

HORRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES – Board Meeting

District Office

May 23, 2011

The following persons were present:

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|------------------------|--|--|--|
| Board Members: | David Cox Joe DeFeo Will Garland Trent Hardee | Paul Hudson Neil James Kay Loftus Karen McIlrath | Paul Peterson John Poston Pam Timms |
| Superintendent | Cindy Elsberry | | |
| District Office Staff: | Cindy Ambrose David Bell Edward Boyd James Bradley Teal Britton Dottie Brown Cheryl Chadwick Carolyn Chestnut Edi Cox Tara Crain | Ed Curlee Crystal Frye Wanda Fulwood John Gardner Ashley Gasperson Kenny Generette Buddy George Paul Hickman Mollie Laut H.T. Lee | Rick Maxey Boone Myrick Bobby Nalley Beverly Pilkey Jeff Riddle Brian Roessler Heather Sheehan Tammy Truelove |
| Principals: | Velna Allen Barbara Ammons Mary Anderson Cheryl Banks Judy Beard Dwight Boykin Johnny Calder Janice Christy Deb Colliver Maquitta Davis Renea Fowler | Milton Frink Reggie Gasque Melissa Gause Roger Gray Michelle Graham Joan Grimmert Leon Hayes Mary Beth Heath Donna Hooks Virginia Horton Connie Huddle | Robin Jones Jennifer Parker Vann Pennell Mark Porter Tom Rex Beth Selander Cathy Slater Melissa Spearman Cindy Thibodeau Vickie Underwood Nancy Ward |
| Media: | Vickie Grooms, Sun News Brie Jackson, WBTW TV-13 Lindsey Theis, WPDE TV-15 | | |

Meeting Notification: As required by SC Law §30-4-80, all local news media were informed of the date, time, and purpose of this meeting, and copies of the agenda were posted at the district office. Agenda copies were also distributed to all schools for posting.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. The Conway High School Navy JROTC presented the colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Trent Hardee offered the invocation.

AGENDA/MINUTES

ACTION: Upon motion by Kay Loftus, second by Mr. Hudson, the Board unanimously approved the agenda with the following revision:

- Additional Discussion item – “Legislative Committee Update”

ACTION: Upon motion by Mr. DeFeo, second by Mr. Hudson, the Board unanimously approved the following minutes: 02/28/11, 03/21/11, 03/28/11, 04/02/11, 04/11/11, and 05/09/11.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following individuals addressed the Board:

- Richard Hathaway – Declining Data
- Colleen Mills – Redistricting Carolina Forest Attendance Area
- Megan Johnson – Competitive Cheerleading
- Diana Waldron – School District Realignment at Carolina Forest

RECOGNITIONS

The following groups/individuals were recognized by the Board:

- Palmetto Gold & Silver
 - 1) Carolina Forest Elementary School – Palmetto Gold/General Performance; Palmetto Gold/Closing the Achievement Gap
 - 2) Forestbrook Elementary School – Palmetto Gold/General Performance; Palmetto Gold/Closing the Achievement Gap
 - 3) Lakewood Elementary School – Palmetto Gold/General Performance; Palmetto Gold/Closing the Achievement Gap
 - 4) Ocean Bay Elementary School – Palmetto Gold/General Performance; Palmetto Gold/Closing the Achievement Gap
 - 5) Seaside Elementary School – Palmetto Gold/General Performance; Palmetto Gold/Closing the Achievement Gap
 - 6) Burgess Elementary School – Palmetto Gold/General Performance; Palmetto Silver/Closing the Achievement Gap
 - 7) Socastee Elementary School – Palmetto Gold/General Performance; Palmetto Silver/Closing the Achievement Gap
 - 8) South Conway Elementary School – Palmetto Gold/General Performance; Palmetto Silver/Closing the Achievement Gap
 - 9) Waccamaw Elementary School – Palmetto Gold/General Performance; Palmetto Gold/Closing the Achievement Gap
 - 10) Ocean Bay Middle School – Palmetto Gold/General Performance; Palmetto Silver/Closing the Achievement Gap
 - 11) St. James Middle School – Palmetto Gold/General Performance; Palmetto Silver/Closing the Achievement Gap
 - 12) North Myrtle Beach Elementary School – Palmetto Gold/General Performance
 - 13) North Myrtle Beach Intermediate School – Palmetto Gold/General Performance; Palmetto Silver/Closing the Achievement Gap
 - 14) St. James Elementary School – Palmetto Gold/General Performance
 - 15) Aynor Elementary School – Palmetto Silver/General Performance; Palmetto Silver/Closing the Achievement Gap
 - 16) St. James High School – Palmetto Silver/General Performance; Palmetto Gold/Closing the Achievement Gap
 - 17) Kingston Elementary School – Palmetto Silver/General Performance
 - 18) Palmetto Bays Elementary School – Palmetto Silver/General Performance
 - 19) Forestbrook Middle School – Palmetto Silver/General Performance
 - 20) Green Sea Floyds High School (Gr. 6-8) – Palmetto Silver/General Performance
 - 21) North Myrtle Beach Middle School – Palmetto Silver/General Performance
 - 22) Daisy Elementary School – Palmetto Silver/Closing the Achievement Gap
 - 23) North Myrtle Beach High School – Palmetto Gold/Closing the Achievement Gap
 - 24) Carolina Forest High School – Palmetto Silver/Closing the Achievement Gap
- Early College High School – First Place, SC Bar Association's Project Citizen Showcase
- Sean Junkins – Apple's 2011 Distinguished Educator Program
- HCS Budget Department
 - Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, GFOA
 - Meritorious Budget Award, ASBO
- HCS Accounting Department
 - Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting, ASBO
 - Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, GFOA

DISCUSSION

Board Effectiveness Feedback – Board members reviewed the feedback received from the April 11 meeting and were asked to complete the survey form for this meeting.

Board Feedback on Budget Proposal – Jeff Riddle reported that there were a record-breaking 14 bidders for the recent bond sales, resulting in a 10.4% interest rate reduction in refinancing.

He provided the following information regarding the 2011-12 budget proposal:

- Balanced budget
- No use of reserves
- 2 mill net tax decrease for all taxpayers (4 mills for owner-occupied homes)
- Restoration of most proposed budget reductions
- Reinstatement of one experience step
- Looking forward to 2012-13 and beyond, projection of a negative budget balance in 2012-13 and 2013-14; however, there should still be a significant unreserved, undesignated fund balance of \$13.6 million in three years.
- Posting of a public notice regarding the proposed budget is required by law and will be published by the administration.

Mr. DeFeo asked Mr. Riddle to provide (by the next meeting or via mail) an approximate amount of funding needed if substitutes were given a \$5 per day raise. Also, Mr. Hardee asked how much it would cost to give non-professional support staff members that are paid by the hour some type of cost-of-living increase. Mr. Riddle stated that the CPI is a little under 3% for this year; he will provide the Board with the amount that each percentage would cost. Mrs. Loftus asked who would be affected by the step increase. Mr. Riddle responded that it would include any employee who is a regular employee of the district who is on a salary schedule and who is not at the top step – roughly 82% of the staff.

Bridgewater Academy Charter School Contract Renewal – Edi Cox stated that the district administration has been working with the staff and board at Bridgewater Academy Charter School to finalize their contract documents. As a result, the contract renewal will be brought to the board for action at the June 13 meeting.

Legislative Committee Update – Mr. Poston reported as follows:

- ITA funding bill – it was reported that this bill may not make it through the legislature this session;
- School Board Insurance Bill – moving slowly in the legislature;
- Charter School Bill – amendment from Horry County has been reinstated and this bill could possibly pass this year;
- Private School Tax Credit, Induction Bill, National Board Supplement – none of these bills may pass this year;
- Legislative Platform Committee members feel that because the legislature will go into recess in June, the committee may need to be disbanded until November. In November, it would be up to the Board Chair as to whether or not the committee will be reinstated for 2011-12, how the committee may be reorganized, and the committee's function. It was determined that board action was not necessary to disband the committee until November, and the Board Chair declared it so.
- The committee recommended that Mark Kelley present to the Board in November a summary report regarding legislative action for this legislative year.

