

HORRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES – Board Meeting
District Office
May 19, 2014

The following persons were present:

Board of Education Members:

Joe DeFeo, Chairman	Kay Loftus	Pam Timms
Jeffrey Garland	Karen McIlrath	Jimmy Washington
Janet Graham	Janice Morreale	
Neil James	John Poston	

Horry County Schools Staff:

Velna Allen	John Gardner	Tonya Pickett
Mary Anderson	Kenny Generette	Beverly Pilkey
Judy Beard	Buddy George	Ben Prince
Edward Boyd	Roger Gray	Lucas Richardson
Teal Britton	Ben Hardee	Angela Rush
Daryl Brown	Leann Hill	Barbara Schlidt
Dottie Brown	Traci Hogan	Jackie Stanley
Paul Browning	Robin Jones	David Stoudenmire
Cheryl Chadwick	Mollie Laut	Addie Swinney
Dena Chatfield	Janet Lawrence-Patten	Sherrie Todd
Elizabeth Chieffi	H.T. Lee	Olga Toggas
Edi Cox	Rick Maxey	Tammy Trulove
Matt Dean	Norman McQueen	Danielle West
Judy Edwards	June Moorhead	
Laura Farmer	Boone Myrick	

Opening May 19, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. - Call to Order

Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance - St. James High School Army JROTC

Mr. Washington gave the invocation. The St. James High School Army JROTC presented the colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

At the request of the Superintendent, the Chairman suggested the addition of Personnel Recommendation under Business.

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.

ACTION: *Upon motion by Neil James, second by Pam Timms, the Board approved the agenda with the addition of Personnel Recommendation under Business.*

Minutes - 5/12/14 (Attachment: 5/12/14 Minutes)

ACTION: *Upon motion by Pam Timms, second by Neil James, the Board approved the minutes of the May 12, 2014 meeting.*

Public Comments

Mr. Abdullah Mustafa was called to speak. Mr. Mustafa discussed the importance of closing the achievement gap and concerns about the Conway High School athletic staff.

Mrs. Sabrina Evans was called to speak. Mrs. Evans expressed concern with traffic flow on Sandridge Road when North Myrtle Beach Intermediate School becomes a PK-5 school.

Mrs. Singleton was called to speak. Mrs. Singleton requested that attention be given to different learning styles to enable all children to succeed.

Mrs. Sherri Johnson was called to speak. Mrs. Johnson requested the Board review improvement plans for the Horry County Education Center.

Patricia Milley was called to speak. Ms. Milley gave the Board suggestions for improving education and saving money.

Recognitions

Teal Harding recognized several groups including the St. James Army ROTC for their 8th place finish in the Academic Bowl in which 3000 teams competed.

Mrs. Jennifer Ainsworth was recognized as the first Horry County Schools teacher to be named South Carolina Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Ainsworth spoke and thanked the Board for their support.

Mrs. Harding asked Ben Hardee to assist in presenting Career and Technical Education (CATE) student recognitions. There were 110 students earning recognition for outstanding achievement in areas such as hospitality, management, sales, agriculture and family careers. In addition, several robotics teams and coaches were recognized including Academy of Technology and Academics, Ocean Bay Elementary and Bucky Sellers. South Carolina Lego League awarded Coach of the Year award to River Oaks Elementary teacher, Diane Smith

The Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement was presented to Cheryl Chadwick.

Aynor High School and Socastee High School were recognized for 12th and 13th ranking, respectively, in US News and World Report.

North Myrtle Beach High School Mock Trial Team was recognized for their 2nd place title at the national mock trial competition.

Discussion

At this time the Chairman recognized Lawrence Whitney for public comments. Mr. Whitney reminded the Board of his comments at the last meeting regarding the employment status of his mother and requested a resolution.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Elsberry reviewed with the Board an article regarding personalized learning. The article, from Kappan Magazine, references Whitemore Park Middle School and the iCAN program. Dr. Elsberry commended the board for funding such beneficial programs.

Dr. Elsberry recognized Dr. Bill Greene and Richard Scott of Chicora Rotary Club who presented the Board with a donation for fine arts programs from the funds raised from the Waves of the Future event.

Executive Session for Discussion of Personnel Matters

ACTION: Upon motion by Neil James, second by John Poston, the Board unanimously approved to enter executive session at 7:25 pm.

Meeting went into Recess

Meeting Reconvened

ACTION: Upon motion by Neil James, second by Janice Morreale, the Board unanimously approved to reconvene regular session.

Business

Personnel Recommendation

ACTION: Upon motion by Karen McIlrath, second by Jimmy Washington, the Board approved the personnel recommendation by the Superintendent to appoint Maurice Murphy as the new principal of Horry County Education Center. Mr. Murphy is currently the assistant principal of Forestbrook Middle School.

2014-15 Superintendent's Comprehensive Budget - John Gardner

(Attachments: Agenda Action Form: Employee Compensation Adjustment; Recurring vs Nonrecurring Pay Increase; Curriculum Work 2014-15; 2014-15 Superintendent's Comprehensive Budget)

John Gardner presented to the Board details of the budgetary items that had been requested at the previous meeting. He explained Salary & Benefit Analysis, Curriculum & Assessment Development for ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies. Mr. Gardner then gave an overview of the entire budget.

