

## **Board of Education Summary May 15, 2012**

### **Public Session**

Mr. Washington called the meeting to order at 6 PM

### **Actions from Executive Session**

A motion was made to accept the recommendation of the administration regarding a principal's appointment. The motion passed 9-1.

### **Approval of Agenda**

The Agenda was approved as presented.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Invocation**

Members of the Whale Branch Middle School hand chime ensemble and their music teacher, Ms. Sarah Franco, presented the song "Old Ship of Zion."

### **Points of Celebration**

- There were shouts of glee, some tears and happy faces all over the county on May 4 as school board members and senior staff surprised 31 Teachers of the Year! Tonight, it is my honor to present to you our Teachers of the Year from across the district. These individuals represent the best of the best. We are so very proud of you! (Teachers and Principals are at the meeting and at the Library on HHI).
- We also have with us tonight some very special individuals who have served this district for many years. (Introduction and presentation of gifts to retirees)
- The Technical College of the Lowcountry held its awards ceremony recently, and one couldn't help but notice a young man who accepted award after award for outstanding achievement. His name is Benjamin Griffin III, TCL's Student of the Year. Ben is a 2009 graduate of Beaufort High School. He is the eighth and youngest child in his family and the very first to go to college. I'd like to list some of Ben's achievements: South Carolina Phi Theta Kappa All-State Academic Team (Phi Theta Kappa is an international honor society for two-year colleges); president of the TCL Gospel Choir; vice president of the TCL Student Government Association; TCL student advisory board, and the Beaufort County Teaching Program for Youth. On top of all of these activities and achievements, Ben volunteers 4-6 hours a week at Hospice Care. Ben will attend USCB next fall and major in Early Childhood Education. We thank you, Ben, for being such an outstanding example of youth and scholars from our district. (Presentation of certificate of achievement)

- Over the four-year implementation of Extended Learning Time (October 2008 through April 2012), more than 44,000 students in grades K-10 and approximately 3,000 teachers participated in Extended Learning Time Program sessions. Some teachers taught only one session, others two or three. But 14 teachers are being awarded a certificate of recognition for their consistent participation in the Extended Learning Time programs from 2008-09 through 2011-12. These teachers taught Extended Learning Time classes in every single session of ELT.
- Congratulations to Battery Creek High School sophomores Wendell Roberson, Tafari Salaam and Chris Daigle, who participated in the South Carolina Band Directors Association Solo and Ensemble Festival and Competition at Fort Dorchester High School in Charleston on May 5. Wendell earned one Superior rating and a medal, Tafari earned two Superior ratings and two medals, and Chris earned three Superior ratings and three medals.
- The South Carolina School Boards Association and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control have presented the School District with a plaque for adopting and enforcing a 100 percent comprehensive tobacco-free policy. The District was awarded this plaque for efforts achieved since 2010.
- The College Board Regional Office in Atlanta has added exceptional pieces of art by Hilton Head High School students to the Board's Art Gallery for the next year. The students and their art are Jessica Bonilla and her piece, "Be Careful With What You Create," and Bernabe Torres and "Time Sunk."
- Whale Branch Middle School students raised \$1,132 for CAPA (Child Abuse Prevention Association of Beaufort) recently. The students donated pennies, nickles, dimes, quarters and dollars in exchange for dressing out of uniform for this worthy cause. Dress-down days included: *Child Abuse Makes Us Blue—Blue Jean Day*; *Don't Get Hairy with Abuse—Crazy Hair Day*; *Wake Up and Put a Stop to Abuse—Pajama Day*; *Don't Turn a Blind Eye to Abuse—Sunglasses Day*; and *Abuse is Just Tacky—Tacky Dress Day*.
- Bluffton Elementary fifth-graders attended CSI camp recently in Pickens County. CSI is a unique field study where children become forensic investigators, solving mysteries using math, forensic science and technology. The program offered plenty of hands-on, application-based learning. Trained instructors guided students in analyzing evidence including fingerprints, hair and fiber, pH test, paper chromatography and footprint casting. Students also had the chance to explore careers in the field of forensics.
- Larry King's new TV show "*In View*" just completed a documentary about animation at Bluffton Elementary and its positive role in education. The production company interviewed Mrs. Miller, the animation teacher, Mrs. Brown and Ashby Cribb. The piece will air nationwide on networks that include Bravo, Discovery Channel and the Learning Channel to 85 million television households.

