

HORRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES
BOARD WORK SESSION/BOARD MEETING
District Office
December 11, 2017

The following persons were present:

Board of Education

Joe DeFeo, Chairman	Janet Graham	John Poston
Neil James, Vice-Chairman	Chris Hardwick	Pam Timms
Shanda Allen	Holly Heniford	Sherrie Todd
David Cox	Janice Morreale	Ray Winters

Horry County Schools' Staff

Jeanna Allen	Melanie Gentzler	Vann Pennell
Velna Allen	Ryan Gerald	Tonya Pickett
Mary Anderson	Ben Hardee	Mark Porter
David Beaty	Teal Harding	Lucas Richardson
Edward Boyd	Becky Hinson	Angela Rush
Daryl Brown	Charles Hucks, Jr.	April Scott
Edi Cox	Judy Hunger	Heather Sheehan
Jeanie Dailey	Holly Jackson	Rhonda Snowden
Grady Edwards	Kelly Johnson	Kristin Wilson
Kim Floyd	H. T. Lee	Kelley Wilttrout
Martha Fout	Rick Maxey	Mark Wolfe
John Gardner	Natasha McDonald	
Kenny Generette	Boone Myrick	

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 DECEMBER 11, 2017, AT 6:00 P.M. – CALL TO ORDER

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

A. Invocation

Mr. Poston offered the invocation.

B. Presentation of Colors/Pledge of Allegiance

The Carolina Forest High School Navy JROTC presented the Colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Approval of Agenda

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

D. Approval of Minutes

Mr. James informed the Board that at the November 20, 2017, he inadvertently voted for a family member without recusing himself from the vote on the Consent Agenda for Personnel Recommendations. To be in accordance with the South Carolina Ethics Act, as well as the District's standard protocol, he asked that the Board revisit its actions as it pertains to his wife, Felicia James, and provide Mr. James the opportunity to recuse himself on that particular vote.

Mr. DeFeo called for a Motion to rescind the approval of Felicia James at the November 20, 2017, meeting.

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Hardwick and seconded by Ms. Timms to rescind the approval of Felicia James at the November 20, 2017, meeting. The motion carried. Mr. James abstained. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

Board Action: A motion was made by Ms. Graham and seconded by Mr. Winters to approve the November 20, 2017, Board Minutes with Felicia James' name removed from the Personnel Approvals. The motion carried. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

2. RECOGNITIONS

A. St. James High School Girls' Golf Team – AAAA State Champions

The St. James High School Girls' Golf Team was recognized for having recently won their third consecutive State Championship in golf. Smith Knaffle was recognized for having earned the title of AAAA State Champion in girls' golf for the second year in a row.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Taylor Jones previously submitted a request to speak during Public Comments. He did not come forward when called.
- Dameion Fowler previously submitted a request to speak during Public Comments. He did not come forward when called.

4. DISCUSSION

A. Technology Committee Report

Ms. Morreale gave a report from the Technology Committee meeting held earlier today. Items discussed included middle school deployment, which occurred this year, as well as the high school refresh, which is set to occur next school year. There will be a meeting on January 23, 2018, should any Board members wish to attend to watch the device review committee selection process.

B. Facilities Committee Report

Mr. James gave a report from the Facilities Committee meeting held earlier today. Items discussed included: 1) Project Updates; 2) Draft Five Year Plan Update; 3) Capital Planning Assumptions and Parameters; 4) 45-Day Average Daily Membership Report Revisions; 5) Socastee Middle School Move-in Schedule; and 6) Myrtle Beach Middle School Conversion Update. A draft of the Five Year Plan is scheduled to be presented to the Facilities Committee and the full Board at the January meeting. Administration was asked to share the 45-Day Average Daily Membership information with the full Board prior to the next meeting. Staff were asked to bring a recommended date to the Board for the move into Socastee Middle School. Lastly, staff asked for an opinion on how to best handle bleachers in the elementary gym, as there

seems to be a conflict with OSF requirements regarding the number of restrooms required should a meeting be held in the cafeteria at the same time something is being held in the gymnasium. The consensus of the Facilities Committee was to remove the bleachers and it will not add any additional cost to the project.

