

**Board of Education Summary
February 1, 2011
School Board Meeting**

Special Session 3:30pm – 5:30pm

BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCILS

I. Welcome and Purpose

Fred Washington, Chairman

II. Beaufort County School Improvement Council Proposal to BCSD

The Board of Education presented their response to the School Improvement Councils proposal to engage parents and community members more. The Board wants to engage parents more and also to clarify roles and responsibilities of school improvement council members. The School Improvement Council Handbook was also distributed.

III. Open Conversation

Several school improvement council members spoke to the Board of Education and thanked them for their openness and increasing the lines of communication with the parents and community. SIC members asked the Board to continue to keep them informed and to begin partnerships with them. They would like to know information before it is printed in the local newspapers. SIC Members also indicated meeting times should be adjusted so attendance can increase. SIC Members also stated that more training is needed on the roles, duties and responsibilities of serving on the SIC. Some members also mentioned that the district continues to be split and that parent advisory council meetings should be in different locations and not one north of the Broad and a separate one south of the Broad.

IV. Closing

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

Chairman Fred Washington called for the approval of the agenda.

Secretary Laura Bush made a motion to approve the agenda and in addition adding two donations to the Consent Agenda. Motion passed.

Pledge of Allegiance

Media properly notified

Invocation

The invocation was given by Battery Creek ROTC students.

Points of Celebration

Dr. Charles Kresch made a donation of \$1,000 to the school district for the Montessori Program.

We start this evening by recognizing and congratulating our newest Board Certified Teachers. Board Certification is a two-part process that lasts one to three years. The process requires applicants to reflect upon their classroom practices, their understanding of subject material and their preparation techniques. In addition to preparing a portfolio with videotapes of classroom teaching, lesson plans, student work samples and reflective essays, teachers must complete assessment center exercises based on content knowledge to prove not only that they have mastered the subjects they teach, but also that they know how to teach them. The National Board process defines the knowledge, skills and accomplishments that symbolize teaching excellence. It was created so that teachers – like professionals in other fields – could achieve distinction by demonstrating through a demanding performance assessment that they meet high and rigorous standards for what they should know and be able to do. Beaufort now has 131 Board Certified Teachers

Tonight, we would also like to honor **Matt Trusz, a senior at Hilton Head Island High School.** Matt is among 61 seniors in South Carolina and 3000 nationally vying for awards in the 2011 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program. Students are chosen for the competition in the first round based on their SAT or ACT scores as well as achievements in artistic excellence, leadership, citizenship and community service. Matt achieved a score of 2350 out of a possible 2400 on the SAT. At Hilton Head High School he is involved in the Model UN Program and is an exceptional guitarist who has played in several recent productions at the Arts Center of Coastal Carolina (Certificate of Achievement given).

Last week was one of phenomenal news for our schools. As you will remember, four of our schools were named semi-finalists in the **Palmetto's Finest Recognition.** They are Whale Branch Middle, Beaufort Middle, Hilton Head Island High School and Hilton Head Island Elementary School for the Creative Arts. I am very happy to announce that Beaufort Middle School is a finalist for this coveted honor! Congratulations to Carole Ingram and her team. The school will have a final visit this month. And, I would be remiss if I did not mention the outstanding role our maintenance people have provided getting ready for the Palmetto's Finest visits. Many kudos to Scott Peterman, Director of GCA Maintenance and his team, Wulf Werner, Director of GCA Custodial and his team; Ted Goudeau (pronounced Goo 'dough), Sodexo Grounds; Terry Dingle, Director of Support Services; and Chris Poe, Facilities Planning and Construction Officer and his team.

The State Department of Education has bestowed **Palmetto Gold and Silver awards** on more than half of our Elementary and Middle Schools for academic performance and/or closing the achievement gap. Coosa Elementary, Bluffton Elementary, Michael C. Riley Elementary, Mossy Oaks Elementary, Okatie Elementary and Port Royal Elementary received the **Palmetto Gold Award** based on their state report card rating for the 2009 – 2010 school year, indicating outstanding student achievement.

Beaufort Middle, Daufuskie Island Elementary, Joseph Shanklin Elementary, H.E. McCracken Middle, Hilton Head Island Middle, Hilton Head Island School for the Creative Arts, Hilton Head Island Elementary International Baccalaureate and Red Cedar Elementary received the **Palmetto Silver Award** based on its state report card rating for the 2009 – 2010 school year for excellent general performance. These ratings are determined by achievement on the PASS test of state standards for elementary and middle schools. High school awards were not announced at the time of this release.

In addition to the overall performance Gold and Silver Awards, Coosa Elementary, Joseph Shanklin Elementary, Okatie Elementary, Port Royal Elementary, Mossy Oaks Elementary, Michael C. Riley Elementary, and Bluffton Elementary Schools received the Palmetto Silver Award for **Closing the Achievement Gap**. Robert Smalls Middle School also received the Palmetto Silver Award for **Closing the Achievement Gap**.

On Thursday, January 27th, **M.C. Riley** student council members, advisors and chaperones visited the Statehouse in Columbia. They were met by Governor Nikki Haley who spoke about her job as governor. Following the session with Governor Haley, students watched a video about the history of South Carolina and the Statehouse. The tour guide led them through the Statehouse and pointed out the chambers of Senate and the House of Representatives. They were greeted by the Speaker of the House, Robert W. Harrell, Jr.

AMES Academy at Beaufort Elementary School fifth grade student Steven Jones is the 5th Grade Winner of the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) essay contest for the local Thomas Heyward, Jr. DAR Chapter. Steven has been invited to read his essay at their meeting on Thursday (2/10/11 and he will also receive a savings bond and certificate.

