

# HORRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

## **MINUTES BOARD MEETING District Office January 22, 2018**

The following persons were present:

### **Board of Education**

Joe DeFeo, Chairman	Janet Graham	John Poston
Neil James, Vice-Chairman	Chris Hardwick	Pam Timms
Shanda Allen	Holly Heniford	Sherrie Todd
David Cox	Janice Morreale	Ray Winters

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

Jeanna Allen	Melanie Gentzler	Boone Myrick
Velna Allen	Boone Gorcesky	CeCelia Nance
Mary Anderson	Roger Gray	Vann Pennell
Gretchen Ayers	Ben Hardee	Tonya Pickett
David Beaty	Jedd Hess	Mark Porter
Terra Bodkins	Lee James	Lucas Richardson
Edward Boyd	Jill Jeter	Angela Rush
Teal Britton	Kim Johnson	April Scott
Daryl Brown	Russell Ann Jones	Rhonda Snowden
Melanie Buck	James LaPier	Tracy Suggs
Joe Burch	H. T. Lee	Shelley Todd
Edi Cox	Cindy Magrath	Tammy Trulove
Stephen Driscoll	Tammy Martin	John Washburn
Kandi Fleming	Rick Maxey	Melissa Westbury
Chrystal Frye	Natasha McDonald	Kristin Wilson
Kenny Generette	Paula Mullis	Mark Wolfe

*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 JANUARY 22, 2018, AT 6:00 P.M. – CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman DeFeo called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

#### **A. Invocation**

Mr. Poston offered the invocation.

#### **B. Presentation of Colors/Pledge of Allegiance**

The Green Sea Floyds High School Army JROTC presented the Colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **C. Approval of Agenda**

Mr. DeFeo shared that he asked Mr. Greg Hembree to attend tonight's meeting to address the topic of the Education Oversight Committee. This is the first item under Discussion.

***Board Action:*** A motion was made by Mr. Poston and seconded by Mr. James to approve the Agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

### **D. Approval of Minutes**

***Board Action:*** A motion was made by Mr. Cox and seconded by Ms. Timms to approve the December 11, 2017, Board Minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

## **2. RECOGNITIONS**

### **A. Student Perfect Attendance**

Eight students with cumulative perfect attendance for either grades 1 – 5, grades 1 – 8, or grades 1 – 11, were recognized.

### **B. School Board Recognition Month and Service Awards**

In honor of School Board Recognition Month, Dr. Maxey expressed appreciation for the service that our school board members provide for Horry County Schools.

Mr. DeFeo recognized Mr. David Cox and Mr. John Poston for 10 years of service, and Ms. Pam Timms for 20 years of service, as school board members.

## **3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- Dameion Fowler previously submitted a request to speak during Public Comments. He did not come forward when called.
- Julie Sluss previously submitted a request to speak during Public Comments. She did not come forward when called.
- Heather Johnson spoke during Public Comments on the topic of bullying policies and suicide awareness.
- Lyndsey Gray spoke during Public Comments on the topic of bullying.
- Debra Floyd spoke during Public Comments on the topic of bullying.
- Sonja Freeman spoke during Public Comments on the topic of bullying and sexual assault. Mr. DeFeo informed Ms. Freeman that she may contact him to further discuss this matter.

## **4. DISCUSSION**

### **A. Greenville County School Board Resolution on Education Oversight Committee**

The Board Chair invited Senator Greg Hembree to attend tonight's Board meeting to share his point of view of the Education Oversight Committee due to his role on the Committee. Mr. Hembree stated the work of the EOC is vital to moving South Carolina forward in the field of K-12 education, as they are an independent group and he is of the belief that there needs to be independent, unbiased oversight in place for K-12

education in South Carolina. Senator Hembree added that the composition of the EOC, which has 17 members, is unique to South Carolina, with three members from the Senate, three members from the House of Representatives, one appointee of the Governor, five members who represent public education teachers and administrators, and five members from the business community. The membership allows a broad and diverse group to provide oversight. Additionally, Senator Hembree stated that the EOC can speak truth without concern of political consequences.