C. City of Conway Request: Horry Street Property – Mr. Emrick, City of Conway

Mr. Adam Emrick, City Administrator for the City of Conway, addressed the Board requesting that the Board of Education donate the old Whittemore School property, which is located on Horry Street and behind Whittemore Park Middle School, to the City of Conway. Mr. Emrick stated that the City is committed to making the building and site a viable amenity for the community and restoring a source of pride for those who consider the school a landmark by turning the facility into a community center. Mr. James noted that the Facilities Committee is in favor of this request, as the District no longer has a need for this property.

D. Greenville County School Board Resolution on Education Oversight Committee

Mr. DeFeo stated that a resolution from the Board of Trustees of Greenville County Schools has been provided, which asks that the South Carolina General Assembly dissolve the Education Oversight Committee and to return the responsibilities bestowed upon it to the members of the General Assembly, State Superintendent of Education, and the State Board of Education, thereby returning these important educational policy decisions to the people of South Carolina. The sample resolution is being shared for consideration by the Horry County Board of Education. Mr. DeFeo added this will come before the full Board for a vote at the next Board meeting. Dr. Maxey stated that links will be shared with Board members to allow them the opportunity to study this information prior to a vote. Mr. Poston shared that Greg Hembree has served as a member of the Education Oversight Committee and he encouraged the Board to speak with him prior to making a decision.

E. Committee of the Whole: Security Guards for Elementary Schools

The Board Chair opened up a Committee of the Whole to allow discussion and to determine Board member's position on the topic of adding security officers in the elementary schools. If recommended upon the nonbinding vote of the Committee of the Whole, this item will go before the full Board at the January Board meeting. Mr. Brown shared that the District is currently contracting for 38 officers that are utilized at various schools across the District. There are presently no security officers in the District's 27 elementary schools, nor at the District Office. Administration requests that the Board consider funding security officers at these sites in a phased-in process by regions, wherein an officer would cover schools by region, as well as an additional supervisory officer who would be hired by the contracting security firm. The ultimate goal is to have one security officer in each elementary school by August 2018. Several Board members voiced their support of this request. Upon a vote by the Committee of the Whole, the vote was unanimous in favor of this recommendation, and therefore, it will come before the Board for a final vote at the Board's first meeting in January.

F. Impact Fees

Mr. DeFeo shared that he has spoken with members of County Council regarding this topic, adding that an Impact Fee law in South Carolina has been approved. Mr. DeFeo stated the plan is to get the City Governments, County Government, and the School Board together to formulate a plan that will be presented to the local Legislative Delegation to take to Columbia to attempt to change the Impact Fee law to make it usable. Mark Lazarus will spearhead this movement.

G. Report on Fund Balance

Mr. Gardner reported that the audit has been completed for June 30, 2017, and the District received an unmodified opinion, which is the highest quality opinion that an auditor can give regarding our Financial Statement. The auditors plan to give a full report to the Board at the January 22, 2018, Board meeting. Mr. Gardner provided an update on the General Fund balance for the year in the meantime of the official report from the auditors.

H. Monitoring Report: OE-6 Financial Administration

Mr. Gardner reported on Monitoring Report OE-6, stating the District is in full compliance, and offered to answer any questions.

I. Monitoring Report: OE-7 Asset Protection

Mr. Gardner reported on Monitoring Report OE-7, stating the District is in full compliance, and answered questions of Board members.

J. 2018-2019 Budget Assumptions & Parameters

Mr. Gardner shared that this is basically the same as last year, with the exception of the number of new students expected, and we will have to plan for the opening of Socastee Middle School.

