

HORRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

M I N U T E S

BOARD WORK SESSION

January 10, 2022

District Office

335 Four Mile Road

Conway, SC 29526

Board of Education

Neil James

W Russell Freeman

David Cox

Howard Barnard

Tracy Winters

Helen Smith

Janet Graham

Melanie Wellons

James Edwards

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 10, 2022 - 6:00 PM - CALL TO ORDER - BOARD MEETING ROOM

Vice-Chair James called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

a. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance - Mr. James

Mr. James offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

b. Approval of Agenda - Mr. James

A motion was made to approve the January 10, 2022, agenda as presented.

Moved By: Mr. Barnard

Seconded By: Ms. Graham

Board Action: Carried Unanimously

c. Approval of Minutes - Mr. James

1. December 6, 2021

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

Moved By: Mr. Cox

Seconded By: Ms. Graham

Board Action: Carried Unanimously

2. BOARD MEMBER RECOGNITION

a. Board Service: Janet Graham - 10 Years

Mr. James thanked Ms. Graham and presented her with a certificate and pin in recognition of her 10 years of service.

3. DISCUSSION

a. Policy Committee Meeting Report - Ms. Graham

Prior to the Policy Committee Meeting Report, Ms. Graham provided a brief update regarding the recent South Carolina School Board Association Board Retreat. Ms. Graham shared topics of discussion included mental health support funding, legislative delegations, and the S.935 Senate Bill.

Ms. Graham provided an update regarding the Policy Committee Meeting from earlier today. Ms. Graham shared the objective of the meeting was to review the purpose of the Policy Committee and to proceed with the development and implementation of the HCS Foundation.

b. Technology Committee Meeting Report - Ms. Shanda Allen

Ms. Wellons provided an update for the Technology Committee which met earlier today. Ms. Wellons shared that Learning Services provided the Technology Committee information regarding the high school device selection process. Advisory committees were formed of students, teachers, instructional coaches, school technology contacts, and administrators. Individual members of the advisory committees were allowed to test the two devices previously approved by the Technology Committee. The two devices tested were the Dell Latitude and the Dell Chromebook. The recommendation brought forth by the Technology Committee was the Dell Latitude. Additionally, the Technology Committee was asked to bring before the Board a request to approve 3.5 million dollars from ESSER funds to offset the difference in the devices as well as the additional number of high school students. The Technology Committee voted to accept this recommendation from Learning Services and the Technology Department. This item will be placed on the January 24 agenda for discussion and approval.

c. Monitoring Report: OE-6 Financial Administration - Report from External Auditor - Mauldin & Jenkins, LLP - Mr. Tim Lyons

The District has completed the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the 2021 FY. The report was distributed to the Board on January 7, 2022, in the Board Weekly Update, and a representative of the external auditing firm Mauldin & Jenkins, LLP, presented the 2021 FY audit findings to the Board.

d. 2022-2023 Budget Assumptions and Parameters - Mr. Gardner

The 2022-2023 Budget Assumptions and Parameters were presented by Mr. Gardner. Mr. Gardner noted HCS projects the addition of 588 new students in the upcoming school year.

e. 2022-2023 Personnel Allocation Formula - Mr. Gardner

The 2022-2023 Personnel Allocation Formulae report was presented. Mr. Gardner is seeking approval of the personnel allocation formulae which will play a key role in the development of the 2022-2023 Superintendent's Comprehensive Budget.

It should be noted the proposed Personnel Allocation Formulae for K-12 HCS Virtual is not included at this time. The Curriculum Committee is scheduled to review K-12 HCS Virtual student enrollment numbers and achievement data and make recommendations concerning virtual course offerings for the 2022-23 school year. Based upon Board approval of the Curriculum Committee's recommendations, the District will present the 2022-2023 Personnel Allocation Formulae for K-12 HCS Virtual at an upcoming 2022 Board Meeting.

f. Monitoring Report: OE-13 Quarterly Facilities Report - Mr. Burch

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

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

Ms. Myrick presented the R-3 Monitoring Report.

h. Consider Approval of Courses for Honors Weighting - Ms. Myrick

Ms. Myrick requested the Board to approve the following courses for honors weighting in accordance with the requirements outlined in the *SC Honors Framework*.

