

Board of Education Summary
March 16, 2010
School Board Meeting

Chairman Fred Washington called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Chairman Washington called for the approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved

Pledge of Allegiance

Media properly notified

Invocation

Invocation given by Board Member, Herbert Burnes

Points of Celebration

We start this evening with news from Hilton Head High School.....the stork has landed! Principal Amanda O’Nan and family welcomed twins Abby Kate and Lilli Grace this morning. Babies and mom are doing well. Our congratulations to the O’Nan family!!

Tonight I would like to introduce **Jasmine Middleton, a sixth grade student at Robert Smalls Middle School**. (Jasmine and family will be in the audience). You may remember Dr. Truesdale spoke about Jasmine a couple of weeks ago. Jasmine created and coordinated a fundraising project at Robert Smalls to help students in Afghanistan. Most recently her story was a feature on WTOG. I’d like to share the news clip with you this evening.

The **Beaufort Art Association Spring Show** was held recently at the Charles Lind Brown Center and our Beaufort County high school students were well represented. Over 100 high school students participated in the event. Garnering top honors were:

- Second place: **LaDiamond Coleman (Battery Creek High School)** for "Untitled"
- Third place: **Trebia Smalls (Battery Creek)** for "Tribute to LeRoy Campbell"
- Judges award: **Monica Murphy (Battery Creek)** for "Cyanoboat"
- Honorable mentions: **Bonni Flora (Battery Creek)** for "Tribute to Jonathan Green" and **Haley Crosby (Beaufort High School)** for "Untitled"

Ben Roche, a 2000 graduate of Battery Creek High School, is the co-host of a new show on the Discovery Green Planet Network. Entitled “Future Food,” the program focuses on molecular gastronomists Homaro Cantu and Ben Roche: world renowned chefs, successful restaurateurs, patent-owning mad scientists and celebrated futurists. According to the Green Planet website, “In each episode, Cantu, Roche and the rest of the team at Chicago's world-famous Moto restaurant are presented with a unique food challenge, and they tap into their gastronomical genius for solutions—with shocking, eye-crossing, and always delicious results. Future Food unveils what goes on inside the lab, letting viewers follow along through the circus of trial and error that is as funny as it is intense.” Ben’s mother cites Battery Creek chemistry teacher, Emily Kohn, as a driving force behind Ben’s success.

Nashell Simpson of HE McCracken Middle School has been named the South Carolina, Middle School Division winner of the Silver Crescent Foundation's Design Challenge Contest. The Design Challenge is one of several programs the Foundation uses to expose young people to the value of manufacturing careers. The theme of this year's contest was "Manufacturing starts with an idea; what is yours?" Students were challenged to use research to produce a written essay and design a creative solution to a real world problem.

Bluffton High School's JROTC Unit received a near perfect score at its recent inspection conducted by staff from Ft. Bragg, NC. According to JROTC Leader, Lt. Col John Carothers, the inspection covered curriculum knowledge, Physical Training, all 6 areas of staff function, service learning, uniform, color guard, drill team, raider team and school/district support. Of a possible 100 points, the unit received 98 points, and was named an Honor Unit of Distinction. Moreover, this was the highest score given this year by the Ft. Bragg ROTC inspectors. Congratulations cadets!

Battery Creek High School's assistant wrestling coach, Nate Day, will be inducted into the **National Wrestling Hall of Fame** on May 16, 2010, in Columbia. Since 1987, Coach Day has led many a Battery Creek wrestling team to victory while garnering accolades including South Carolina 3-A Coach of the Year in 1994, 1995, and 1996; South Carolina Coaches' Association Overall Coach of the Year in 1996; and Region Coach of the Year for eight of 11 years. We are very proud of Mr. Day and this major accomplishment and thank him for years of leadership to the young wrestlers at Battery Creek High School.

Congratulation and best wishes are in order for **Jocelyn E. Jenkins**, a fifth grader at **Broad River Elementary School**. Jocelyn has qualified to participate at the state level of the National Geographic Bee, sponsored by Google and Plum Creek on Friday, April 9, 2010, at the South Carolina State Museum in Columbia.

The **Beaufort County School District website** is a finalist for a **SchooLE Award** based on content, design, and overall quality. According to Jim Finger, Instructional Technology Services Officer, this is the most significant award for school district Web sites not just in terms of the quality of the site, but to recognize districts where all district members, students, and community members decide which districts are selected. Voting for websites to determine the winner is open until April 16th. The winner of the national award will be made on April 19th. To vote, go to the school district website at www.beaufort.k12.sc.us.

Red Cedar Elementary fourth grader, **Johnny Michael Jiron**, achieved highest honors in the difficult Blue Division of the WordMasters Challenge February Competition. Johnny's perfect score was achieved by only 132 fourth graders in the nation! Also receiving high honors from Red Cedar were Alexandra Tappeiner and Andrew Lee. The WordMasters Challenge is an exercise in critical thinking that first encourages students to become familiar with a set of interesting new words that are considerably harder than grade level and then challenges them to use those words to complete analogies expressing various kinds of logical relationships. More than 220,000 students annually compete in the WordMasters Challenge. Congratulations!!

