

HORRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES BOARD MEETING District Office May 21, 2018

The following persons were present:

Board of Education

Neil James, Interim Board Chair	Chris Hardwick	Pam Timms
Shanda Allen	Holly Heniford	Sherrie Todd
David Cox	Janice Morreale	Ray Winters
Janet Graham	John Poston	

Horry County Schools' Staff

Jeanna Allen	John Gardner	Boone Myrick
Velna Allen	Diane Gaskins	CeCelia Nance
Mary Anderson	Kenny Generette	Tonya Pickett
Robin Bolling	Melanie Gentzler	Mark Porter
Emily Borrello	Tory Gibson	Sandy Reyes
Lisa Bourcier	Theresa Glazer	Lucas Richardson
Teal Britton	Tanya Gray	Mary Beth Roach
Daryl Brown	Ben Hardee	Angela Rush
Joe Burch	Deidre Hughes	April Scott
Claude Capps	John Hunt	Scott Scrivner
Anna Carroll	Jill Jeter	Heather Sheehan
Danielle Clark	Kim Johnson	Rhonda Snowden
Sarah Compton	Sarah Johnson	Susan Spain
Charles Conant	Kelly Lewis	Angela Thomas
Edi Cox	Tammy Martin	Teresa Todd
Steve Driscoll	Rick Maxey	Tammy Trulove
Marlo Frazier	Michael McCracken	Brook Volpe
Patty Freyburger	Natasha McDonald	Kelly Wilson
Billy Gainus	Joy McKinney	Mark Wolfe

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 21, 2018, AT 6:00 P.M. – CALL TO ORDER

Chairman James called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

A. Invocation

Mr. Hardwick offered the invocation.

B. Presentation of Colors/Pledge of Allegiance

The Socastee High School Air Force JROTC presented the Colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. National Anthem – Brigham Freyburger, Myrtle Beach High School

Brigham Freyburger, a Myrtle Beach High School student, sang the National Anthem.

D. Approval of Agenda

Mr. James noted additions to the Agenda as follows:

~ Under Discussion, Item 4.G. will be moved in front of Item 4.A. and will become the new Item 4.A.

~ Under Business, an item will be added as a new Item 6.E. Preliminary Approval of the 2018-19 Budget.

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Cox and seconded by Mr. Hardwick to approve the Agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Approval of Minutes – May 14, 2018

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Hardwick and seconded by Ms. Graham to approve the May 14, 2018, Minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

2. RECOGNITIONS

A. All-State Orchestra

The students who have been selected to the All-State Orchestra were recognized for their accomplishments.

B. Winners from State-level Visual Arts Competitions

Students who have won state and national art awards were recognized for their accomplishments.

C. Myrtle Beach Middle School – South Carolina NEED School of the Year

Myrtle Beach Middle School was recognized for having been named the South Carolina National Energy Education Development (NEED) School of the Year.

D. Dylan Rush, Scholars Academy and CHS, United States Presidential Scholar

Scholars Academy and Conway High student, Dylan Rush, was recognized for having been named a United States Presidential Scholar, and is one of only three from South Carolina to receive this award this year.

E. Tory Gibson, NMBHS, Manager of the Year by the School Nutrition Association of SC

Tory Gibson, Cafeteria Manager of North Myrtle Beach High School, was recognized for having been named Food Service Manager of the Year by the School Nutrition Association of South Carolina.

F. Keiyara VanHook, HCS ECHS, to Present at 2018 AVID Summer Institute

Keiyara VanHook, a student at Early College High School, although unable to attend tonight's meeting, was recognized for having been selected to present at the 2018 AVID Summer Institute.

G. CATE Award Winners

Students who have won at the State level and/or who hold a State-level office through CATE organizations were recognized.

Mr. Poston arrived at 6:48 p.m.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Sharon Carroll signed up to speak on the topic of having a volleyball team in all Horry County Schools. When called, she gave her opportunity to speak to Dr. Leann Mischel of Coastal Carolina University, who then addressed the Board on this topic.
- Melissa Byrd addressed the Board on the topic of training of guards to deal with disabled children in Horry County Schools.
- Patricia Milley addressed the Board regarding the mental health of the students in Horry County Schools.
- Ronald Elvis addressed the Board regarding 3rd grade benchmark testing.
- Earl Main addressed the Board on the topic of rubberizing the District's high school tracks.
- Heather Johnson addressed the Board on the topic of bullying and suicide prevention.

