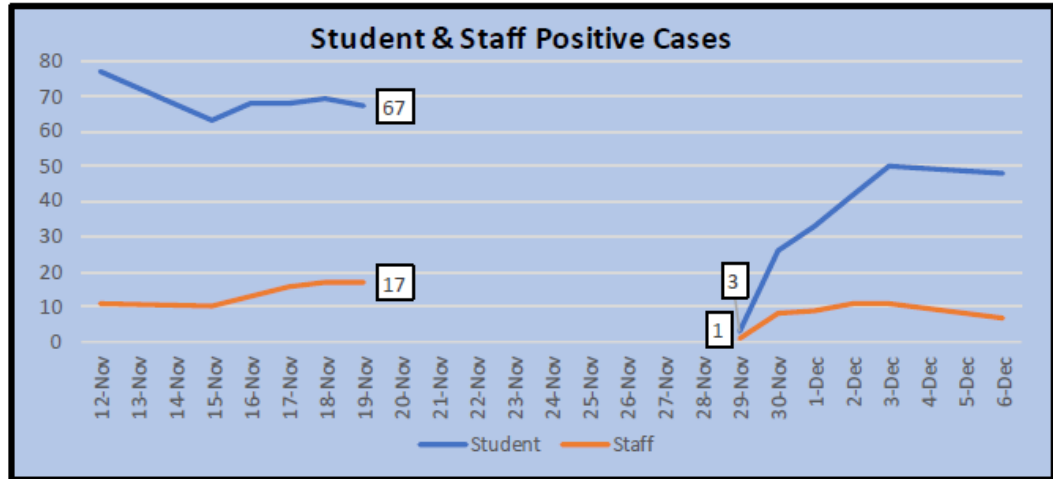
Monitoring Report OE-7 was presented.

**j. Monitoring Report: R-2 Numeracy - Ms. Myrick**

Monitoring Report R-2 was presented.

**k. Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Maxey shared a brief update regarding the number of COVID cases prior to Thanksgiving and for the week following Thanksgiving. Dr. Maxey remarked that HCS was remaining stable and headed in the right direction as far as these data were concerned. Dr. Maxey shared the following graphs as part of his report:



**1. Reminder: Second Semester Instructional Setting Change Timeline**

Ms. Velna Allen shared the following information regarding Second Semester Instructional Setting Change Timeline:

Date	Event
November 29 - December 8 (or sooner)	<b>Current HCS Brick-and-Mortar Students:</b> Open commitment window for students who attend an HCS brick-and-mortar school to enroll in the K-12 HCS Virtual program for second semester. The window may close prior to December 8 <sup>th</sup> IF the maximum student enrollment number* has been reached. <b>ALL PARENT SELECTIONS FOR SECOND SEMESTER ARE FINAL.</b> <a href="#">*Proviso 1.103</a>
December 9 - 17	Create schedules for students who are changing instructional settings.
December 20 - January 2	Winter Break
January 3 - January 13	Create schedules for students who are changing instructional settings.
January 18	Second Semester Begins.

## Elementary School Status Update



	K	1	2	3	4	5	Total
<b>V to B</b>	9	14	12	22	22	27	106
<b>B to V</b>	20	15	10	16	23	25	109
<b>Net Difference</b>	-11	-1	2	6	-1	2	-3

## Middle School Status Update



	6	7	8	Total
V to B	30	27	32	89
B to V	43	57	54	154
Net Difference	-13	-30	-22	-65

## High School Status Update



	9	10	11	12	Totals
V to B	27	25	20	16	88
B to V	97	79	76	41	293
Net Difference	-70	-54	-56	-25	-205



# K-12 Status Update



	Elementary	Middle	High	Total
<b>V to B</b>	106	89	88	283
<b>B to V</b>	109	154	293	556
<b>Net Difference</b>	-3	-65	-205	-273

## Second Semester Instructional Setting Change Information



- Based on current enrollment in K-12 HCS Virtual Program and the number of students choosing to exit the program for second semester, our maximum acceptance number is 874 students.
- As of December 6<sup>th</sup>, noon, 556 additional students have made a commitment to participate in the K-12 HCS Virtual Program and 283 students have made a commitment to return to their brick-and-mortar school for second semester.
- There are 1628 students who are currently in the K-12 HCS Virtual Program.
- The deadline for completing the K-12 HCS Virtual Program commitment process is Wednesday, December 8, 11:59 PM.
- Students making an instructional setting change or whose schedule will be affected by this process will receive a revised schedule prior to January 18, 2022.
- **All decisions are final!**

**2. Six Month Review of Safe Return to School and Continuity of Services Plan**

Dr. Maxey shared that during the period of the ARP ESSER award (until September 2023), HCS will periodically review and, as needed, revise its Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan. The plan will be reviewed at least every six months, and the school system will seek and take into account public input during the review process. Plan revisions will address updated CDC and SCDHEC guidance if any are issued.

