

HORRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES

BOARD WORK SESSION

January 11, 2021

District Office

335 Four Mile Road

Conway, SC 29526

Board of Education

Ken Richardson

John Poston

James Edwards

David Cox

Janet Graham

Howard Barnard

Neil James

Ray Winters

Shanda Allen

Sherrie Todd

Helen Smith

W Russell Freeman

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 11, 2021 - 6:00 PM - CALL TO ORDER

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

a. Invocation - Mr. Freeman

Mr. Freeman offered the invocation.

b. Pledge of Allegiance - MIDN Lillian A. Freeman, USN

Midshipman Fourth Class Lillian A. Freeman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

c. Organizational Business

Ms. Sherri Todd shared a tribute about Mr. Burgess. Mr. Ronnie Burgess. Principal Ronnie Burgess March 7, 1963 - January 4, 2021.

1. Administration of the Oath of Office:

W. Russell Freeman (District 1); David Cox (District 4); Howard Barnard (District 5); James Edwards (District 9); Shanda Allen (District 11)

2. Introduction of Board Members

Each Board member was asked to introduce herself/himself and state the areas which he/she represents.

3. Election of Vice-Chair

Mr. Richardson asked the Board to allow him to wait until all Board Members are seated before making a nomination for Vice-Chair.

Moved By: Mr. Winters

Seconded By: Mr. Cox

Board Action: Carried Unanimously

d. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Winters noted that at this time Executive Session is not required. Mr. Winters made a motion to strike item 4 from the agenda.

Moved By: Mr. Winters

Seconded By: Mr. James

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

Board Action: Carried Unanimously

e. Approval of Minutes

1. December 7, 2020

A motion was made to approve the December 7, 2020, minutes as presented.

Moved By: Mr. Winters

Seconded By: Mr. Freeman

Board Action: Carried Unanimously

2. BOARD MEMBER RECOGNITION

a. Board Service: Helen Smith - 20 Years

Mr. Richardson thanked Ms. Smith and presented her with a certificate and pin in recognition of her 20 years of service.

3. DISCUSSION

a. Notice of School Board Meeting Schedule as Required by SC Code 30-4-80 (Dates/Time/Place for Calendar Year - 2021 - Dr. Maxey

Ms. Velna Allen noted that in accordance with SC Code 30-4-80 all public bodies must give written public notice of their annual regular meeting schedule at the beginning of each calendar year. The notice must include dates and times for each meeting, all of which are held at the District Office located at Four Mile Road. A schedule of meetings was presented to the Board.

b. Monitoring Report: OE-6 Financial Administration - Report from External Auditor - Elliot Davis, LLP - Ms. Kim Davis

The District has completed the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the 2020 FY. The report was distributed to the Board on January 8, 2021, in the Board Weekly Update, and the external auditor Elliott Davis, LLP representative presented the 2020 FY audit findings to the Board.

c. Monitoring Report: OE-13 Quarterly Facilities Report - Mr. Brown

Mr. Burch presented the OE-13 Report to the Board.

d. Myrtle Beach High School Wall Flashing Remediation - Mr. Burch

Mr. Burch addressed the Board sharing that due to the age of the facility, the through-wall flashing in some areas of the building, particularly the high wall spaces such as the auditorium area, has deteriorated and is resulting in water intrusion. Several fixes have been examined including replacing the through-wall flashing by removing the brick façade, installing metal panels, or applying a coating to the exterior of the wall to prevent water intrusion. From a cost standpoint, the most expensive option is to remove and replace the exterior brick. The least expensive option is to apply a coating to the exterior brick, which had been done some years ago and was not very effective. Installation of an exterior metal wall panel would likely provide the most cost-effective remedy to the problem.

