

Board of Education Summary
August 17, 2010
School Board Meeting

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

Chairman Fred Washington called for the approval of the agenda

Board Secretary Laura Bush made a motion to approve the agenda with the exception of the July 23 and July 24 minutes. Motion passed.

Pledge of Allegiance

Media properly notified

Invocation

The invocation was given by Board Member Herbert Burnes

Points of Celebration

Happy New Year to the nearly 24,000 students and educators of the Beaufort County School District! The 2010-2011 school year has joyously and officially begun!

School doors actually opened more than a week ago when students participating in extended learning days began their classes. Last week Back to School Rallies were held on both sides of the county. Thanks to our Instructional Services Department, both teachers and support staff participated in solid in-service instruction both in the morning and afternoon of August 11 and 12th. Mid-day the gymnasiums of Beaufort High School and Hilton Head Island High School were overflowing as staff enjoyed speakers Maj. General Charles Bolden (via video feed), Col. Jack Snider (Commanding Officer of MCAS) at Beaufort High, Dr. Jim Rex at Hilton Head High, and Mr. Les Gold, NASA education specialist. A big thank you is extended to all of our students who served as presenters and entertainers. It was a wonderful celebration!

Michael Burgess is the Program Director for the African American Male recruitment and retention program at the Technical College of the Lowcountry. Named PILAU-an acronym that stands for Promoting Integrity Leadership Academics and cultural Understanding-the program seeks to improve the educational outcomes of African American Males at TCL. Michael is going to tell you about a recent PILAU Project, the Jamboree. (Following his presentation, please give Michael his certificate of appreciation).

On August 10th our Teachers of the Year convened their first Teachers' Forum of the new school year. At the top of their agenda was the announcement of the five finalists for this year's District Teacher of the Year. Those finalists include Tennille Scheriff from Hilton Head Island School for the Creative Arts, Susan Prekop from Mossy Oaks Elementary School, Denise Ondishko from Hilton Head Island Early Childhood Center, Kathy Ingram from Lady's Island Intermediate and Middle School, and Karen Perdue from Hilton Head Island Elementary School. The finalists will now prepare a video and be interviewed by the selection panel. The District Teacher of the Year will be named mid September.

Officer Hatchett has served as a Student Resource Officer for the past several years at Lady's Island Middle School and, most recently, Beaufort High School. His work with our students has been exceptional and he was recently named South Carolina's Student Resource Officer of the Year. It is our pleasure to add our hearty congratulations as well and present Officer Hatchett with a certificate of commendation.

Congratulations to the first "graduating" class of our Education Leadership Cohort. These dynamic educators have just completed their Master's in Educational Leadership at the University of South Carolina Beaufort. We are very proud of their achievement – congratulations!

Cauller	Karen	HH School Creative Arts	Literacy Coach
Chisolm	Adrienne	Lady's Island Middle	Math Coach
Dennewitz	Bryanna	Beaufort Middle	Science Teacher
DiOrio	Charlotte	Lady's Island Middle	Kindergarten Teacher
Freda	Patricia	Hilton Head Middle	Assistant Principal
Gause(Weeks)	Alma	Broad River Elementary	Fourth Grade Teacher
Harriman	Shannon	Hilton Head Middle	Assistant Principal
Holland	Melissa	Beaufort Elementary	Literacy Coach
Hunt	Matthew	Whale Branch Middle	Assistant Principal
Johnson	Tina	Lady's Island Middle	Math Teacher
Kates	Auman	District Office	Lead ADEPT Evaluator
Koverman	Andra	Ladys Island Elementary	Literacy Coach
Lanese	Tracey	HH Early Childhood	.5 Administrative Intern/.5 Technology Coach
Neal	Marva	St Helena Elementary	.5 Administrative Intern/.5 Technology Coach
Nguyen	Ly	Port Royal Elementary	Administrative Intern
Sauls	Claire	Beaufort Middle	English Language Arts Teacher
Simmons	Mary	St. Helena Elem	Literacy Coach
Smith	Senfronia	Battery Creek High	Assistant Principal
Smith	Debbie	Lady's Island Elementary	Science Coach
Soergel	Lori	HH International Bacc	Third Grade Teacher
Woods	Jennifer	Beaufort Middle	Social Studies Teacher

Students at Shell Point Elementary School and Hilton Head Island Elementary School have recently learned that their applications for KITE-LL language curriculum have been accepted. KITE-LL is a free, hybrid distance learning language program produced by ETV and the SC Department of Education that combines pre-taped video lessons with face-to-face instruction and assessments. The thirty week daily program is geared for students in grades 3 to 5 and offers Spanish, German and French instruction. Our students will be enrolled in the Spanish language program. KITE-LL is the first foreign language distance-learning program for elementary school

students that draw from grade-level content standards (primarily social studies, language arts, science, and mathematics) to teach French, German, and Spanish. We are very excited about this addition to our world language curriculum.

Board Members Fred Washington and Herbert Burnes were recognized for levels of training and service to the Beaufort County School Board.

