

**HORRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MINUTES**

**BOARD MEETING**

**November 13, 2023**

**District Office**

**335 Four Mile Road**

**Conway, SC 29526**

**Board of Education**

David Cox, Chair

Neil James

David Koch

Debbie Edmonds

Tracy Winters

Howard Barnard

Janet Graham

Pam Dawson

James Edwards

Shanda Allen

Wendy Hodges

**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 - NOVEMBER 13, 2023 - 6:00 PM - CALL TO ORDER - BOARD MEETING ROOM**

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

**a. Invocation - Ms. Graham**

Ms. Graham offered the invocation.

**b. Presentation of Colors and Pledge of Allegiance - St. James High School Army JROTC**

St. James High School Army JROTC presented Colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**c. Introductions of Board Members - Mr. Cox**

Prior to the approval of the agenda, Mr. Cox asked Board members to introduce themselves and indicate the areas they represent.

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

A motion was made to amend the November 13, 2023, agenda to include two amendments. First, to insert under Discussion, prior to item a., a report from the Committee of the Whole from the meeting held earlier today and item a. would then become b. and so forth. The second amendment is to include Business item g., Consider Approval of Current ESSER Funded Positions to be part of the staffing covered in the 24-25 General Fund Budget.

**Moved By:** Mr. James

**Seconded By:** Mr. Koch

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

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

**1. November 6, 2023**

A motion was made to approve the November 6, 2023, minutes as presented.

**Moved By:** Ms. Allen

**Seconded By:** Mr. Edwards

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**2. DISCUSSION**

**a. Report from the Committee of the Whole - Mr. Edwards**

Mr. Edwards shared the Committee of the Whole first discussed the City of Myrtle Beach Sports Tourism Fees voting to renew and bring it to the full Board. Mr. Edwards stated the Committee of the Whole then reviewed the Principals' Recommended Personnel Allocation Formula for the 2024-2025 school year. The committee's final recommendation was that the 2024-2025 Personnel Allocation Formulae would remain the same as it was in the prior year except for the continuation of the ESSER funded positions and the changes for large elementary schools (exploratory teachers & guidance counselors). The committee also agreed that the recommended changes from the principals would be evaluated during the 2024-2025 budget planning process. The Committee considered amending the Regular Board meeting agenda to add the current ESSER funded positions to the 2024-2025 staffing formulae. The Committee then discussed Capital Improvements Phase 6, moving it to a Facilities Committee Meeting for approval. Mr. James noted one action item taken during the meeting was the approval of the IPD delivery method for Phase 6 athletic projects. This item was approved by the Facilities Committee as a subset of the

Committee of the Whole. Mr. James stated this would be presented as a Business item at the next Board meeting.

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

Ms. Myrick presented Monitoring Report R-7.

**c. Superintendent's Report**

**1. Purple Star Designation**

Dr. Maxey shared in November 2023, Horry County Schools was named a Purple Star School District by the South Carolina State Department of Education. School districts with the Purple Star School designation make a significant commitment to welcome and support military-connected families. Dr. Maxey welcomed Dr. Priester who provided congratulations and offered thanks for all HCS has done to support their mission.

**2. Schools Celebrate Veterans Day**

Dr. Maxey shared our schools hosted multiple events honoring the many veterans who served our country. A short clip was shared highlighting events held at schools.

**3. Recognitions**

**1. Katie Godfree, Carolina Forest High School - 2023 Class AAAA/AAAAA Girls Tennis Individual State Champion**

Dr. Maxey recognized and offered congratulations to Katie Godfree of Carolina Forest High School. Katie is the Class 4A/5A girls tennis individual state champion.

**2. North Myrtle Beach High School Theatre Team Advances to the Southeastern Theatre Conference (SETC) in Mobile, Alabama.**

Dr. Maxey shared the North Myrtle Beach High School Theatre Team competed at the South Carolina Theatre Association's High School Festival along with 23 other schools from across the state with their 15-minute musical, *Superhots!* NMBHS is one of two South Carolina schools that will move on to the Southeastern Theatre Conference (SETC) in Mobile, Alabama. This is the second time ever that an HCS high school has achieved this accomplishment. (Socastee High went to the SETC in 2022.)

**3. South Carolina American Choral Directors Association (SCACDA) State Honor Choirs**

Dr. Maxey recognized and offered congratulations to the 38 middle and high school students who were selected to participate in the SCACDA State Honor Choirs which will be held in January at Francis Marion University.

**4. Green Sea Floyds High School - 2023 AP School Honor Roll**

A few weeks ago, HCS shared that Carolina Forest High was named to the 2023 AP School Honor Roll. Dr. Maxey recognized and offered congratulations to Green Sea Floyds High School for being recognized as a Bronze member of the 2023 AP School Honor Roll. The AP School Honor Roll recognizes schools whose College Board Advanced Placement programs are delivering results and broadening access for students.

**4. United Way of Horry County - United to Read Event**

United to Read, part of United Way of Horry County's mission ready early education initiative, brings volunteers from across the county into HCS first-grade classrooms for a morning of reading and fun. Dr. Maxey stated this event took place on November 7<sup>th</sup> and presented a video sharing highlights from this event of some of the volunteers who read the book, "The Cool Bean" by Jory John and Pete Oswald to our first-grade students.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The following individuals signed up to speak during the Public Comments portion of the meeting and came forward when called: Patricia Milley, Ernest Martin, Christine Copeland, Heather Singleton, and Matthew Butler.