Mr. Burch is seeking Board approval for authorization of the Facilities Department to create a project for installing metal wall panels at Myrtle Beach High School with a budget of \$550,000 utilizing \$141,022 in residual sustainment funds and \$408,978 from the 2020-21 sustainment funds.

e. Land Planning for George Bishop Parkway and El Bethel Road Properties - Mr. Burch

Mr. Burch addressed the Board sharing the Facilities Committee previously approved a budget of \$25,000 each for Conceptual Site Design work at future El Bethel Road School Site and the future George Bishop Parkway Regional Bus Lot Site. Preliminary conceptual work is being done but a more meaningful study of the sites would benefit the district in the long run when time comes to develop. Facilities would like to increase the budgets of each of these projects by \$13,000 in order to perform complete topographic surveys of each site, tree surveys, and preliminary Geotech borings. These investigations will allow site designers to

have important information in planning, designing and providing opinions of probably cost for the future site improvements. Funds for the budget increase would come from residual funds left over from the entrance road constructed in 2019 at the George Bishop Parkway site.

Mr. Burch is seeking Board approval to increase the budget of the El Bethel Rd. School Site and George Bishop Parkway Regional Bus Lot Site from \$25,000 to \$38,000 each by transferring \$13,000 to each budget from the residual funding left in the entrance road project at George Bishop Parkway Regional Bus Lot Site.

f. Monitoring Report: R-3 Science - Ms. Myrick

Ms. Myrick presented the R-3 Monitoring Report.

g. 2021-22 K-12 HCS Virtual Program Structure - Ms. Myrick

Ms. Edi Cox and Mr. Lee James shared the following information regarding the HCS Virtual Program Structure via slideshow.

Purpose

- A Look Back

K-12 HCS Virtual program since its creation in August of 2020

Enrollment data from 2020-2021 and projected enrollment for 2021-2022

- The Path Forward

Plan for K-12 HCS Virtual for the 2021-2022 school year

A Look Back to the Origins of K-12 HCS Virtual

(Beginning August 2020)

- Due to the changes in the pandemic last spring and summer, a short timeline was available to staff and schedule a full-time virtual program for approximately 14,000 students.
- The full-time virtual program was created based on the knowledge and experiences gained from running a successful supplemental program that was established by Horry County Schools in 2011.
- Staffing and other decisions were made to limit the impact on base schools while selecting virtual staff from the current staff of brick-and-mortar schools.
- Elementary virtual teachers are dedicated to K-12 HCS Virtual full-time. The majority of middle and high school virtual teachers are assigned classes in both the brick-and-mortar setting and in K-12 HCS Virtual.
- HCS Virtual has relied heavily on support from brick-and-mortar schools due to the number of students being served in the program.

- Collaboration between parents, teachers, and students has led to strong connections between home and school. This partnership fosters both open communication and shared responsibility in the virtual environment.
- Professional development and collaborative teacher groups have increased the teaching skills of teaching staff related to online education and best teaching practices.
- A continuous improvement cycle ensures changes are implemented based on experiences and informal stakeholder feedback.
- K-12 HCS Virtual students remain an integral part of their assigned base schools.
- Base schools continue to provide guidance services, including counseling and course selection.
- Base schools continue to provide interventions to assist K-12 HCS Virtual in supporting struggling students.
- Base schools' administrative staff continue partner with K-12 HCS Virtual to monitor virtual teachers' impact on student achievement.
- HCS Virtual teachers have formed and participate in professional learning communities (PLC's). These PLC's provide a setting for small groups to plan, share resources/ideas, and support each other. These collaborative groups provide district specialists in technology and curriculum/instruction an avenue for continuous training that is critical for teachers new to online teaching.
- K-12 HCS Virtual utilizes two online collaborative platforms to ensure virtual teachers stay connected. SLACK and Facebook Workplace provide teachers with these collaborative spaces for learning and support.