4. DISCUSSION

A. Information Regarding Resolution R-52-18 to Request the Merger and Annexation of Certain Parcels in Horry County with Georgetown County

Mr. Generette shared that Mr. Arrigo Carotti, Attorney for Horry County, was present to share information with the Board regarding border discussions that have been taking place between Horry and Georgetown Counties. Mr. Arrigo Carotti shared a synopsis of this matter. A map showing the affected property was provided. The process that is underway to allow for a referendum on this matter will hopefully occur in November along with the general election. Mr. Carotti added that he has approached Georgetown County and the Georgetown County School District seeking their consent to propose that all parties enter into an inter-governmental agreement preserving the status quo until the end of fiscal year 2019 and the next school year. By entering into such agreement, Mr. Carotti stated that it would provide stability and certainty for the residents in the affected area and to all parties with the least amount of disruption until this process runs its course. Georgetown County and Georgetown County School District are willing to enter into this agreement. Mr. James noted this item will be on the agenda for the next business meeting.

B. Human Resources Committee Report

Mr. Cox gave a report from the Human Resources Committee meeting held on May 17, 2018. The two items discussed were bus driver salaries and instructional coaches.

C. Finance Committee Report

Mr. Poston gave a report from the Finance Committee meeting held on May 17, 2018. Three items were on the agenda, which included the prioritization of the items set forth before the Board for the general fund budget, discussion of the multi-year general fund budget, and fund balance analysis. The Committee was able to accomplish the first item and that is being brought forward to the full Board tonight. Due to time constraints, the Committee was not able to discuss the second and third items on their agenda, and those items are before the Board tonight without a recommendation from the Finance Committee.

D. Facilities Committee Report

Mr. Winters provided a report from the Facilities Committee meeting held earlier today. Items discussed included updates on punch list items, solicitation for demolition of former Socastee Elementary, modulars, summer projects, and Adult Education. Additionally, the Committee discussed the Five Year Plan, specifically an RFQ for architectural design services and new construction project priorities. The Committee voted to recommend to the full Board that the Facilities Department be authorized to secure the qualifications for architect services for the three priority projects, which are Aynor Middle renovations, replacement alternative school, and a transportation/records/science kit center.

E. Multi-Year General Fund Budget

Mr. Gardner noted that the only way to project expenditures and revenues for the future is to look at past trends. Information spanning several years was reviewed, including past years and projections through 2021-22.

F. Fund Balance Analysis

Mr. Gardner reviewed information regarding minimum fund balance history in response to previous comments and discussions on this topic. Mr. Gardner shared that after speaking with Mr. Brian Nurick, the District's Financial Advisor, he and Mr. Nurick recommend to continue to maintain a minimum fund balance of 15% and for fiscal year 2017-18, they feel like there would be sufficient funds to transfer \$10 million over to the school building fund out of the \$21 million unassigned fund balance. For fiscal year 2018-19 and beyond, they would like to maintain a \$10 million buffer over and above the 15% minimum fund balance designation, and then transfer any excess funds over to the school building fund. The \$10 million buffer could be used for items that the Board designates to be funded from the fund balance.

G. Preliminary Approval of the 2018-19 Superintendent's Comprehensive Budget

The Finance Committee met on Thursday, May 17, and reviewed the proposed 2018-19 general fund budget. The mandatory items on the information provided are in alphabetical order and are not in any priority order. The list of optional items are in priority order as ranked by the Finance Committee. There was discussion on the Middle School STEM Program and it was questioned why it was ranked last on the optional list. It was summarized that the Board is not abandoning this request and believes that it is tremendously valuable; however, the Board desires to pause and assess how this can be best delivered for all of Horry County Schools.

H. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Maxey noted the upcoming graduation ceremonies and celebrations.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Discussion of Proposed Purchase of Property

B. Discussion of Proposed Sale of Property

C. Discussion of a Contractual Matter for Legal Services

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Cox and seconded by Mr. Hardwick to move into Executive Session for discussion of the items as listed above. The motion carried and the Board moved into Executive Session at 8:12 p.m.