- Medical Terminology
- Pharmacology for Medical Careers

i. **Notice of Board of Education's Meeting Schedule as Required by SC Code 30-4-80 (Dates/Times/Places for Calendar Year 2022) - Dr. Maxey**

Dr. Maxey 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.

j. **Superintendent's Report**

1. **Status Report: COVID-19 and School Operations**

Dr. Maxey shared a status report on school operations regarding COVID-19. Dr. Maxey noted we were much like the state and the nation in experiencing a large number of positive cases largely due to the Omicron variant. Dr. Maxey shared HCS is also seeing a large number of student and staff quarantines that are occurring concomitantly with the increase in positive case numbers. Dr. Maxey shared data from today's HCS Covid-19 Dashboard showed a total of 673 total current positive cases with 633 of those being student cases and 40 of those being staff cases. HCS has 145 staff in quarantine at the present time and student quarantines of 3.8 thousand. Dr. Maxey shared the recent update provided by DHEC gave very specific thresholds regarding quarantines and isolation with a 5-day quarantine allowed provided certain criteria are met. Dr. Maxey noted we would continue with school operations and look at operations on a case-by-case basis and make a decision accordingly. Dr. Maxey stated one of the most important things we can do for our students is to have in-person learning. Dr. Maxey shared stakeholders could reach out to HCS with any questions at COVID19INFO@horrycountyschools.net.

Ms. Velna Allen shared an update from SCDHEC from January 10, 2022 via slideshow. The recent changes are noted below.

Definitions

Maximally Vaccinated: Individuals who are 18 years or older who have completed their primary vaccine series of two doses of Pfizer or Moderna or a single dose of Janssen vaccine, and has had a booster shot, if eligible.

Fully Vaccinated: Individuals who between 5 and 17 years of age who have completed their primary vaccine series of two doses more than 14 days ago.

Cohort: A group of 5 or more people. If 20% or more of the students within a classroom or other cohort of students are absent or sent home early on the same day due to testing positive for COVID-19 or having

symptoms of COVID-19, the entire class or cohort must quarantine unless an individual in the group shows proof of being fully vaccinated or maximally vaccinated.

Booster Vaccinations: If an individual has received his booster vaccination prior to an exposure, then he is considered maximally vaccinated regardless of the time period between receiving the booster vaccination and the exposure.

Mask Usage: For an individual to shorten the quarantine period from 10 days to 5 days, he **MUST** wear a mask an additional 5 days on our school sites.

At-Home Testing: At-home tests are now accepted PROVIDED:

- * two negative test results must be provided to the school on the Attestation form (Form may be found on the HCS website)

- * The tests should be performed at least 24-hours apart and within 7 days of exposure.

- * One of these tests must be completed between days 5 and 7 after exposure.

- * Individuals must be symptom-free to return to school or work regardless of their test results.

- * A mask must be worn through day 10.

For more information and copies of the Attestation Form for At-Home COVID-19 Test, please visit schdec.gov.

Household Contacts: An individual, who is not maximally or fully-vaccinated, must quarantine for the infected individuals isolation period PLUS at least five additional days. Students must NOT exhibit symptoms to return to school. The student must wear mask if he/she elects to shorten the quarantine period.

If there are any questions, please email COVID19INFO@horrycountyschools.net

To submit a negative test result or form, you may email the results/forms to NegativeCovid19TestResults@horrycountyschools.net or to your school nurse.

2. Second Semester Scheduling

Ms. Velna Allen shared an update regarding second semester scheduling. Ms. Allen noted HCS was currently preparing schedules for student who are changing instructional settings.

Second Semester Instructional Setting Change Timeline

Date	Event
November 29 - December 8 (or sooner)	<u>Current HCS Brick-and-Mortar Students</u> : 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 th IF the maximum student enrollment number* has been reached. ALL PARENT SELECTIONS FOR SECOND SEMESTER ARE FINAL. *Proviso 1.103
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.

Instructional Setting Changes Enrollment Updates

- K-12 HCS Virtual Program Current Enrollment: 1621 students
- Number of Students Returning to Brick-and-Mortar: 284 students
- Number of Students Moving into the K-12 HCS Virtual Program: 785 students
- K-12 HCS Virtual Program Spring Enrollment: 2122 students

Students' Schedule Update

- For high school students going into the K-12 HCS Virtual program, revised schedules have been imported into PowerSchool.
- For high school students moving to their brick-and-mortar school, guidance counselors are in the process of creating new schedules for the students.
- For elementary and middle school students, schedules have been created for their new instructional setting; however, the schedules will not be entered into PowerSchool until the end of this week.
- All current students will have a schedule on January 18th, which is the first day of second semester.