Public Conversation

None

Comment Corrections

Dr. Truesdale explained the confusion surrounding the distribution of pocket constitutions. On August 6, 2010 the Island Packet ran a story with headlines that caused concern by some citizens. The story described an offer made by the Hilton Head Island Tea Party to donate pocket Constitutions to students in middle and high school in time for Constitution Day on September 17.

When the offer of a donation was made in late July, the intent was so that each student would have his/her own copy of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States, including the Bill of Rights. The district responded to the offer that instructional materials had to be reviewed prior to distribution and that donations were typically approved by the Board of Education, especially if the donation were in excess of \$1,000.

We committed to reviewing the materials when submitted and determine if they were appropriate for sharing with students and to reviewing the offer with principals.

The headline indicated that Tea Party members would be teaching the Constitution to students and that is untrue false. Teaching the Constitution by anyone other than Beaufort County School District teachers was not considered at any time. The article is clear that teaching by citizens had not been discussed but the headline said otherwise and caused concern.

When the actual pocket Constitution offered for donation was received last week, it was reviewed by staff. We determined that since there were identifying marks on the materials, specifically stating that the materials were provided compliments of a Congressman, we would not distribute those to our students.

Instead, we are obtaining pocket Constitutions directly with no identifying marks upon them. The materials contain only the Declaration of Independence, and the Constitution including the Bill of Rights. Materials will be used as part of the study of authentic documents in Social Studies and History classes.

Chairman Washington, Secretary Laura Bush and Board Member Earl Campbell made comment corrections regarding the misrepresentation of information in an online newspaper and are committed to getting the facts out surrounding the false statements and inaccuracies in public comments.

Showcase

JROTC

Back to School Professional Learning – Chief Instructional Services Officer Dr. Sean Alford gave a brief presentation regarding the training sessions from the Back to School Rally. Dr. Alford shared that professional learning was offered to both classified and certified BCSD employees and the feedback proved the event was a success with multiple opportunities for all to learn and be involved. Nora Weatherhead, Science Department Chair at Hilton Head Island High School, shared her thoughts on the training sessions as well as highlighted the new technology.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Washington updated the Board with the status of the McNair Law Firm work that has been done for the School Board in regards to the Education Finance Act and Index of Taxpaying Ability.

Committee Report

Board Member Jim Bequette made a motion on behalf of the audit committee to authorize Webster Rogers to include the additional work to the annual 2010 audit: (Cost not to exceed \$1600 for this additional work)

- To audit policies, procedures and approvals for original contracts and change orders
- To audit policies and actual procedures for notifying potential bidding opportunities for suppliers and contractors
- To audit insurance certificate policies, procedures and compliance
- To audit policies, procedures and compliance in obtaining lien releases prior to final payment on contracts

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Dr. Valerie Truesdale updated the Board on the opening of school and highlights of the first couple of days.

Director of Operations gave a brief update along with Durham Services on the challenges the district faced with regards to transportation and a plan to correct procedures and increase communication among drivers, Durham, parents, principals and students.

Student Services Officer, Dr. Cynthia Hayes, submitted the performance expectation to participate in diverse community activities and events as an advocate for all students. Dr. Hayes reported on the number of meetings and events held in the previous school year with community groups attended by the Superintendent along with members of the staff.

Chief Administrative and Human Resources Services Officer Dr. Jackie Rosswurm presented Performance Expectation 6:A.5, under the Strategic Governance Policies, which states: *Inform the Board when initially recommending individuals to administrative level position or general contracting positions who are immediate family members of the Superintendent, Executive Leadership, or Principals.*

It was requested at the last Board of Education Meeting (August 3, 2010) that this Performance Expectation come to the Board for revision.

Chief Operational Services Officer, Phyllis White gave an update of the FY 2010-2011 Budget. Vice Chairman, Bob Arundell, asked that the information be presented in such a way that it is understood by all stakeholders.

Information Items

Embargoed – 2010 ACT Scores

Maintenance Update

Article – *For Students at Risk, Early College Proves a Draw*

Board Business Action

Vice Chairman, Bob Arundell, made a motion to authorize the issuance and sale of not exceeding \$2,750,000 general obligation bonds, in one or more series, with appropriate series designations, including a tax-exempt series and a taxable series, of the school district of Beaufort County, South Carolina; authorizing the South Carolina Association of Governmental Organizations to facilitate the sale of the bonds under its general obligation debt program; prescribing the terms and conditions under which the bonds may be issued; authorizing the Superintendent of the school district to determine certain matters relating to the bonds; providing for the payment of the bonds and the disposition of the proceeds thereof; and other matters relating thereto. Motion passed.

Riverview Report – Alison Thomas presented Riverview Annual Report. Board Members had questions regarding the MAP data and demographics. Riverview will provide information the Board is seeking.

Board Member Michael Rivers led a discussion regarding the classified salaries. Board Member Jim Bequette made a motion to table the discussion until the administration has an opportunity to present to the Board the chronology of the last human resources salary study and the implementation of that classified salary study. Motion passed.

Board Secretary Laura Bush made a motion to approve the consent agenda excluding the July 23, 2010 and July 24, 2010 minutes.

Vice Chairman, Bob Arundell made a motion to move back into executive session to discuss a legal matter.

Adjourn to executive session

No action from executive session

Board meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.