

Superintendent's Board Meeting Summary: July 14 and 15, 2020

Chair Christina Gwozdz recessed executive session and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Coming out of executive session, motion to approve the adult home school report (approved). Motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendations for employment listed on the June 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020 Personnel Ratification Report. Board discussion. Motion approved.

Motion to move the forensic audit to the first order of business and move the 8 percent bond resolution to the end of the business agenda. Board discussion. Motion approved. Motion to postpone the Board parliamentary and length of Board meetings agenda items to the August work session. Board discussion. Motion approved. Motion to approve the agenda as modified by the two votes. Board discussion. Motion approved.

Pledge of Allegiance. Motion of silence in honor of Elias Maldonado, who tragically passed away in a pool over the weekend. Statement of media notification.

Points of Celebration

Dr. Rodriguez recognized the 2019-2020 retirees.

Public Comment

Community members spoke regarding the district's reopening plan.

Community member spoke regarding the forensic audit, and board governance. Community member spoke regarding improving the HVAC and infiltration systems in district schools.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the June 23-24, 2020 Board meeting minutes (approved).

Chair's Report

Dr. Gwozdz clarified a comment made during the public comment section regarding a meeting that was held between herself, Cathy Robine, Dr. James Caswell and Jen Fielding.

Committee Reports

Academic Committee – Chair Tricia Fidrych said the committee was presented the Progressive Discipline Plan and Student Code of Conduct at the July 8 special called Academic Committee meeting. The full Board will be presented with the plan under the Superintendent's Report. The Academic Committee will be meeting July 15 to review several P.E.s and to discuss the revised scope.

Ad Hoc Bluffton Growth Committee – Chair Rachel Wisniewski said the committee met on June 25 to revisit the conversation about purchase of the CIP book to distribute to key stakeholders. Motion to purchase 30 of the capital improvement plan books in print format coming from board funds. Board discussion. Motion approved. The committee also discussed potential land available in the Town of Bluffton and are coordinating a meeting with Town of Bluffton officials.

Finance Committee – Chair JoAnn Orischak said the committee met on July 7 and July 9. The July 7 meeting focused on committee policy development. Motion that the Finance Committee recommend to the full Board that the references to the Board of Education in the BCSD Procurement Code Document be given to the Standing Policy Committee for placement in Handbook and/or Policy Manual (approved). At the July 9 meeting, the committee looked at two new operational expectations - Food Services and Administrative Technology - and had a brief discussion on the forensic audit.

Operations Committee – Chair David Striebinger stated the committee was presented information on student athletic fees and the committee does not support these fees. Board discussion. Motion that the Board direct the operations committee to look at a broad base discussion on student fees in general. Board discussion. Motion approved.

Mr. Striebinger also shared that the committee reviewed the evaluation tool for the referendum project manager. Motion that the Board approve the evaluation tool presented for the referendum project manager. Board discussion. Chief Operations Officer Robert Oetting addressed the Board's questions. Motion approved.

Rob Corbin, with CBRE Heery, presented a construction update and addressed the Board's questions.

Policy Committee – Chair Mr. Striebinger stated the committee is meeting weekly and is continually working on the items that the policy committee was tasked with by the Board and has a target date of completion of August 11. Mr. Striebinger addressed the Board's questions. Motion that the Board instruct the Standing Policy committee to incorporate the ten guiding principles in the coherent governance model in either the policy or in the handbook (approved).

Superintendent's Report

Goal #1 Student Achievement

N'Kia Campbell, Directive of Academic Initiatives, LaKinsha Swinton, Director of Student Services and Karen McKenzie, former District Teacher of the Year, presented on the updated Student Code of Conduct. District staff addressed the Board's questions. Motion to send the Student Code of Conduct back to the Academic Committee for continued revisions. Board discussion. Motion failed. Motion that the Board approve the progressive plan student code of conduct with the addition of SS39 be added to the document. Board discussion. Motion approved.

The meeting recessed at 10:06 p.m.