Guiding Considerations for 21-22

- Health and safety concerns are likely to impact family educational decisions in the 2021-2022 school year.
- Motivated by success in virtual school setting in the 2020-2021 school year, families are likely to expect more choice on how and when their children learn.
- Based on data from nation-wide polls, approximately ½ of students currently enrolled in virtual programs are projected to continue into next year. Given current K-12 HCS Virtual enrollment of 10,000+ students, projected enrollment for 21-22 would be approximately 5,000 students.
- Structures and protocols are in place to provide effective supports for students and staff for the future.
- A sustainable program can be built based on the lessons learned in the 2020-2021 school year and best practices for online learning.

Enrollment Data

	HCS Virtual Current Enrollment	Transferring to Base School Second Semester	Transferring to HCS Virtual Second Semester	HCS Virtual Second Semester Enrollment	Projected* 2021-2022 HCS Virtual Enrollment
K-2	1,900	536	107	1,471	910
3-5	2,397	688	127	1,836	1,115
6-8	3,035	940	236	2,331	1,425
9-12	3,083	988	423	2,518	1,750
Total	10,415	3,152	893	8,156	5,200

Enrollment Projections 2021-22

	HCS Virtual Current Enrollment	Transferring to Base School Second Semester	Transferring to HCS Virtual Second Semester	HCS Virtual Second Semester Enrollment	Projected* 2021-2022 HCS Virtual Enrollment
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3-5	2,397	688	127	1,836	1,115
6-8	3,035	940	236	2,331	1,425
9-12	3,083	988	423	2,518	1,750
Total	10,415	3,152	893	8,156	5,200

**Enrollment projections are made by combining the guidance from informal nation-wide polls mentioned previously and enrollment trends in K-12 HCS Virtual.*

The Path Forward for 2021-22

- Continue the full-time virtual program for students in kindergarten through grade 12, making adjustments as required
- Continue to partner with brick-and-mortar schools for guidance and other essential student support and related services

- Project enrollment numbers taking into consideration student interest in the program and health and safety concerns of our families
 - Continue to utilize district specialists in technology and curriculum/instruction to support K-12 HCS Virtual teachers
 - Continue to utilize successful systems, processes, and technical integrations
 - Continue to rely on the knowledge of current trained, experienced K-12 HCS Virtual teachers and leaders
 - Continue to increase course offerings available for students
 - Continue to provide professional development for teachers and other staff
 - Continue to build strong relationships with families

Staffing for 2021-22

- Full-time teaching staff for K-12 HCS Virtual for all grade levels
- Full-time administrative staff including a school principal and assistant principals
- Full-time support staff for the K-12 HCS Virtual program consisting of positions essential in an online environment

h. 2021-22 K-12 HCS Virtual Program Staffing Formula - Mr. Gardner

Mr. Gardner shared the 2021-2022 HCS Virtual Program Staffing Formula.

i. Superintendent's Report - Dr. Maxey

1. Status Report: COVID-19 and Schools

Ms. Velna Allen shared the HCS was in the process of monitoring the historical data on COVID 19 within the schools. HCS will provide a decision regarding any changes in instructional platform by Wednesday, January 13, 2021.

2. Second Semester Scheduling

Ms. Velna Allen stated Mr. James shared this information earlier but in a different format.

3. Status Report: Plexiglass Barriers for Classroom

Lt. Colonel Davis shared information regarding the Plexiglass installation:

HCS is in the beginning stages of arranging the delivery and assembly at the middle schools starting with the new middle schools. Since we have established valuable techniques with the installation in the elementary

schools, we anticipate that we should be able to move quickly on installation at the middle schools.

To date, the following schools have been completed:

- Aynor Elementary
- Burgess Elementary
- Carolina Forest Elementary
- Conway Elementary
- Daisy Elementary
- Forestbrook Elementary
- Green Sea Floyds Elementary
- Homewood Elementary
- Kingston Elementary
- Loris Elementary
- Myrtle Beach Early Childhood
- Myrtle Beach Primary
- Ocean Bay Elementary
- Palmetto Bays Elementary
- River Oaks Elementary
- Seaside Elementary
- South Conway Elementary
- St. James Elementary
- Waccamaw Elementary

4. Reese Richardson, Conway Middle School

Reese Richardson, Conway Middle School student was recognized for winning an ESPN contest to sing the National Anthem at the Myrtle Beach Bowl.