**4. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made to move into Executive Session at 6:48 PM.

**a. Superintendent's Evaluation**

**b. Consider Student Appeal**

**Moved By:** Mr. Edwards

**Seconded By:** Ms. Graham

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**5. BUSINESS**

A motion was made to move into the Business portion of the meeting at 8:15 PM. It should be noted no votes were taken and no decisions were made during the Executive Session.

**Moved By:** Ms. Allen

**Seconded By:** Ms. Graham

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**a. Superintendent's Evaluation - Mr. Cox**

A statement was read by Mr. Barnard regarding the Superintendent's evaluation, as follows:

"Each year, the Horry County Board of Education provides an annual job performance review of the Superintendent. The Board's assessment of the Superintendent is based upon his accomplishment of desired results outlined in Board Governance policies, including the perceptions of stakeholders and the academic success, personal success, citizenship, and college and career readiness of students. The Board also evaluates the Superintendent's adherence to operational expectations in areas such as finance, communication, instructional programs, and treatment of students, personnel, facilities, and stakeholders.

After reviewing the information provided by Dr. Maxey, we believe that he continues to be in compliance with our expectations. The Board is extremely pleased with Dr. Maxey's overall job performance and leadership, and we rate his job performance as Superintendent as "Highly Effective." The Board would like to thank Dr. Maxey for his leadership of Horry County Schools to exceed state and national standards. We would also like to say how proud we are to work with the South Carolina Superintendent of the Year.

The Board maintains the utmost confidence in Dr. Maxey's vision, leadership, strong communication skills, and individual characteristics and work traits. We would like to extend Dr. Maxey's current contract for an additional year through

June 30, 2027. We would like to increase the base salary by \$10,000 for outstanding performance as well as recognition as Superintendent of the Year."

**Moved By:** Mr. Barnard

**Seconded By:** Ms. Hodges

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**b. Consider Student Appeal - Mr. Cox**

Mr. Edwards shared that based upon review and consideration of the written record of the student's appeal, a motion was made to uphold the District Appeals Board decision to assign the student to the SOAR Academy.

**Moved By:** Mr. Edwards

**Seconded By:** Ms. Graham

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**c. Consider Appointments to the Board of Directors of the HCS Education Foundation - Mr. Generette**

A motion was made for the Board to adopt the individuals recommended to serve on the Board of Directors for the HCS Education Foundation, as follows: Rose Jones, Mrs. Chris Richardson, Shawn Sines, Wendy Hodges, Scott Jordan, Pam Timms, Angela McIver, Melanie Wellons, Kemp Floyd, and Timothy Lee. District 10 will provide an appointment at a later date.

**Moved By:** Ms. Allen

**Seconded By:** Ms. Graham

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**d. Consider Additional Funding for the Implementation of New Science Standards - Mr. Gardner/Ms. Myrick**

A motion was made that the Board authorizes the utilization of Unassigned General Fund - Fund Balance in the amount of \$417,461 to provide additional funding for the implementation of new science standards.

Ms. Dawson, for clarification purposes, shared that during the Committee of the Whole meeting held earlier today, a correction was made to the minutes as follows: the additional funding for the implementation of new science standards is specifically defined to include professional training and development, to include

curricula, the provision of substitutes during training, classroom instructional materials, and supplies.

Mr. James then clarified this is a one-time approval.

**Moved By:** Ms. Dawson

**Seconded By:** Ms. Edmonds

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**e. Consider Additional Funding for K-5 Reading/Math Learning Loss Interventionists - Mr. Gardner/Ms. Myrick**

A motion was made to authorize the utilization of Unassigned General Fund - Fund Balance in the amount of \$1,337,516 to add 27 new K-5 Reading/Math Learning Loss Interventionists for the second semester.

**Moved By:** Mr. Barnard

**Seconded By:** Ms. Edmonds

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**f. Consider Approval of Purchase of Grades K-2 Digital Devices - Ms. Allen**

The Board of Education has annually approved funds to support the grades K-12 1-1 student device initiative. On November 6, 2023, the technology committee reviewed the Board-approved refresh cycle for devices. In the approved refresh cycle, students in elementary schools are divided into two groups: grades 3-5 and grades K-2. The Technology Committee's recommendation was to approve the latest model Apple iPad as the recommended device for grades K-2 during the upcoming refresh cycle. Students in grades K-2 will be eligible to utilize new devices in the 2024-25 school year.

A motion was made to approve the authorization of the purchase of the recommended device as a part of the Board-approved 4-year refresh cycle.

**Moved By:** Ms. Allen

**Seconded By:** Mr. Edwards

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**g. Consider Approval of Current ESSER Funded Positions to be part of the staffing covered in the 24-25 General Fund Budget.**

A motion was made to approve these positions in the 2024-2025 staffing formulae to be funded by the General Fund.

**Moved By:** Ms. Edmonds  
**Seconded By:** Mr. Koch

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**6. CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. **Personnel Recommendations**
- b. **Monitoring Report OE-8 Communicating with the Board**
- c. **Monitoring Report R-1 Literacy**
- d. **Education Fund Allocation - District 3**
- e. **Education Fund Allocation - District 8**
- f. **Education Fund Allocation - District 9**

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

**Moved By:** Ms. Allen  
**Seconded By:** Mr. Barnard

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:29 PM.

**Moved By:** Ms. Dawson  
**Seconded By:** Mr. Koch

**Board Action: Carried Unanimously**

Respectfully submitted,



---

Heidi Oates

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Horry County Board of Education

**APPROVED:** December 11, 2023