Superintendent's Report

- Robotics Presentation – Bucky Sellers and members of the AAST Robotics Team provided a report on the Robotics Program at the Academy for Arts, Science and Technology. The team recently competed and placed in the following competitions:
 - Palmetto Regional Robotics Competition – 2nd place
 - North Carolina Robotics Competition – 2nd place
- Covey Model – Dr. Elsberry provided an update on the Covey Leadership Program that is being implemented in the Myrtle Beach area schools.
- Dr. Elsberry reported that May is Better Speech and Hearing Month.
- It was also noted that April was National Nurses' Week.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION: At 7:47 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Cox, second by Mr. Hardee, the Board reconvened in Executive Session (after a short break) for the discussion of personnel matters.

OPEN SESSION

ACTION: *At 8:21 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Cox, second by Mr. James, the Board reconvened in Open Session.*

BUSINESS

Personnel Recommendation

ACTION: *Upon motion by Mr. Poston, second by Mr. Hudson, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Melissa Spearman as principal of River Oaks Elementary School.*

ACTION: *Upon motion by Mr. James, second by Mrs. Loftus, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Dr. Andrea Parsons as principal of Green Sea Floyds High School.*

Advisory Board Appointments

ACTION: *Upon motion by Mr. James, second by Mr. Hudson, the Board unanimously approved the reappointments of Sean Huff and Diane Richardson to the Aynor Area Advisory Board.*

ACTION: *Upon motion by Mr. James, second by Mr. Cox, the Board unanimously approved the reappointments of Jim Jones and Lisa Todd to the Conway Area Advisory Board.*

ACTION: *Upon motion by Mr. Cox, second by Mr. Hudson, the Board unanimously approved the reappointments of Sunshine Blevins and Kevin Lovett to the Green Sea Floyds Area Advisory Board.*

ACTION: *Upon motion by Mr. James, second by Mr. Hardee, the Board unanimously approved the reappointments of Laura Powers and Sammy Stalvey to the Loris Area Advisory Board.*

ACTION: *Upon motion by Dr. Peterson, second by Mrs. Loftus, the Board unanimously approved the reappointments of Jean Ann Brakefield and Dr. Mark Mitchell to the St. James Area Advisory Board.*

Consideration of Approval of 2011-12 Preliminary Budget

ACTION: *Mr. Poston moved that the Board give preliminary approval of the proposed 2011-12 comprehensive budget. The motion was seconded by Mr. James.*

ACTION: *Mr. DeFeo made a motion to amend the previous motion to include a \$5 per day increase for substitutes. Ms. Timms seconded the motion.*

ACTION: *Mr. DeFeo and Ms. Timms withdrew the motion and second to amend the original motion.*

ACTION: *The original motion was unanimously approved.*

River Oaks Elementary School Construction Contract

ACTION: *Mr. DeFeo moved to approve awarding a construction contract to the lowest responsive bidder – MB Kahn – for \$14,960,000, provided there are no protests during the 16-day intent period. The total budget for the project will be \$22,992,613 and will be funded from the Phase 4 project fund. The project includes:*

- *New construction of approximately 103,992 SF – classrooms, computer labs, music room, art room, media center, multi-purpose room, dining room, resource rooms, administrative offices.*
- *Drop-off loops for parents and buses with proper circulation and queuing area for traffic.*
- *Playground equipment including a covered area adjacent to the kindergarten wing.*

The motion was approved 10-0-1; Mr. Poston recused himself.

Mr. Hardee requested that all major sub-contractors be listed in the future for building projects. Additionally, Mr. DeFeo asked if the district continues to require sub-contractors to have five years of experience. Dr. Nalley stated that Matt Dean will follow up with a response.

CONSENT AGENDA

ACTION: Upon motion by Mr. DeFeo, second by Ms. Timms, the following Consent Agenda items were unanimously approved.

6.1. Monitoring Report R-3: Science, Social Studies

6.2. Monitoring Report OE-5: Financial Planning

6.3. Monitoring Report OE-9: Communicating with the Public

6.4. Purchase of Land

6.5. Grand Strand Miracle League Playground

6.6. Personnel Recommendations Required by Law

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: At 8:43 p.m., upon motion by Dr. Peterson, second by Mr. Hudson, the meeting was adjourned.

Wanda J. Fulwood
Exec. Asst. to the Board and Superintendent

Approved: June 13, 2011