**3. Recognitions**

Dr. Maxey recognized and congratulated Lexis Rhodes (of Green Sea Floyds High School), Shantanu Chakraborty, Bruno D'Ippolito, and Zackary Jordan (of Carolina Forest High School) for being selected to participate in the 2021-2022 NAfME All-National Honors Chorus and Band!

These students won the opportunity to audition for this prestigious All-National Band and Chorus through their acceptance in the SC All-State Band & Chorus last year. They then won their seat in Nationals through a virtual audition of a difficult classical piece of literature.

Lexis will be attending the All-National Chorus Clinic in January, performing with students from all over the United States. Shantanu, Bruno, and Zack will be attending the All-National Band Clinic in January, performing with students from all over the United States.

This is the highest possible honor for high school band & chorus students in the United States and is a major accomplishment for the Green Sea Floyds High Chorus and the Carolina Forest Band programs.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ned Moore signed up to address the Board but did not come forward when called.

**4. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**a. Consider Student Appeal**

A motion was made to move into Executive Session at 6:56 PM.

**Moved By:** Mr. Freeman

**Seconded By:** Mr. Cox

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

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**5. BUSINESS**

A motion was made to move into the Business portion of the meeting at 7:36 PM.

**Moved By:** Mr. James

**Seconded By:** Mr. Cox

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**a. Consider Student Appeal**

A motion was made that based upon review and consideration of the written record regarding the student's appeal, it is recommended the Board uphold the District Appeal Board's decision to assign the student to the alternative program at the SOAR Academy.

**Moved By:** Mr. Freeman

**Seconded By:** Ms. Graham

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**b. Consider Approval of Conceptual Design of New Whittemore Park Middle - Mr. Burch**

A motion was made to approve the Conceptual Design of the New Whittemore Park Middle School.

**Moved By:** Ms. Graham

**Seconded By:** Ms. Wellons

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**c. Consider Selection of Tennis, Track & Turf Contractor - Mr. Burch**

A motion was made to approve Contract Construction, Inc. to serve as the general contractor to construct the Phase 3, 4, and 5 athletic projects pending successful negotiations of the guaranteed maximum price.

**Moved By:** Mr. James

**Seconded By:** Ms. Graham

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**d. Consider Selection of HCS Regional Bus Lot Engineering Firm - Mr. Burch**

A motion was made to authorize the Facilities Department to enter into contract with Development Resource Group, LLC for the full design services for the New HCS Regional Bus Lot in the amount of \$214,250.00.

**Moved By:** Ms. Smith

**Seconded By:** Ms. Graham

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**e. Consider Selection of Facility Condition Assessment Consulting Firm - Mr. Burch**

A motion was made to approve Cardno GS, Inc. to provide consulting services in conducting a district wide Facility Condition Assessment for all HCS facilities pending successful negotiation of fees and costs.

**Moved By:** Mr. James

**Seconded By:** Ms. Todd

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**6. CONSENT AGENDA**

**a. Personnel Recommendations**

**b. Monitoring Report: R-7 College and Career Readiness**

**c. ACT 155 Diploma Request**

**d. Education Fund Allocation - District 10**

**e. Education Allocation Fund - District 2**

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

**Moved By:** Mr. Cox

**Seconded By:** Ms. Graham

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

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn at 7:43 PM.

**Moved By:** Mr. Cox

**Seconded By:** Ms. Smith

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

UPCOMING MEETING(S)

Technology Committee Meeting, 4:30 PM, January 10, 2021, District Office, Room C-300

Board Work Session/Board Meeting, 6:00 PM, January 10, 2021, District Office, Board Room

Facilities Committee Meeting, 4:00 PM, January 24, 2021, District Office, Room C-300

Respectfully submitted,



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Heidi Oates

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Horry County Board of Education

**APPROVED: January 10, 2022**