Chair Christina Gwozdz reconvened the Board meeting on July 15 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion that the Beaufort County Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to sign the Memorandum of Agreement coordinating memo, the Memorandum of Agreement-Culinary Institute, and the Memorandum of Agreement-Dual Enrollment with the Technical College of the Lowcountry. A copy of each agreement will be attached to this motion. Board discussion. Dr. Rodriguez, Karen Gilbert, Director of Career and Technical Education, and attorney Roberts Vaux addressed the Board's questions. Motion approved.

Superintendent's Report Continued

Goal #2 Highly Qualified Teachers and Administrators

Dr. Rodriguez introduced new hires Dr. Duke Bradley, Deputy Superintendent, and Candace Bruder, Director of Communications.

Goal #3 Fiscal Responsibility

Chief Financial Officer Tonya Crosby introduced Chad Cowan of Hilltop Securities, who presented on debt service funds. Ms. Crosby presented information that came out of the meeting with Dr. Rodriguez and Jim Beckert, County Auditor. Motion that persons, other than BCSD employees or those contracted by BCSD, who are invited to speak or present to the Board in public session will provide, if any, supporting materials such as PPTS, documents, etc. to the entire Board no later than 48 hours prior to the scheduled board meeting in which he/she was invited to present. Failure to provide to the whole board presentation materials no later than 48 hours prior to the scheduled presentation will result in a rescheduling of the presentation. Board discussion. Amended motion to strike 48 hours and replace with one week. Board discussion.

Amended motion that persons, other than BCSD employees or those contracted by BCSD, who are invited to speak or present to the Board in public session will provide, if any, supporting materials such as PPTS, documents, etc. to the entire Board no later than five business days prior to the scheduled board meeting in which he/she was invited to present. Failure to provide to the whole board presentation materials no later than five business days prior to the scheduled presentation will result in a rescheduling of the presentation. Board discussion.

Amended motion that persons, other than BCSD employees or those contracted by BCSD, who are invited to speak or present to the Board in public session will provide, if any, supporting materials on the same timeline as BCSD such as PPTS, documents, etc. to the entire Board to the scheduled board meeting in which he/she was invited to present. Failure to provide to the whole board presentation materials prior to the scheduled presentation will result in a rescheduling of the presentation. Board discussion. Motion approved.

Other Matters

Dr. Rodriguez outlined the process used to develop the reopening plan and the safety protocols included in the plan. Dr. Rodriguez acknowledged and expressed his appreciation to parents for their continued support and engagement. He recommended delaying the 2020-2021 school start date to September 8 and addressed the Board's questions. Motion to direct the

Superintendent to bring a revised calendar with a start date of September 8, 2020. Board discussion. Motion approved.

Public Comment

Community member spoke regarding Board behavior. Community member spoke regarding deciding on the options to return to school. A teacher requested to start the school year with a well thought-out virtual plan. Community member suggested opening the comments on Facebook for the public to ask their questions and asked about the mask policy in the plan. Teachers shared concerns about the risk teachers will take going back to the classroom. Community member spoke about Forensic Audit.

Discussion resumed regarding the reopening plan. Dr. Rodriguez, Ms. Crosby and Chief Administrative and Human Resources Officer Alice Walton addressed the Board's questions.

Board Business

Chair Gwozdz led a discussion of the forensic audit. Robyn Cushingberry, Board Executive Assistant, will query board members for a special called meeting on this topic.

District Attorney Wendy Cartledge led a discussion on the approval of Board Resolution authorizing sale of real property (Burroughs Street Property, Beaufort) to Holy Trinity Classical Christian School. Motion to approve the Beaufort County School District Resolution Authorizing Sale of Real Property to the Holy Trinity Classical Christian School in the amount of \$1,275,000.00 (approved).

Ms. Crosby and Frannie Heizer, of Burr & Forman addressed the Board's questions regarding the approval of the 8% Bond Resolution. Motion to approve the resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of a not to exceed \$9,690,000 general obligation bond, series 2020, or such other appropriate series designation, of the school district of Beaufort County (approved).

Motion to adjourn approved at 10:50 p.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: <https://www.beaufortcountysc.gov/the-county-channel/index.html>