Ms. Timms proposed a motion to approve the Superintendent's Comprehensive Budget with the exception of the \$1.7m associated with pay increases for employees at or above step 28 and \$350,000 associated with curriculum development. It was clarified by the Chairman that this motion would enable the Board to approve the majority of the budget and have further discussion on the two remaining line items. **The motion was seconded by Mr. Poston. Unanimously approved.**

Chairman DeFeo then opened the floor for discussion on the second part of the motion: that the Board not approve \$1.7m allocated as a 2% increase for those at or above step 28. Mr. James noted that he is in favor of rewarding the dedicated staff. Mr. Poston noted for the Board that employees are given the pay scale when hired with the understanding that they will max out when they hit level 28. Chairman DeFeo further noted that Horry County Schools is one of the few districts that has a scale up to level 28.

The motion to disapprove the \$1.7m in pay increases for level 28 and higher was passed with Mr. James being the only no vote.

Chairman DeFeo clarified the next part of the motion: the Board will be voting on the \$350,000 relative to curriculum development separate from the budget.

He then explained that this was the first reading of the budget and subsequent motions can be made in the future.

There was discussion on prior year's curriculum development and the need for these funds. Ms. Myrick was asked to clarify the process. She noted that about 300 teachers are involved in curriculum development that begins after hours in April and May and continues into the summer. Mrs. McIlrath proposed tabling the discussion until Mrs. Ambrose, Chief Academic Officer could be present. Ms. Timms agreed to modify her motion to table the discussion to a future meeting date.

ACTION: Upon motion by Karen McIlrath, second by Jeffrey Garland, the Board agreed to table the discussion on Curriculum Development for a future meeting when Mrs. Ambrose is available to address the Board. (K. Loftus, N. James, and J. Poston voted in opposition)

Committee of the Whole

(Attachments: [Short-Term Facility Plan](#); [Mr. Garland's Short-Term Facility Plan with Cash Flow Projections](#))

Chairman DeFeo opened the Committee of the Whole with an explanation that any votes during this are non-binding and merely for Board information.

Mr. Garland proposed the following motion to revise the short-term building plan previously approved on September 30, 2013 with the following changes and requiring annual review by the Board of Education:

1. NMB Middle Addition with a budget of \$6,600,000.
2. Midland Elementary Addition with a budget of \$11,000,000.
3. Construction of new facility - Horry County Education Center with a budget of \$4,600,000.
4. Construction of new facility - St James Middle/Intermediate with a budget of \$25,600,000.
5. Construction of new facility – Carolina Forest Middle School with a budget of \$29,000,000.
6. Construction of new facility for the replacement of Socastee Elementary School with a budget of \$26,000,000.
7. Construction of new facility for the replacement of MB Intermediate with a budget of \$29,000,000.
8. Aynor Middle Addition with a budget of \$2,800,000.
9. District Office expansion with a budget of \$2,000,000.
10. Construction of new facility – Socastee Middle School with a budget of \$29,000,000.
11. NMB High Renovation with a budget of \$10,000,000.

12. Building modifications & renovations budget of \$57,000,000.
13. Sustainment with a budget of \$70,000,000.
14. Emergency Maintenance of \$10,000,000.
15. Property Acquisitions of \$4,000,000.
16. Capital Facility Administration with a budget of \$20,000,000.
17. Misc. Equipment with a budget of \$5,000,000.
18. Technology / PDL with a budget of \$86,000,000.

The motion was seconded by Janice Morreale.

(At 8:25pm Kay Loftus left the meeting.)

Chairman DeFeo clarified that the plan would be approved before funding options can be reviewed thoroughly. Mr. Garland agreed and noted that more than likely the plan would require a bond.

Mr. Poston inquired why the amount for technology had increased. Mr. Garland explained that after a meeting with District Office staff he was informed that without an increase, the District would be unable to continue the 1 to 1 program.

Mrs. Graham asked if the debt service amounts would change if the project list changed and if negative cash-flow is predicted. Mr. Garland explained that negative cash-flow is not predicted and the funding option would have to be determined (borrow or pay-as-we-go) before exact debt service amounts could be determined.

Mrs. Morreale suggested a review of Personalized Digital Learning for grades 3-5 to help fund the new construction. Chairman DeFeo reminded the Board that the plan must be established before funding details can be discussed.

ACTION: Upon motion by Jeffrey Garland, second by Janice Morreale, the Board unanimously approved the Short-Term Facility Plan as presented by Mr. Garland.

Chairman DeFeo closed the Committee of the Whole.

Consent Agenda

Mr. James announced that he had just received word that Loris High School won the first round of playoffs.

ACTION: Upon motion by Pam Timms, second by Janet Graham, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda which included the following items: Personnel Recommendations as Required by Law; Monitoring Report: Results 4; Monitoring Report: Operational Expectations 5 -Financial Planning; Authorization of Expenditure From Tax Revenue; Authorization of Expenditure for School Bus Purchase.

Adjournment

ACTION: Upon motion by Neil James, second by Pam Timms, the Board voted to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Leann Hill
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
and Board of Education

Approved: