HORRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

M I N U T E S
BOARD WORK SESSION/SPECIAL-CALLED MEETING
District Office
May 8, 2017

The following persons were present:

Board of Education

Joe DeFeo, Chairman	Holly Heniford	Pam Timms
Shanda Allen	Janice Morreale	Sherrie Todd
Chris Hardwick	John Poston	Ray Winters

Horry County Schools' Staff

Jeanna Allen	Kim Floyd	Boone Myrick
Mary Anderson	John Gardner	Tonya Pickett
Edward Boyd	Kenny Generette	Lucas Richardson
Dwight Boykin	Melanie Gentzler	Angela Rush
Daryl Brown	Roger Gray	Heather Sheehan
Paul Browning	Teal Harding	Rhonda Snowden
Jeff Carland	Charles Hucks, Jr.	Judy Stall
Susan Carter Spain	Donna Jacobs	Tammy Trulove
Carolyn Chestnut	H. T. Lee	Chavis Watford
Charles Conant	Hope Lee	Kelley Wiltrout
Edi Cox	Rick Maxey	Mark Wolfe
Jeanie Dailey	Natasha McDonald	Stephanie Yancey
Roger Dixon	Paula Mullis	

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 MAY 8, 2017, AT 6:00 P.M. – CALL TO ORDER

Chairman DeFeo called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

A. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance
Mr. Winters offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Approval of Agenda
Mr. DeFeo stated we will be striking Business Item 6.A. Authority to Contract for Legal Services from the agenda. Mr. Generette shared that we are still in the engagement phase to secure independent services, and therefore, Board action will not be needed on this item tonight.

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Winters to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hardwick. The motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

C. Approval of Minutes – April 3, 2017, and April 24, 2017

Board Action: A motion was made by Ms. Timms and seconded by Ms. Heniford to approve the April 3, 2017, and April 24, 2017, Board Minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously and the Minutes were approved. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

2. RECOGNITIONS

A. Support Staff Employee-of-the-Year Recognition

Each school and work site selected their Support Staff Employee-of-the-Year for 2017-18. All were recognized during a reception held prior to the Board meeting. The top five were selected by a committee and previously named, who are Heather Lakatos of the Therapeutic Learning Center, Connie Manigo of Homewood Elementary, Chavis Watford of Forestbrook Middle, Jeffery Gibbins of St. James Middle, and Hope Lee of Waccamaw Elementary. Mr. Jeffery Gibbins was announced as the 2017-18 Support Staff Employee-of-the-Year for Horry County Schools.

B. HCS Alumni – 2016 National Championship Teams

1) **G. K. Young – Coastal Carolina University Baseball Team**
2) **Hunter Renfrow – Clemson University Football Team**

G. K. Young and Hunter Renfrow are both alumni of Horry County Schools and were recognized for their instrumental part in taking their respective team forward to the level of National Champions in 2016.

3. DISCUSSION

A. Safe Routes to School (SCDOT Grant) Update

Mr. Adam Emrick of the City of Conway shared information regarding the Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Project, which came about as the result of a grant applied for by the City of Conway from SCDOT in 2014 to fund the construction of sidewalks at Conway Elementary School, bike racks, and other safety items. Following community meetings, sidewalks were approved for one side of Magrath Street (1,400 linear feet) and one side of Snowhill and Sherwood Drive (1,600 linear feet). The grant amount from SCDOT is $400,000 and that award amount together with $58,000 from the City of Conway and $58,000 from Horry County Schools was to cover the total project cost estimated to be $516,000. SCDOT is managing the project and has informed the City of Conway that the project now exceeds the total budget. The City of Conway supports and recommends that Horry County Schools consider reducing the scope of the Safe Routes to School Project at Conway Elementary School to include only the Snowhill/Sherwood section of the project to allow a portion of the work to proceed and yet keep the project within budget, unless the project bids come in less than anticipated, which would then allow for the project to be completed in its entirety.

Mr. DeFeo shared that he would like to hear the recommendation of District staff before the Board makes a decision on this request.

B. Finance Committee Report

Mr. Poston gave a report from the Finance Committee meeting held on Thursday, April 27. The Committee reviewed the optional budget items that are being considered. A prioritization of those optional budget items as determined by the Finance Committee was shared. The Committee modified some items, which lessened the value of those items. Some funding options in the event of a budget deficit were determined by the Finance Committee in January. A copy of the funding options was shared with the Board as

information. Additionally, the Finance Committee discussed and unanimously recommend approval Authorizing Expenditures from Revenues Collected from the Education Capital Improvements Sales and Use Tax to the full Board.

C. 2017-18 Budget Workshop

1) **Budgets by Location and Special Fund Utilization**
2) **2017-18 Superintendent's Comprehensive Budget**
3) **Budget Presentation**

Mr. Gardner reviewed the proposed Superintendent's Comprehensive Budget for 2017-18, a copy of which was posted in Granicus and a hard copy provided to Board members. The recommendations and prioritizations of the Finance Committee have not been incorporated into the funding plan because that information has not been presented to the full Board. Board members are asked to contact the Board secretary to schedule a meeting should anyone wish to meet with administration to discuss the budget and have any questions answered. Mr. DeFeo suggested a Committee of the Whole be held on May 22nd, and go through the budget items line by line, adding that if any Board member wishes to add an item to the agenda that is not listed, please do so in advance so that other Board members are aware. Mr. DeFeo stated that the budget could be finalized at the June 5th Board meeting unless additional time is needed.

D. Monitoring Report: OE-5 Financial Planning
Mr. Gardner shard that a copy of the Monitoring Report has been provided and is what has just been reviewed under the Superintendent's Comprehensive Budget for 2017-18.

E. Authorizing Expenditures from Revenues Collected from the Education Capital Improvements Sales and Use Tax
Mr. Gardner stated this was shared with the Finance Committee to seek approval to authorize the expenditure of not to exceed $43,600,000 from Sales Tax Revenues for the direct payment of costs for Approved Projects including classroom and instructional technology and the short-term facilities plan. Mr. Poston stated this item comes before the Board with the recommendation of the Finance Committee. Mr. DeFeo asked that this item be placed under Business for the next meeting if there are no objections.

F. Draft Board Meeting Schedule 2017-18
Dr. Maxey shared that the document presented is a draft schedule for Board meetings for the 2017-18 school year. This schedule takes into consideration the National School Boards Association National Conference. With that in mind, the draft schedule is for a meeting on April 16, 2018, and April 23, 2018, which is one week apart versus the customary two weeks.

Mr. Poston shared an idea for discussion and consideration by the Board, which is to begin the Board meetings at 6:30 p.m., stating this would open a window of time from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. when the Board could possibly take care of any executive session decisions. The Board could utilize the dinner time as a working dinner and possibly avoid taking time out of the middle of the meeting for executive sessions. Mr. Poston stated the downside is that executive session would be limited to one hour. In the event the executive session extended beyond one hour, if the Board so chose, the start of the meeting could be delayed, or to continue the executive session later on during the meeting with an agenda change. Mr. DeFeo stated that his understanding is that the Board meeting would open at 5:30 and the Board would then immediately go into executive session. The Board could come out of executive session upon

completion of the executive session, or at 6:00 p.m. if there were no executive session items. Mr. DeFeo suggested this be on the next agenda under Business for a vote by the Board.

G. Superintendent's Report

1) SDE Efficiency Study – Proviso 1.92 required the State Department of Education to issue an RFP to conduct an analysis of facility assessments and the efficiency of school districts in South Carolina. This is an outgrowth of the Abbeville case. In Phase I of the efficiency study, school districts that were a party to that case were assessed first for efficiency and following in Phase II is non-Abbeville plaintiff districts, of which Horry County is one. Staff members have interacted with the firm Alvarez and Marsal, who was awarded this work by the State Department. We were asked to provide information from several departments, which according to the Proviso must at a minimum include overhead, human resources, procurement, financial management, and transportation. We have gone through the first round and they will be following up with us again soon. The information from the study can be viewed on the State Department of Education's website under efficiency study. The completed assessments and studies will be provided to each local school board of trustees and shall inform funding decisions for facilities and potential school or district consolidation. Because Horry County Schools is already a single county school district, we will not be impacted as some other school districts may.

2) May School Activities – With graduation ceremonies approaching, Board members are asked to let the Board Secretary know of the graduation ceremonies they will be attending.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board Action: A motion was made by Ms. Timms and seconded by Ms. Allen to enter into executive session for the purpose of:

A. Discussion of a Contractual Matter for Legal Services

The motion carried unanimously and the Board moved into executive session at 7:00 p.m. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

5. SPECIAL-CALLED MEETING

Board Action: A motion was made by Ms. Allen and seconded by Ms. Morreale to return to open session. The motion carried unanimously and the Board returned to open session at 7:33 p.m. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

6. BUSINESS

A. Authority to Contract for Legal Services

This item was removed from the agenda by an earlier vote under Item 1.C. Approval of Agenda.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Personnel Recommendations as Required by Law
B. Education Fund Distribution – District 9

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

8. ADJOURNMENT

Board Action: A motion was made by Ms. Timms and seconded by Ms. Heniford to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:35 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,



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

Approved: _____

Board Performance Indicators - 7 Responses

5/8/17
Date

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

Agenda

Reports are clear, well prepared and provide adequate information for decision making.	**32 / 4.58**
The majority of agenda items focus on our core purpose.	**31 / 4.43**

Meetings

Our meetings are businesslike, results-oriented and we function like a team.	**33 / 4.72**
Our discussions are cordial and well balanced (not dominated by just a few members.)	**32 / 4.58**

Community

Board members make reasonable efforts to inform themselves about education through school visits, professional meetings and outside reading.	**32 / 4.58**
Board members meet reasonable expectations of involvement by participating in school and other public meetings as representatives of the Board.	**32 / 4.58**
Board members efficiently address issues and concerns brought to them by the public.	**32 / 4.58**

Superintendent Relationship

The Board seeks and values the input of the Superintendent as issues are discussed and decisions are made.	**33 / 4.72**

Work / Policies

Board decisions are based on thoughtful analysis of available information.	**31 / 4.43**
Board members balance the issues of their district with the needs of the entire school district.	**31 / 4.43**
The Board places emphasis on building consensus among members through open and honest communication.	**30 / 4.29**

Comments:

There were no comments.