- Battery Creek High School is boasting three students accepted into the prestigious Governor's Schools. Alexis Myers and Andrea Detter have been accepted into the Governor's School of Math and Science for their junior and senior years of high school. These young ladies were selected because of their academic excellence. Alexis has a 4.700 grade-point average and is currently the No. 1-ranked sophomore, president of the sophomore class and a student advisory council member. Andrea is currently ranked second in the sophomore class with a grade point average of 4.667 and was captain of our band's color guard. In addition, Tafari Salaam, currently ranked in the top quarter of the sophomore class, has been accepted into the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities. Tafari, who just recently earned two Superior ratings and two medals at the South Carolina Band Directors Association Solo and Ensemble Festival and Competition held at Fort Dorchester High School in Charleston, is an outstanding student who was also selected for SCBDA All-Region 4 Clinic Honor Band.
- Lady's Island Middle School student Vanaken Williams was selected to be published in the prestigious annual Young Writers of America Book 2012. Less than 20 percent of entries submitted to the magazine were selected to be published.
- Dr. Linda Waskow, Media Specialist at Beaufort Elementary School, has been selected as one of two delegates elected to serve on the global non-profit "Online Computer Library Center" council for the Americas. The OCLC, based in Ohio, has a membership of over 25,900 libraries, museums and archives around the world. It is a nonprofit library computer service and research organization dedicated to the public purposes of furthering access to the world's information and reducing information costs.
- Beaufort Elementary School Dads – Mr. Lovett, Mr. Fent and Mr. Londono showed their appreciation for the school's teachers last week by washing their cars! A total of 25 cars were washed during Teacher Appreciation Week, and teachers were most appreciative.
- April 30 was "Measurement Monday" and a "math-only day" as Hilton Head Island Elementary School celebrated National Mathematics Awareness Week. On Measurement Monday, students in all classes reinforced their knowledge by applying the practicality of measurement through sequential development at each grade level. A community involvement team from the Lowe's Company "Build and Grow Program" provided fourth-graders with a demonstration of measurement accuracy with examples where highly accurate measurements are required. Some examples were key cutting and wood cutting, including boarding up a window for hurricane safety.
- Last Wednesday was School Nurses Day in South Carolina. We salute our nurses, who serve children as caregivers, counselors, child advocates and educators, and who teach our students how to lead healthier and happier lives. Thank you to our school nurses!

- Raychelle Lohmann, Guidance Chairperson at Hilton Head Island High School, has been selected as a 2011 South Carolina HEART Award Finalist. The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education and South Carolina Department of Education sponsor the award. As a finalist, Ms. Lohmann received a plaque and a check for \$2,500 earmarked for Guidance Department resources and materials at her school. The HEART Award recognizes excellence in school counseling by identifying South Carolina school counselors with records of accomplishment in promoting higher education awareness.
- On May 11, Lady's Island Elementary School kindergarteners showed their moms how much they care about them in a lovely performance written and directed by the school's music teacher, Kristin Brady. The Mother's Day Performance included five songs that expressed to the kids' moms how much they loved them. During the speaking parts, the kindergarteners spoke loudly and proudly, so everyone could hear them. The last song, *My Mom*, left many of the audience in tears. Way to go, kindergarteners!
- Our high school athletes turned in terrific individual and team performances at last weekend's South Carolina State Track and Field Championships in Columbia. Two girls and three boys won individual state championships, with all three of the boys' individual championships coming from Whale Branch Early College High School. Two of those three individual boys championships were won by Andre Watson, who also managed to break an 11-year-old state record in the 200M dash. In addition, Hilton Head Island High and Whale Branch turned in team championship performances in boys relay races, while Whale Branch won the overall boys state team championship in Division A. Well done, everyone!

Members of the State Champion Whale Branch track team were introduced and honored. At the end of the presentation, the Board announced that the Whale Branch Early College High School athletic facilities would be named in honor of Mr. Earl Campbell, Board member and champion of WBECHS. The vote had been taken a few days earlier at another Board meeting.

### **Public Conversation**

A member of the community spoke in regards to Lady's Island Middle School. Members of the community honored Mrs. Henderson, Guidance Counselor from Whale Branch Early College High School. A community member questioned the purchase of computers for classrooms.

### **Comment Corrections**

Mr. Harold Hauer addressed the board in response to a recent newspaper letter to the editor. Mr. Hauer discussed the Sea Island Regional Science Fair process and the lack of school participation by BCSD students, which has decreased. He said that participating in the science fairs increases interest in science among students.