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Cox and seconded by Mr. Hardwick to return to open session. The motion carried and the Board returned to open session at 9:06 p.m.

Ms. Graham did not return to open session following executive session.

The Board Chair noted that no action was taken during Executive Session.

6. BUSINESS

A. Authority to Contract for Legal Services

Dr. Maxey stated that on May 7, 2018, the District received a freedom of information request from the Harpootlian Law Firm, on behalf of their client, Public Access to Public Records, or PAPR. The FOIA request articulates multiple questions regarding the District's recent building program. In order that the District responds to these requests in a manner that complies with South Carolina FOIA law, we are recommending that the District seek legal advice from an external law firm that has expertise with South Carolina FOIA law to provide guidance in this matter.

In further explanation, Mr. Generette noted that at the Board's May 22, 2017, meeting, the Board approved seeking legal services from an independent third party – specifically, the law firm of Womble, Carlyle, Sandridge, and Rice, to receive legal opinions in reference to our construction contracts on the current building projects, procurement matters, and the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act. As was shared with the Board, the District is in receipt of a May 7, 2018, FOIA request from the Harpootlian Law Firm that is similar in nature to the FOIA request received last spring. This is a request for the Board to authorize the District to engage the law firm of Womble, Bond, and Dickinson (formerly known as Womble, Carlyle, Sandridge, and Rice) as it pertains to legal opinions in reference to the May 7, 2018, FOIA regarding recent building projects and the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Poston that the Board accept the recommendation of District staff relative to employment of legal services as set forth above. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hardwick and carried unanimously.

B. Authorizing Expenditures from Revenues Collected from the Education Capital Improvements Sales and Use Tax

Mr. Gardner shared that this is a recommendation for the Board to authorize the expenditure of not to exceed \$24,300,000 from the sales tax revenues for the direct payment of costs associated with approved projects, including classroom and instructional technology and the short-term facilities plan.

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Winters and seconded by Ms. Timms to approve the Resolution as set forth above. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Request to Name Lakewood Elementary School Gym in Honor of Terry Lee

Board Action: A motion was made by Ms. Timms to approve naming the gym at Lakewood Elementary School in honor of Mr. Terry Lee, who is retiring from Horry County Schools after 31 years. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cox and carried unanimously.

D. Burgess Elementary School Leased Modulares

Board Action: A motion was made by Ms. Timms and seconded by Ms. Morreale to approve the purchase of modular units currently on lease at Burgess Elementary School, which includes four classrooms and a restroom unit, with the funding source to be the unassigned fund balance. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Preliminary Approval of the 2018-19 Budget

Utilizing the 2018-19 Proposed General Fund Budget document, which lists the mandatory expenditure adjustments and which lists the optional expenditure adjustments in priority order as recommended by the Finance Committee, the Board will address the mandatory expenditure adjustments collectively and the optional expenditure adjustments individually.

Mandatory Expenditure Adjustments

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Cox and seconded by Mr. Winters to approve the mandatory expenditure adjustments as presented in the amount of \$14,718,120. The motion carried unanimously.

Optional Expenditure Adjustments

Board Action – Items were voted on individually as shown below:

Item 1 – Furniture for Student Population Growth - \$26,750 – A motion was made by Mr. Cox and seconded by Mr. Hardwick to approve this item. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 2 – Replacement Furniture for School Common Area – \$375,750 – A motion was made by Ms. Heniford and seconded by Ms. Todd to approve this item. Upon a vote, the motion failed as follows: Heniford, Todd, Poston, and Hardwick – in favor; Winters, Morreale, Cox, Timms, and Allen – opposed.