Mitt Patel, Hilton Head Island Elementary School, won first place in South Carolina in the 44th Annual National Career Development Poetry and Poster Contest. Mitt's poem was given the top honor by the judges who met in Columbia last month. His poem will now be sent to the National Career Development Association's office for consideration at the national level. National results will be made public in mid-April. Way to go, Mitt!

The **AMES Academy 4th grade** participated in The Radiant Peach Foundation International, Inc. Radiant Peace Education Awards. Students wrote essays on the topic: Radiant Peace. Two AMES students received honorable mentions: Desmond Gaillard and Logan Shissias. Each of these students will receive a certificate and \$30. Max Kase was named a national winner. Max will receive a certificate and \$75. As the school of a national award winner AMES Academy received \$100. Congratulations to these students!

Underclassmen from **Hilton Head Island High School** traveled to Atlanta recently to learn more about Morehouse University. The students toured the campus and met with staff from the admissions office to learn more about the school. According to Principal Amanda O'Nan, these students are now talking about becoming Morehouse Men!

Public Conversation

Several parents addressed the Board in appreciation for opening the lines of communication with the community. Parents are indicating they want to work together with the Board and look forward to the growing partnership. Parents stated they still do not want any schools to close due to this budget crisis.

Students addressed the Board in acknowledgement of School Board recognition month with books and poems from Beaufort Middle School.

One community member urged the Board to use the fund balance to make up the deficit the district is facing, hoping the School Board will not close any schools.

Comment Corrections

Earl Campbell gave a response to an article in The Gazette that was written by a community member with incorrect and uninformed information. The article states that Beaufort County School District spends \$14,000 per child. This is not true. The district spends \$10,800 per student, up \$295 from 2009.

Showcase

Chief Instructional Services Officer Dr. Sean Alford and Fine Arts Coordinator, Margaret Rushton shared the successes of “Bring Your Parents to School Day” with an animation power point.

Chairman’s Report

Chairman Fred Washington stated to the Board and the community that he was not going to address the motion from January 18, 2011 that stated “Motion to take all school closings off the table and vote with a full Board present.” Chairman Washington apologized and accepted responsibility for this issue. Chairman Washington stated the motion should not have come forward because it failed at the January 8, 2011 work session. The motion from the January 8, 2011 work session stated: “Motion was not to close any schools.”

Board Member Steven Morello made a motion to move *New Business* up to change the order of the agenda. Motion passed.

Board Member Steven Morello requested to have on the agenda a motion (consideration) to continue to fully fund all of the existing county schools in their current building under their current name.

Vice Chairman George Wilson asked for clarification. Board Member Steven Morello then made a motion to amend his motion by moving that the Board continue to fund all of the county schools in their current building and under their current name.

Superintendent’s Report

Chief Instructional Services Officer Dr. Sean Alford presented the International Baccalaureate Programme Plan.

Board Secretary Laura Bush made a motion to accept the recommendation by administration at Battery Creek to phase out the IB Programme during the 2011-2012 school year. Current juniors that have started the Diploma Program would be allowed to continue through their senior year. The school would not enroll rising juniors in any IB courses but would offer a comprehensive set of Advanced Placement courses for advanced sophomores, juniors and seniors and Hilton Head Island High School to allow the IB Programme to continue under a probationary status for two years.

Board Member Dr. Wayne Carbiener made a motion to amend the previous motion to delay the discussion and disposition until February 15, 2011. Motion passed.

Superintendent Dr. Valerie Truesdale presented to the Board updated considerations for reductions.

Superintendent Dr. Valerie Truesdale provided an update of energy use in the district. Included in this report is kilowatt hour usage and energy costs over the past five years, temperature comparisons between December 2009-2010 and a comparison chart on the district square footage, KWH usage and costs.

Chief Administrative and Human Resource Services Officer Dr. Jackie Rosswurm presented Performance Expectation 12.2 Safety Training: Ensuring that all personnel receive appropriate training in matters relating to safety and security, such as blood borne pathogens and workplace / school sexual harassment.

Board Business Action

Secretary Laura Bush made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Distinguished and STEM Diplomas. Motion passed.

Vice Chairman George Wilson made a motion to authorize the filing of E-rate Year 2011 applications for eligible E-rate Priority 1 Services and further acknowledge that the Board will budget for sufficient funds to pay for the District's share of Service Provider invoices for these services. Motion passed.

Secretary Laura Bush made a motion to accept the donation of the Outdoor Shed made by Lowe's for Okatie Elementary School. The value of the Outdoor Shed is \$1,397. Motion passed.

Bill Evans made a motion to accept the donation from Elaine Krome of the violin for the District's string program. The value of the violin is \$2,000. Motion passed.

Consent Agenda

Board Member Earl Campbell made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

- 11/ 12-13/10 Work Session, 12/7/10 & 12/15/10 Minutes
- P.E. 1.2 - Foster Collaboration
- P.E. 1.4 - Foster Technology Use

- P.E. 1.5 - Evaluate Instructional Programs
- P.E. 1.6 - Continuous Improvement
- P.E. 1.8 - Involve Staff/parents in Curriculum
- P.E. 1.9 - Evaluate Textbooks
- P.E. 2.1 - Career Enrichment
- P.E. 2.2 - Build Leadership Capacity
- P.E. 5.8 - Internal Controls
- P.E. 5.10 - Annual workers Comp. Report
- P.E.6.B.4 - Grievance Procedure
- P.E.6.B.5 - Protect Confidential Information
- P.E.6.C.3 - Recognize Excellence
- P.E.6.C4 - Support Person of the Year
- P.E.8.3 - Review School Boundaries
- Monthly HR Status Report
- Monthly AE/Home Schooling

Adjournment