

Board of Education Summary – July 19, 2011

Board Chairman Fred S. Washington, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:09 PM.

Mrs. Bell made a motion that the board authorize the Administration to purchase 1.25 acre parcel on Hyon Drive from the Herritt Family Land Trust II. The consideration is \$263,158.00. The property is shown as Beaufort County PID Number R610-031-000-1431-0000 and will complete the land purchase for Bluffton Middle School. The funding was established and set aside in 2006 through the availability of State Bond funds.

Mrs. Bell made a motion that the board authorize the Administration to purchase 10.10 acre parcel on Hyon Drive from Betty Lou Hursey based on signed Option Agreement For Sale and Purchase of Realty dated March 18, 2009. The consideration is \$1,282,400.00. The property is shown as Beaufort County PID Number R610-031-000-0010-0000 and will complete the land purchases for Bluffton Middle School. The funding was established and set aside in 2006 through the availability of State bond funds.

The Board approved the motions to purchase both parcels of property.

Mrs. Bush made a motion to accept the employment of Matthew Hunt as Principal of Whale Branch Middle School. The motion was approved by the Board

Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Bush made a motion to approve the agenda with the following amendments to the agenda. To remove 2012-13 Capital Improvement (8%) Projects under Board Business. This item will be covered at the July 21-22 Work Session, and to add to Board Business the donation of \$1,000.00 from Hargray for the Back to School Expo.

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation

The invocation was presented by Rev. Rivers.

Statement of Media Notification

Points of Celebration – as spoken by Dr. Truesdale.

Good Evening, Ladies and Gentlemen.

We start out this evening by introducing Mr. Matthew Hunt, new Principal at Whale Branch Middle School. (Mr. Hunt and family was introduced to the Board and audience.)

Beaufort County School's most recent Early Childhood Centers at MC Riley and Bluffton Elementary have earned LEED Silver and LEED Certifications, respectively, by the US Green Building Council. According to

the buildings' architect Cherie A. Liollo of Watson Tate Savory Liollo Architecture Firm, the MC Riley Center achieved LEED Silver; and the Bluffton Center has achieved LEED Certified, following an almost identical score sheet for the LEED For Schools category. Variations occurred in site designs, but reflect similar achievements for existing site utilization, maximizing open space, protecting existing habitat, reducing heat island effects, and encouraging community usage of the facilities. Some LEED points centered on Owner-operational aspects; such as storage of collectibles, banning tobacco use on campuses, and featuring the building as a LEED educational component (utilizing student artwork.)

It is my pleasure to call Cherie Liollo forward (Cherie to make presentation).

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) has announced that Beaufort County School District, for the fourth consecutive year, has received the Government Finance Officers Association's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget document.

A significant achievement by the school district, the award reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the school district had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well the district's budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communication device.

When a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is granted to an entity, a Certificate of Recognition for Budget Presentation is also presented to the individuals designated as being primarily responsible for its having achieved the award. It is my pleasure to honor this evening **Tonya Crosby, Financial Services Officer, Louis Ackerman, Budget Analyst, and Reggie Murphy, Director of Internal Controls.**

Fair and honest reporting of school news and issues are key to media communication. Tonight I would like to recognize media partner **Sara Wright** of Bluffton Today. It is with regret that we say good-bye and good luck to Sara who will move shortly back to Colorado. We thank you for your service to our school district and community. (Read certificate of appreciation.)

More than 150 children from grades 3 to 8 are enjoying stimulating and mind-expanding experiences at the Sea Island School for the Arts and Academics (SISA II) Camp this week and next. All children attending camp have been identified as academically or artistically gifted. Camp organizers Margaret Rushton and Cindy Duryea have put together a wonderful roster of classes ranging from musical theatre and robotics to balloon powered racers and watercolor art. In addition, other Beaufort County students are enrolled in the School District and Coastal Discovery Museum joint program, Coastal Discovery Camp, for the past two weeks.

Hilton Head Island High School Guidance Counselor, Raychelle Lohmann, is the recipient of the Barbara H. James Award for Outstanding Contributions to Career and Technology Education. The award names Raychelle as the Counselor of the Year for the South Carolina Department of Education Office of Career and Technology. Raychelle is a Professional School counselor and Global Career Development Facilitator and Hilton Head High. She is also the author of two books, [The Anger Workbook for Teens and Staying Cool...When You're Steaming Mad.](#) Raychelle has worked in both middle and high school settings as a school counselor. She has done extensive research in anger management and specializes in individual and group counseling. Congratulations Raychelle on your award!