**B. Facilities Committee Report**

Mr. James gave a report from the Facilities Committee meeting held earlier today and shared highlights from the items discussed. A draft of a Five-Year Short-term Facilities Improvement Plan was discussed. A copy of the Plan was provided to all Board members. Mr. James asked that Board members review the Plan prior to the Board Retreat on February 5, at which time this item will be discussed again.

**C. Monitoring Report: OE-13 Facilities Quarterly Update**

Mr. Wolfe gave an overview of the facilities quarterly update.

**D. Consideration of Approval of General Contractor for Myrtle Beach Middle School Conversion Project**

Mr. Wolfe stated this is the final step for which approval is needed to begin conversion of the old Myrtle Beach Middle School to convert it to an elementary school for grades 3, 4, and 5. The Committee met and chose H. G. Reynolds Company to be the general contractor. This is a request for Board approval of the contractor selected.

**E. Monitoring Report: OE-6 Financial Administration – Report from External Auditor**

Mr. DeFeo stated that the year-end audit is intended to provide the Board of Education with a comprehensive overview of the District’s financial position at the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Timothy Grow, a shareholder in the CPA Firm Elliott Davis, LLC, will present the report. Mr. Timothy Grow introduced himself as an audit shareholder with Elliott Davis, as well as Michael Young, who is a senior manager with the firm. Mr. Grow highlighted the audit report, which was previously provided to Board members. A document entitled, “Report to the Members of the Board of Education,” was provided to Board members.

**F. Notice of School Board Meetings as Required by SC Code 30-4-80 (Dates/Times/Place) for Calendar Year 2018**

South Carolina Code 30-4-80 requires the District to publish their meeting dates for the calendar year. A draft schedule of meetings to extend through the end of the calendar year is being presented for consideration in order to comply with the law.

**G. Monitoring Report: R-3 Science**

Monitoring Report: R-3 Science was provided. Ms. Myrick highlighted a resource, *Discovery Education Science Techbook*, that is being used to support science instruction at all levels.

**H. District Policies – “Student Assignment to Schools”**

Suggested changes to the District Policy regarding Student Assignment to Schools was provided. Following discussion, it was decided that this item would be discussed further at a later date, keeping in mind that the opening date for accepting transfers is generally late March or early April. Ideally, any changes made to policy would be before the opening date to receive transfers. Mr. DeFeo said this will be discussed again, at least by the first Board meeting in March, with any vote by the second Board meeting in March. It was

suggested this item be discussed with principals to get their input when considering a cutoff date for transfer requests.

## **5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- New Myrtle Beach Middle School – Dr. Maxey highlighted information regarding the opening of the new Myrtle Beach Middle School, offering kudos to the school and facilities staff for the wonderful job that was done with making the move-in smooth and such a success.
- Digital Device Selection Committee Meeting – A meeting of the review committee for the digital device selection for the high schools for next year is scheduled for tomorrow morning from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. in Room C300. Board members are invited to attend the meeting.
- Make-up Days – Dr. Maxey shared information regarding the planned make-up days for days missed due to inclement weather. South Carolina law requires that the District make-up the three days established in the calendar as make-up days. The law allows the local school board to forgive missed days 4, 5, and 6. September 11 was missed due to Hurricane Irma. That day was made up on October 9. January 3 was missed due to winter weather. That day was made up on January 16. January 4 was missed due to winter weather. This day will be made up when we attend school on February 19. January 5 was missed due to winter weather. This is the fourth day of school missed. We will bring this to the Board at a later date for consideration of forgiving the day. Mr. DeFeo stated it will be the intention of the local Board to forgive the days allowed by State law.
- Equity in Education Conference – Several Horry County Schools staff members attended the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Equity in Education Conference in Columbia. This conference shared information on ways we can increase opportunities for students.
- All Star Marching Band – Students from all nine of HCS high schools performed during the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Parade in Myrtle Beach. A clip of the performance was shared.
- The All-County Orchestra Concert will be tomorrow at 6:00 p.m. at Myrtle Beach High School.