Beaufort Middle School's Odyssey of the Mind team won the Regional Competition in Columbia on March 20th. Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. Team members apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. They then bring their solutions to competition on the local, state, and World level. Thousands of teams from throughout the U.S. and from about 25 other countries participate in the program. We are delighted with their win! The students on the team are Camille Bibb, Justice Mullen, Jessa Norton, Max Bozzi, Austin Mix, and Reilly Kilpatrick. They are sponsored and coached by Jennifer Woods, 8th grade Humanities teacher at BMS. This "win" has qualified this team to attend the World Competition in Michigan at the end of May. Congratulations!

Lady's Island Middle School eighth grader, Olivia Roberts, has been accepted into the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities Discovery Program as a member of the Creative Writing Department. The Discovery Program is a two-week program for rising ninth graders interested in Creative Writing, Drama, Music or Visual Arts. While they work intensely in their art area, students are exposed to the other art areas with opportunities to attend performances and guest lectures.

Beaufort High School student Hilary Gay has been selected as a 2010 recipient of the South Carolina Dance Education Organization Artistic, Merit, Leadership and Academic Achievement Award. Moreover, due to her high ranking as the recipient of this prestigious award, her application has been forwarded to the National Dance Education Organization for consideration at the national level.

The United Way of the Lowcountry has presented the Beaufort County School District with two awards for employee participation in the 2009 annual community campaign. The awards include the President's Circle Award and the Gold Heritage Award. In 2009, district employees gave more than \$50,000 to the local campaign. Thank you to all who contributed!

Ten seniors from our Beaufort County high schools were named **Heritage Classic Foundation Scholars** today at the Annual Heritage Classic Foundation awards luncheon. Our Beaufort County School students include:

Grace Glasson, Rebecca Tkach, Lindsey Ware, Brittany Fulton, Megan Porter, Laura Cooper, Colleen Cooper, Tessa Owns, Alexandra Serpe and Madison Way.
Congratulations

In closing, Mr. Chairman, I would like for you to read a proclamation in support of Child Abuse Prevention Week and specifically April 9 as Child Abuse Prevention Day in the Beaufort County Schools.

Public Conversation

None

Showcase: Bluffton Elementary School – Grant with SCAD for Animation

Bluffton Elementary shared highlights of the Grant with SCAD for Animation with the integration of technology with the Animation Course and with physical fitness using the Wii Fitness System

Chairmen's Report

Chairmen Washington stated he and Dr. Truesdale met with Shannon Erickson. Ms. Erickson wants to establish public partnership with the school district. Chairmen Washington stated they will wait until after the budget process to discuss.

Committee Report

- Audit Committee – Report will be ready at the next School Board Meeting
- ADHOC Superintendent's Goal's Committee – Committee presented Superintendent Performance expectations and goals.

Superintendent's Report

Chief Instructional Services Officer, Dr. Sean Alford, presented a report to the board regarding dual credit.

Director for School and Community Services, Dr. Jesse Washington, presented a communication plan for the department

Chief Operations Officer, Phyllis White, presented a utilization report of Minority Women Owned Businesses.

Chief Administrative and Human Resources Services Officer, Dr. Jackie Rosswurm, presented a report Compensation and Benefit Plans.

Superintendent, Dr. Valerie Truesdale, presented a success story from Healthy Learners highlighting Beaufort County School District

Board Business Action

Dr. Jackie Rosswurm introduced Riverview Charter School, Chairman of the Board and Riverview Charter's Facilities Chair, to make a presentation to the school board regarding a permanent site.

Board Member Bob Arundell shared concern with the school board regarding the site of one of the proposed locations. Due to the site being close to the Marine Corp Air Station (MCAS) – the concern is noise levels as aircraft are taking off and landing and safety. MCAS will be expanding over the next ten years.

Riverview stated they are aware of the concerns and safety is the top priority for children and learning. Riverview is having the land donated and have been in conversations with the MCAS regarding the property.

School Board Member Bob Arundell made a motion

- (1) that this Board's agreement with Riverview and the United States Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights requires Riverview's permanent location to further complete the desegregation of the District's schools;
- (2) that the District is required to submit a report regarding its assessment of Riverview's plans for a permanent location to the Office of Civil Rights
- (3) that Riverview has submitted three proposed sites for a permanent school location – the Still Shadows site in the Habersham development, Local Redevelopment Opportunities in the area of the City of Beaufort, and the Shell Point Farms site.

School Board Member Bob Arundell further moved the Board find, based on the information before it and the recommendation of the District administration, that of the

three sites proposed by Riverview, only the Local Redevelopment Opportunity site (or sites) in the area of the City of Beaufort is (or are) reasonably likely to further the complete desegregation of the District's schools and that Riverview should be authorized to continue to identify a permanent school site or sites in the area of the City of Beaufort subject to final approval by this Board. He further moved the District administration should submit a report to the Office of Civil Rights regarding Riverview's plans for a permanent site consistent with this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Propane Gas Bid – postponed to next Board meeting

2010-11 Textbook Adoption Recommendations – postponed to next Board meeting

Specification of Bluffton Middle School Expansion Motion – Dr. Carbiener motioned for the completion of the shell at Bluffton Middle School not to exceed \$1,100,000 and to be financed with 8% project funds. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

No new business

Consent Agenda – All items postponed to the next Board meeting

- 03/02/10;03/16/10 Minutes
- Annual Insurance Coverage
- Annual Insurance Review
- General Liability Coverage
- Priorities for 8% Projects
- Monthly HR Status Report
- Monthly AE/Home Schooling