Dr. Alford presented responses to recent claims that criticized the International Baccalaureate program. He emphasized that the IB Learner Attributes are pro-American, not anti-American, and that teachers in the program support its aims and practices.

## Showcase

### Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and Battery Creek High School Partnership

Col. (Ret) Jack Snider, members of the aeronautics teaching staff at Battery Creek High School and representatives from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University announced a new partnership that will offer students dual enrollment college credit courses. The courses will be offered in Battery Creek's Military Science and Aeronautical Engineering Academy, one of three options in the school's "Tri-Academies" along with Arts and Humanities and Health Sciences and Information Technology. Battery Creek High's Tri-Academy model is one of 10 "programmatic choices" that allow district students to enroll in schools outside their zoned attendance areas. Beaufort County becomes only the second school district in the nation to offer "dual enrollment" courses with Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University through the university's Worldwide Campus, which has more than 150 centers around the globe, including one at Beaufort's Marine Corps Air Station. Embry-Riddle has residential campuses in Daytona Beach, Fla., and Prescott, Ariz.

### Update on Math Science Partnership (CORE)

Dr. Alford presented a video on the Math/Science CORE Partnership held in conjunction with the University of South Carolina. The partnership was made possible through a grant from the federal government and taps the resources of the National Science Foundation. Sixty-four math and science teachers in middle and high schools across the district are part of the cohort training to be master teachers and achieve their master's degrees.

### Superintendent's Report

#### Spring MAP Scores

Dr. Sean Alford reviewed data from Spring 2012 MAP testing in grades K-8 comparing data from Spring 2010 and 2011 to 2012. Across the board in math, scores continued trending above the national norm. In reading, there were similar results, with the only exception being in second grade scores.

In reading, schools demonstrating growth greater than the 85 percentile nationally include:

Grade Level	Schools
K	HHIECC
1	
2	CES, HHIBE
3	BES, BLES, BRES, HHISCA, OES, SPES
4	BES, BLES, HHIBE, JSES, LIES, MCRES, MOES, OES, PVES, SPES
5	JSES, LIMS, MOES, RCES, SPES

6	
7	WBMS
8	HHIMS

In math, schools demonstrating growth greater than the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile nationally include:

Grade Level	Schools
K	HHECC, OES
1	
2	CES, HHIIBE, JSES, LIES, MCRES, PRES, RCES, SPES, WBES
3	BLES, HHIIBE, HHISCA, MCRES, MOES, OES, PRES
4	BRES, HHIIBE, MCRES, PVES, SPES
5	JSES, PRES, RCES
6	
7	HHIMS
8	

### Quarterly Financial Statements

Mrs. Phyllis White reported that General Fund revenues received are at 86 percent compared to 83 percent in FY 2011. Local revenue tax collections are at 95 percent compared to 92 percent last year. State revenue collections are at 64 percent compared to 65 percent. Total spending is reported at 66 percent of the budget; prior year spending was 68 percent.

### Safety and Emergency Preparedness

Chris Barrow, Coordinator of Protective Services, reported to the Board that the District is compliant with its Emergency Management Plan and with Tornado and Earthquake Preparedness. Mr. Barrow also reported on the “Rapid Responder” system and on random security audits at schools.

### Out-of-District Tuition

The rate for out-of-district tuition has been set at \$8,068.

### Results of Middle School Increased Rigor: Parent Survey Results

In 2010, Bluffton Today published an article entitled “Middle School Boredom Targeted.” In response to the article, BCSD teachers and staff created an instructional model that stratified

academic levels in each subject area: ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies. Placement criteria were created to determine eligibility while promoting inclusion. The new criteria were used during the 2011-12 school year. A parent survey was recently distributed to ascertain the thoughts and perceptions of middle school parents regarding the stratified instructional model, and the results will be used as school staff review the current year's processes and plan for program adjustments next year. In summary, 67 percent of survey responders felt that their children were challenged in core academic subjects. Other feedback called for more rigor in various subjects and consistency from teacher to teacher and subject to subject.

#### **Board Business**

The Board approved a donation by Hargray, Inc. to fund two large radio-controlled aircraft kits in the amount of \$1,700.

The Board postponed a decision on the proposed Technology Enhancement Plan until its Friday meeting.

The Board postponed a decision on the proposed FY 2012-2013 Budget until its Friday meeting.

The Board postponed a decision on projects at St Helena ECC until its Friday meeting.

**The Board approved the consent agenda of the April 17, 2012 Minutes**

**The Board adjourned at 8:47 PM.**