Item 3 – 8.0 RBHS Lead Counselors – \$583,487 – A motion was made by Ms. Heniford and seconded by Ms. Timms to approve this item. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 4 – STEP Increase for Other Eligible Employees – \$1,246,502 – A motion was made by Mr. Hardwick and seconded by Ms. Todd to approve this item. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 5 – 2% Salary Increase for Employees Not Eligible for STEP – \$591,164 – A motion was made by Ms. Timms and seconded by Ms. Morreale to approve this item. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 6 – 5.0 High School Registrar Positions – \$302,685 – A motion was made by Mr. Cox and seconded by Mr. Winters to approve this item. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 7 – Building Services Staff (6.0 Positions) – \$235,032 – A motion was made by Ms. Timms and seconded by Ms. Allen to approve this item. The motion carried unanimously

Item 8 – Building Services Supplies and Summer Cleaning – \$150,863 – A motion was made by Mr. Cox and seconded by Mr. Hardwick to approve this item. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 9 – 1.0 Routing Supervisor – \$103,323 – A motion was made by Mr. Hardwick and seconded by Ms. Allen to approve this item. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 10 – Expansion of HCS Sustainability Programs (\$115,600 non-recurring) – \$121,600 – A motion was made by Mr. Cox and seconded by Ms. Timms to approve this item. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 11 – Maintenance Flex Crew with Assistant Manager (5 Positions) – \$322,361 – A motion was made by Mr. Cox and seconded by Ms. Todd to approve this item. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 12 – Maintenance Supplies and Equipment – \$219,000 (\$200,000 would be non-recurring) – A motion was made by Ms. Heniford and seconded by Ms. Todd to approve this item. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 13 – Maintenance Contracts – \$597,615 – A motion was made by Mr. Hardwick and seconded by Ms. Todd to approve this request. During discussion, it was clarified this will not be a recurring cost until/unless it is shown this is of benefit. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 14 – 3 Additional Days Per School for Instructional Support – \$58,659 – A motion was made by Mr. Hardwick and seconded by Mr. Cox to approve this request. Upon a vote, the motion was approved as follows: Heniford, Todd, Winters, Cox, Timms, Poston, Hardwick, and Allen – in favor; Morreale – opposed.

Item 15 – Middle School STEM Program – \$1,369,124 – A motion was made by Mr. Poston and seconded by Ms. Morreale to disapprove this request at this time. It was suggested this item be put on the agenda for further discussion in September. Upon a vote, the motion to disapprove this request carried unanimously.

Following the vote on each item individually, Mr. Gardner stated administration is asking for the Board to give preliminary approval of the following 2018-19 Comprehensive Budget: General Fund changed from \$428,078,024 to \$426,333,150, and we propose the utilization of Fund Balance in the amount of \$15,137,871, for a total Comprehensive Budget of \$682,480,132. Mr. Gardner further stated that we will have the public hearing at our next meeting and hopefully get final approval of the 2018-19 Superintendent's Comprehensive Budget.

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Poston and seconded by Mr. Cox to give preliminary approval of the total Comprehensive Budget of \$682,480,132. The motion carried unanimously.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Personnel Recommendations as Required by Law;**
- B. Monitoring Report: OE-5 Financial Planning;**
- C. Monitoring Report: OE-6 Financial Administration; and**
- D. Education Fund Distribution – District 3**

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Winters and seconded by Ms. Morreale to approve the Consent Agenda items as shown above. The motion carried unanimously.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Board Action: A motion was made by Ms. Allen and seconded by Mr. Hardwick to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT RESULTS

A summary of the responses follows.

Respectfully submitted,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rhonda Snowden".

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

Approved: _____

Board Performance Indicators - 6 Responses

05/21/18

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

Date

Agenda

Reports are clear, well prepared and provide adequate information for decision making.

27.25 / 4.55

The majority of agenda items focus on our core purpose.

28.50 / 4.75

Meetings

Our meetings are businesslike, results-oriented and we function like a team.

26.00 / 4.33

Our discussions are cordial and well balanced (not dominated by just a few members.)

26.00 / 4.33

Community

Board members make reasonable efforts to inform themselves about education through school visits, professional meetings and outside reading.

27.00 / 4.50

Board members meet reasonable expectations of involvement by participating in school and other public meetings as representatives of the Board.

27.50 / 4.58

Board members efficiently address issues and concerns brought to them by the public.

27.50 / 4.58

Superintendent Relationship

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

27.50 / 4.58

Work / Policies

Board decisions are based on thoughtful analysis of available information.

27.50 / 4.58

Board members balance the issues of their district with the needs of the entire school district.

24.50 / 4.08

The Board places emphasis on building consensus among members through open and honest communication.

27.00 / 4.50

Comments:

There were no comments.