Recent **Battery Creek High School** graduates, **Tatiara Collins and Kailin Good**, are recipients of SC Teaching Fellows Scholarships in the amount of \$24, 000. In 1999, the SC General Assembly, recognizing the shortage of teachers in our state, funded the Teaching Fellows Program for South Carolina. The mission of the South Carolina Teaching Fellows Program is to recruit talented high school seniors into the teaching profession and help them develop leadership qualities. Each year, the program provides Fellowships for up to 175 high school seniors who have exhibited high academic achievement, a history of service to their school and community, and a desire to teach in South Carolina. Congratulations!

More than 300 teachers from across the state including those from our district are participating this week in the 2011 SC TAP (Teacher Advancement Program) Summer Institute at Beaufort High School. Formerly known as TAP University, the Institute offers a wide spectrum of learning for administrators, master and mentor teachers. TAP is operated by the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching (NIET) and encourages teachers to grow and allows them to prosper by offering new models for professional entry and training, with new compensation and career advancement possibilities. It honors the essence while changing the structure of the teaching profession.

Leaders from **Battery Creek High School's** SADD Club (Students Against Destructive Decisions) chapter joined other youth activists from across the country in Chicago recently to learn the latest in prevention education and celebrate SADD's 30th anniversary of saving lives. Students and advisors from 34 states and Canada gathered at the four-day SADD National Conference in Chicago, IL, June 26th-29th, to share best practices in educating their peers and promoting positive decision-making. Youth leaders attended innovative workshops aimed at providing students with information about topics critical to youth health and safety, such as underage drinking, violence and suicide, driving safety, diversity, bullying, and advocacy. Participants learned from motivational activities and presentations aimed at exchanging new approaches and gathering ideas that they will now share with the community and develop into events for their SADD chapter's implementation over the course of the coming school year.

Public Conversation:

Members of the community addressed the board regarding school closures and utilization of buildings.

Comment Corrections:

Mr. Washington addressed several comments made during public conversation.

Showcase:

Mentoring Mathematical Minds

Cindy Duryea, Gifted and Talented Coordinator, and Maryanne Rizzi, Math Coordinator, presented a showcase on the M² -- Mentoring Young Mathematicians Program proposed for all 2nd grade students. The program introduces geometry to students in an engaging way using shapes and language through journal/letters. The program will sync well with Every Day Math. Following questions by board members, the program was approved and will be introduced in October 2011.

Superintendent's Report:

Allison Thomas, Director of Riverview Charter School, presented the school's Annual Report and Staffing Plan. Mrs. Thomas highlighted several areas. She stated that students' average reading and math scores exceeded the national average in every grade level. As this was the first time the Board had seen the report, they asked to study it further. Mrs. Thomas stated that while they had worked diligently on the staffing plan, they most likely would fall short on diversification. Board members commented on the seriousness of the issue.

Casey Newsome, Physical Education and Health Coordinator, presented a new Comprehensive Health Curriculum for High Schools entitled Safer Choices. The curriculum was recommended by the Comprehensive Health Education Advisory Committee and endorsed by high school principals as well as HE McCracken Middle School. It was also accepted by the high school School Improvement Councils. According to Ms. Newsome, Safer Choices teaches that abstinence is the best way to prevent STDs and pregnancy. The program emphasizes that contraception is important for reducing these risks for students who decide to have sex. Dr. Carbiener made a motion to authorize the administration to implement the Safer Choices curriculum for the middle and high schools. Following discussion by the Board, the program was approved.

Mrs. Amanda O'Nan, Principal, Hilton Head Island High School, and Mr. Jim Shirley, Principal, Hilton Head Island Middle School, reported on the 6-10th Grade International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program and what the schools need to do to fulfill MYP accreditation.

Mr. Terry Dingle, Director of Operational Support Services, presented his report on Public Use of Facilities – PE 14.0 and stated that the District is in Compliance with the Performance Expectation. Mr. Campbell made a motion to accept the PE 14.0. The Board approved the report.

Chairman's Report –

Mr. Washington thanked the Beaufort Chamber of Commerce for honoring Beaufort Teachers of the Year at the Annual Civitas Banquet in June.

Mr. Washington stated that he had met with the Beaufort Town Council regarding Port Royal Elementary School.

Mr. Washington recently met with DSS and other health care professionals to discuss "Project Hope" a scholarship program to bring young people into the health care professions.

Committee Report –

Mr. Campbell stated that the ACE Board will meet on July 28th

Mr. Evans reported that an AD Hoc Task Force on was reviewing District Procurement Policy

Board Business Action:

The Board approved Teacher Supply Allocation of \$250 for each eligible teacher

The Board approved to accept a donation of \$1000 from Hargray Communications for the Back to School Expo.

The Meeting Adjourned at 8:24 PM.