## **6. BUSINESS**

### **A. Donation of Horry Street Property to the City of Conway**

**Board Action:** A motion was made by Ms. Graham to approve donation of the Horry Street property, formerly known as the District Office Annex, in an “as is” condition, to the City of Conway. The motion was seconded by Ms. Allen and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

### **B. Consideration of Approval of School Security Officers (SSOs) for Elementary Schools**

**Board Action:** A motion was made by Ms. Heniford to approve authorizing the utilization of fund balance in the amount of \$238,464 to begin a phase-in expansion of the contract for school security officers to include elementary schools and the District Office, and one supervisor to be hired by the contracting security firm.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Hardwick and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**C. Consideration of Approval of Budget Assumptions & Parameters: Fiscal Year 2018-19**

**Board Action:** A motion was made by Mr. Winters and seconded by Mr. James to approve the Budget Assumptions & Parameters for Fiscal Year 2018-19 as presented. The motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**D. Consideration of Approval of Personnel Allocation Formulae: Fiscal Year 2018-19**

**Board Action:** A motion was made by Mr. James and seconded by Mr. Hardwick to approve the Personnel Allocation Formulae for Fiscal Year 2018-19 as presented. The motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**E. Consideration of Approval of General Contractor for Myrtle Beach Middle School Conversion Project**

**Board Action:** A motion was made by Ms. Todd to authorize staff to enter into a contract with H. G. Reynolds Company as the general contractor to renovate our old Myrtle Beach Middle School and convert it to an elementary school for grades 3 – 5. The motion was seconded by Ms. Heniford and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**7. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Personnel Recommendations as Required by Law**
- B. Monitoring Report: OE-6 Financial Administration**
- C. Monitoring Report: OE-7 Asset Protection**
- D. Monitoring Report: R-2 Numeracy**
- E. Education Fund Distribution – District 2**
- F. Education Fund Distribution – District 9, and**
- G. Education Fund Distribution – District 11**

**Board Action:** A motion was made by Mr. Hardwick and seconded by Mr. James to approve the Consent Agenda items as shown above. The motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Board Action:** A motion was made by Ms. Morreale and seconded by Mr. Hardwick to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

**BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT RESULTS**

A summary of the responses follows.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rhonda Snowden". The script is cursive and fluid.

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

Approved: February 5, 2018

Board Performance Indicators - 7 Responses

01/22/18

*5 = strongly agree, 4 = agree, 3 = neither agree nor disagree, 2 = disagree, 1 = strongly disagree*

*Date*

**Agenda**

Reports are clear, well prepared and provide adequate information for decision making.

35 / 5.0

The majority of agenda items focus on our core purpose.

35 / 5.0

**Meetings**

Our meetings are businesslike, results-oriented and we function like a team.

35 / 5.0

Our discussions are cordial and well balanced (not dominated by just a few members.)

35 / 5.0

**Community**

Board members make reasonable efforts to inform themselves about education through school visits, professional meetings and outside reading.

34 / 4.84

Board members meet reasonable expectations of involvement by participating in school and other public meetings as representatives of the Board.

34 / 4.84

Board members efficiently address issues and concerns brought to them by the public.

35 / 5.0

**Superintendent Relationship**

The Board seeks and values the input of the Superintendent as issues are discussed and decisions are made.

35 / 5.0

**Work / Policies**

Board decisions are based on thoughtful analysis of available information.

35 / 5.0

Board members balance the issues of their district with the needs of the entire school district.

33 / 4.67

The Board places emphasis on building consensus among members through open and honest communication.

35 / 5.0

**Comments:**

There were no comments.