5. School Board Appreciation Month - January 2021

Horry County Schools will join school districts throughout the state and nation to celebrate School Board Recognition Month during the month of January. More than 600 locally-elected and appointed school board members throughout the state will be recognized by schools and communities for their service and dedication to public education.

The theme "School Board Strong" highlights the fact that school board members are elected/appointed by the people in their local communities to represent their voice and to ensure the success of schools and students.

The Horry County Board of Education develops policies and makes tough decisions on complex educational and social issues impacting the entire

community. They bear responsibility for an annual budget of \$711 million, over 43,000 students, 5,987 employees, and 60 buildings.

As a part of School Board Recognition Month, school board members participated in an official signing of the South Carolina School Board Member Ethical Principles during their January school board meeting. By signing the principles, school board members publicly vowed to uphold effective governance principles and pledged to improve public education in their community.

4. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

a. ~~**Receipt of Legal Advice Regarding Potential Litigation**~~

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

A motion was made to adjourn the Board Work Session and convene a Special-Called Meeting.

Moved By: Mr. Winters

Seconded By: Mr. Freeman

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

Board Action: Carried Unanimously

6. **BUSINESS**

a. **Board Member Committee Assignments - Mr. Richardson**

A motion was made to accept the following Board Member Committee Assignments by Mr. Richardson:

Finance	Facilities	Resources	Technology	Curriculum and Instruction	Policy
Janet Graham, Chair	Neil James, Chair	David Cox, Chair	Shanda Allen, Chair	Sherrie Todd, Chair	Ray Winters, Chair
Russell Freeman	John Poston	Shanda Allen	Howard Barnard	Janet Graham	David Cox
Helen Smith	Sherrie Todd	Helen Smith	Ray Winters	Russell Freeman	James Edwards

Moved By: Ms. Allen

Seconded By: Mr. Winters

Board Action: Carried Unanimously

b. 2021-22 Budget Assumptions and Parameters - Mr. Gardner

A motion was made to approve the 2021-2022 Budget Assumptions and Parameters presented to the Board. Mr. Gardner noted that the information on the report from December 2020 listed as TBD had now been updated.

Moved By: Mr. James

Seconded By: Ms. Smith

Board Action: Carried Unanimously

c. 2021-22 Personnel Allocation Formula - Mr. Gardner

A motion was made to approve the 2021-2022 Personnel Allocation Formula that was previously submitted at the December 7, 2020 meeting and recommended that staff consider input from the Board regarding the 2021-2022 Personnel Allocation Formulae for HCS Virtual that will be placed on the agenda at the upcoming January 25, 2021, Board meeting.

Moved By: Mr. James

Seconded By: Mr. Freeman

Board Action: Carried Unanimously

d. Advisory Board Member Appointments - Board Members

Ms. Todd made a motion to replace an Advisory Board Member that could not fulfill his duties. Mr. Miquel Pena will serve out the remaining term.

Moved By: Ms. Todd

Seconded By: Mr. Winters

Board Action: Carried Unanimously

7. CONSENT

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

- a. Personnel Recommendations**
- b. Monitoring Report: OE-6 Financial Administration**
- c. Monitoring Report: OE-7 Asset Protection**
- d. Monitoring Report: R-2 Numeracy**

Moved By: Mr. Winters

Seconded By: Ms. Graham

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

Board Action: Carried Unanimously

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47PM.

Moved By: Mr. James

Seconded By: Mr. Edwards

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

Board Action: Carried Unanimously

a. UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- 1. Facilities Committee Meeting, 4:00 PM, January 25, 2021, District Office**
- 2. Board Meeting, 6:00 PM, January 25, 2021, District Office**

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Oates

Heidi Oates

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Horry County Board of Education