3. School Board Appreciation Month

Horry County Schools will join school districts throughout the state and nation in celebrating 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.

4. South Carolina Theatre Association High School Festival 2021 State Winners - Socastee High School and Carolina Forest High School

Dr. Maxey recognized and congratulated Socastee and Carolina Forest High Schools' respective theater departments for their state-level win in the SC Theatre Association High School Competition.

Socastee High's production of "Tracks" is a state winner and will represent South Carolina at the Southeastern Theatre Convention in

Memphis, TN, in March 2022. Socastee also took home awards for Best Supporting Actor (Edisto French and John Junkins), Best Ensemble, All-Star Cast (Jada Simmons), and Best Technical Production.

Carolina Forest's production of "Wit" was awarded 3rd place and also took home Best Actor (Caroline Floyd), All-Star Cast (Owen Egloff and Rylianna Hanchek), and Best Lighting Design.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION

a. Consideration of Student Appeals

1. Student A

2. Student B

b. Consideration of Employee Grievance Appeal

A motion was made to move into Executive Session at 7:03PM.

Moved By: Mr. Edwards

Seconded By: Ms. Wellons

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

Board Action: Carried Unanimously

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

A motion was made to come out of Executive Session.

Moved By: Mr. Edwards

Seconded By: Ms. Graham

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Board Action: Carried Unanimously

A motion was made to Adjourn Board Session and Convene a Special Called Meeting at 7:51PM.

Moved By: Mr. Barnard

Seconded By: Mr. Cox

Board Action: Carried Unanimously

6. BUSINESS

a. Consideration of Student Appeals - Mr. Richardson

1. Student A

A motion was made that based upon review and consideration of the written record regarding Student A's appeal of expulsion, it is recommend the Board modify the District's Appeal Board decision to allow the student to return to the base school at the beginning of the second semester.

Moved By: Mr. Cox

Seconded By: Mr. Freeman

For (6): Mr. Freeman, Mr. Cox, Ms. Smith, Ms. Winters, Ms. Wellons, and Mr. Edwards

Against (3): Mr. James, Mr. Barnard, and Ms. Graham

Board Action: Carried (6 to 3)

2. Student B

A motion was made that based upon review and consideration of the written record regarding Student B's appeal, it is recommend the Board modify the District's Board decision to allow the student to return to the base school at the beginning of the second semester.

Moved By: Mr. Cox

Seconded By: Ms. Smith

For (2): Mr. Cox, and Ms. Smith

Against (7): Mr. James, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Barnard, Ms. Winters, Ms. Graham, Ms. Wellons, and Mr. Edwards

Board Action: Failed (2 to 7)

A motion was made to uphold the District Appeal's Board recommendation.

Moved By: Mr. Barnard

Seconded By: Ms. Graham

For (8): Mr. James, Mr. Freeman, Ms. Winters, Mr. Barnard, Ms. Smith, Ms. Graham, Ms. Wellons, and Mr. Edwards

Against (1): Mr. Cox

Board Action: Carried (8 to 1)

b. Consideration of Employee Grievance Appeal - Mr. Richardson

A motion was made that based upon consideration of the employee's grievance appeal and our review of the documentation related to this, it is recommend the Board uphold the Superintendent's decision regarding the grievance and deny the employee's request to be heard before the Board.

Moved By: Mr. Freeman

Seconded By: Ms. Graham

Board Action: Carried Unanimously

7. CONSENT

- a. Personnel Recommendations**
- b. Monitoring Report: OE-6 Financial Administration**
- c. Monitoring Report: OE-7 Asset Protection**
- d. Monitoring Report: R-2 Numeracy**
- e. Education Fund Allocation - District 9**
- f. Education Fund Allocation - District 11**

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

Moved By: Mr. Barnard

Seconded By: Mr. Edwards

Board Action: Carried Unanimously

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:56PM.

UPCOMING MEETING(S)

Board Meeting, 6:00 PM, January 24, 2022, District Office, Board Room

Moved By: Mr. Barnard

Seconded By: Mr. Freeman

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

Board Action: Carried Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,



Heidi Oates

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Horry County Board of Education