K. 2018-2019 Personnel Allocation Formulae

Mr. Gardner reported that administration is moving forward with the same allocation formulae as last year. Should changes be recommended, those will be shared with the Board during the Budget Workshop in February. There are a couple of changes on page 2, and that is due to enrollment being less than 500 students at a school next year.

L. Monitoring Report: R-2 Numeracy

Ms. Myrick highlighted information in support of Monitoring Report R-2 Numeracy and answered questions of Board members.

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The District is exploring random student drug testing programs implemented by school districts in South Carolina and other states. Kenneth Generette, the District's staff attorney, will be involved in this review since such programs have both policy and legal implications. Mr. Generette reported to the Board that a review would entail committee discussions and feedback from stakeholders. If a random student drug testing program were ultimately approved by the Board, the program could possibly be implemented as early as the 2018-19 school year.

6. BUSINESS

A. Consideration of Approved Budget and Funding Source for the Existing Myrtle Beach Middle School Renovation

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. James and seconded by Mr. Cox to approve a project budget for the existing Myrtle Beach Middle School renovation project in the amount of \$21, 128,943 which will be funded from the following sources: current short-term facilities plan - \$19,500,000; residual capital improvement funds - \$1,189,572; and undesignated general fund balance - \$439,371. The motion carried as

follows: Heniford, Todd, Winters, Cox, Morreale, James, Timms, Poston, Hardwick, and Allen – in favor; Graham – opposed.

B. Personnel Recommendations as Required by Law

Mr. DeFeo shared information from a letter that he received from Dr. Maxey regarding a possible conflict of interest in the rehiring of Dr. Maxey's wife, Vencie Maxey, who has been employed in the District for more than 29 years. In the interest of avoiding any conflict of interest, it is incumbent upon the Board to assign a District Administrator to make a recommendation regarding Mrs. Maxey's rehiring in the District.

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Hardwick that Mary Anderson, Chief Human Resources Officer, be assigned to make a recommendation regarding Mrs. Maxey. The motion was seconded by Ms. Timms and carried unanimously.

Ms. Anderson, Chief Human Resources Officer, came before the Board and stated: "I am recommending for your consideration for the rehiring of Vencie Maxey, an employee in good standing, as a .5 teacher and .5 instructional coach at the Scholar's Academy for the remainder of the 2017-18 school year."

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Cox and seconded by Ms. Heniford to approve the recommendation to rehire Vencie Maxey for the remainder of the 2017-18 school year, as stated directly above. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. James noted there are additional personnel recommendations that are included in the packet that was presented to Board members, and as stated before, Mr. James noted he does have a family member in that packet, and because of family connections, he recuses himself from any discussion or vote on this matter. The Board Chair signed the Recusal and forwarded it to the Board Secretary.

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Hardwick and seconded by Ms. Graham to approve the remaining Personnel Recommendations as presented. The motion carried as follows: Heniford, Todd, Winters, Cox, Morreale, Timms, Graham, Poston, Hardwick, and Allen – in favor; James – recused.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Education Fund Distribution – District 2;**
- B. Education Fund Distribution – District 4;**
- C. Education Fund Distribution – District 5; and**
- D. Education Fund Distribution – District 6**

Board Action: Upon a vote, the Consent Agenda items were approved unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Board Action: A motion was made by Ms. Heniford and seconded by Ms. Timms to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:05 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rhonda Snowden". The script is cursive and fluid.

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

Approved: _____

Board Performance Indicators - 10 Responses

12/11/17

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.

49 / 4.9

The majority of agenda items focus on our core purpose.

50 / 5.0

Meetings

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

49 / 4.9

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

48 / 4.8

Community

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

48 / 4.8

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

48 / 4.8

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

49 / 4.9

Superintendent Relationship

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

50 / 5.0

Work / Policies

Board decisions are based on thoughtful analysis of available information.

48 / 4.8

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

48 / 4.8

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

49 / 4.9

Comments:

There were no comments.