Superintendent's Board Meeting Summary: March 6, 2018

Chair Earl Campbell called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

Coming out of executive session, motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendation of the Adult Education/Homeschool Report for March 2018 (approved). Motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for employment as listed on the February 2018 Personnel Ratification Report (approved).

Motion to approve the agenda as presented (approved).

Pledge of Allegiance, invocation.

Points of Celebration (presented by Dr. Moss)

Character Education Students of the Month: Lawson Weilnau, Broad River Elementary School (December 2017); Brian Polite, Jr., St. Helena Elementary School (January 2018)

Our Character Education program was formed to support parents' efforts to develop good character in their children. School counselors identified a list of character words and definitions that focus on attitudes and personal qualities that build a foundation for success in life and work. A student from each school is selected as that school's Character Education Student of the Month. Then that student goes on to compete for Character Education Student of the Month for the entire school district. Tonight we're celebrating the Character Ed Student of the Month exhibiting the Character Traits "Compassion" and "Perseverance."

"Compassion" is defined as a feeling of wanting to help someone who is sick, hungry, in trouble, etc.; sympathetic pity and concern for the suffering or misfortune of others. We're happy to announce that our Character Education Student of the Month is a student from Broad River Elementary School. Would Principal Constance Goodwine-Lewis please come forward and introduce our Character Education Student of the Month for December?

"Perseverance" is defined as pursuing worthy objectives with determinations and patience while exhibiting fortitude when confronted with failure. We're happy to announce that our Character Education Student of the Month is a student from St. Helena Elementary School. Would Principal Tara Mack please come forward and introduce our Character Education Student of the Month for December?

National Merit Finalist - Christopher Hoogenboom - Beaufort High School

About 1.6 million students from more than 22,000 American high schools initially entered the National Merit Scholarship Program competition by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. About 15,000 students were eventually selected as finalists.

To advance to the final round of competition, each semifinalist and their high school had to submit a detailed application that provided information about the student's academic record, participation in school and community activities, leadership abilities, honors and awards. In addition, each semifinalist had to be endorsed and recommended by an official from his high school, write an essay and earn SAT scores that confirmed the student's earlier score on the qualifying test. We're happy to have a National Merit finalist with us here tonight. Here to tell us more about him is Beaufort High Principal Bonnie Almond.

Wrestling Championships – Battery Creek High's Ahmand Smalls and Whale Branch Early College High's Jamal Moultrie

Tonight we're recognizing two state wrestling champions.

Would Battery Creek High Wrestling Coach Walter Wilson come forward and introduce his school's state championship winner?

Would Whale Branch Early College High Athletic Director Carlos Cave please come forward and introduce his school's state championship winner?

Public Comment

A community member spoke regarding county tax collections. Two community members spoke about leadership qualities of the superintendent and Board members, and the referendum. Two community members spoke regarding school safety concerns. A community member spoke regarding how the Board's divisiveness is affecting students' educations. A community member spoke about the lack of programs during Black History Month and bridging the gap between communities.

Chair Report

Board Chair Earl Campbell reminded the Board about the 2DAC meeting in Columbia on Thursday, March 8.

Superintendent's Report

Goal #1 Student Achievement

Winter Map Results – Chief Instructional Services Officer Dereck Rhoads presented on winter MAP results and addressed the Board's questions.

Update on School Choice - Chief Auxiliary Services Officer Dr. Gregory McCord presented an update on school choice.

Goal #2 Highly Qualified Teachers and Administrators

Teacher Spring Recruitment - Chief Administrative and Human Resources Officer Alice Walton presented on teacher recruitment efforts. Ms. Walton and General Counsel Drew Davis addressed the Board's questions.

Professional Development Plan for New Teachers – Ms. Walton and Dr. Rhoads presented the professional development plan for new teachers and addressed the Board's questions.

Goal #3 Fiscal Responsibility

Reed and Associates CPA, Audit Process – Chief Financial Officer Tonya Crosby introduced Harry Armstrong from Reed and Associates. Mr. Armstrong presented on the procurement card audit process and addressed the Board's questions.

Referendum Information on Website – Dr. Moss informed the Board that factual referendum information and a PowerPoint presentation is available on the district website.

Goal #4 Policy Development and Implementation – no report.

Goal #5 Supervision and Evaluation of the Superintendent

School Safety Update - Dr. Moss announced that he will meet with School Improvement Council representatives and law enforcement officers tomorrow evening to discuss school safety, and he updated Board members on safety protocols currently in place. He also addressed schools' and students' plans for March 14, when students from across the country have said they will speak out about school safety. Dr. Moss and Dr. McCord addressed the Board's questions.

Update 360 – Dr. Moss provided an update on the results from the recent 360 survey. Teachers and classified staff will have the opportunity to take the anonymous survey during the third week of March.

Superintendent's Message – Dr. Moss stated that he will begin addressing misinformation and false rumors on social media.

Board Business

Dr. Rhoads presented two innovative new high school courses (Senior Leadership and Interactive Physical Education) addressed the Board's questions. Motion to approve the courses (approved).

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the consent agenda item of board minutes 02/2-3/2018; 02/06/2018; 02/20/2018 and PE3.7- FY 2018 Second Quarter Financial Statements (approved).

Public Comments

A community member spoke about school safety, mental health and overcrowding issues. A community member continued his comments about county tax collections.

Motion to adjourn approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:35p.m.

District staff seeking more detailed information about Board actions can view Board meetings in their entirety, at any time, on the County Channel. Archived meetings may be viewed at this link: http://www.bcgov.net/departments/community-services/county-channel/index.php