

Superintendent's Board Meeting Summary: September 1, 2015

Chairman Bill Evans called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

There was no action coming out of the executive session.

Motion to approve the agenda. Approved.

Pledge of Allegiance, invocation by Rev. Rivers.

Points of Celebration (as delivered by Superintendent Moss)

BHS ENGINEERING TEAM

We mentioned this achievement at a Board meeting several months ago, but because the students were not able to attend, we postponed delayed their recognitions until tonight.

Two teams of Beaufort High students won a pair of prestigious honors in the 2015 Project Lead the Way State Engineering Championship held at the University of South Carolina's Engineering Center.

The Introduction to Engineering Design Team took home the 2015 championship trophy, narrowly beating out Columbia's Dutch Fork High. The team of Anna Kate D'Angelo, Jackie Kim and Lucas Cato reverse-engineered a series of toys for a hypothetical company whose engineering records had been destroyed by fire.

The Principles of Engineering team won Best Presentation. Working in a timed competition, that team – Chris Richardson, Deven Singleton and Casey Allen – designed, built and tested a device to contain a product load released with a remote dump feature on the end of a support arm, all cantilevered off the edge of a table top.

Beaufort High has participated in the state competition the last five years, winning two state championships and one state runner-up title.

I'd like to ask any team members who are with us tonight to please come forward. Their coach, John Plank, recently retired.

Bre-Anna Heyward – BHS National Guard Honor

At just 17 years of age, Bre-Anna Heyward-White has made National Guard history. About three weeks ago, Bre-Anna attended National Guard training for the first time. As a state champion track and field athlete and a member of Beaufort High's JROTC program, she was prepared for the challenge of the two-mile run. But she was still surprised when she was the top female finisher in her squadron. Bre-Anna then made the choice of specializing in Combat Engineering – a choice that ultimately made history when she became the first African-American female in National Guard history to be accepted for combat engineer training. Bre-Anna, if you would please come forward.

BMS eCybermission

eCybermission is a U.S. Army educational outreach program based on competitions designed to engage students interested in STEM education. The competitions are web-based, with students solving real-life problems in their communities.

First place in South Carolina's statewide competition went to a team from Beaufort Middle School that created a recycling awareness campaign. As a result of that campaign, the amount of recycled items at Beaufort Middle more than doubled.

First-place team members are Christy Stowe, Hope Locke and Ky McLemore. They each received a \$1,000 savings bond from eCybermission. Their team advisor was Chandra Payne, and they were assisted by Beaufort County Recycling Coordinator Kathryn Madden.

Would the students please come forward?

September 11 Commemoration Video

For tonight's final item, please turn your attention to the screen for a special video that commemorates the events that took place on September 11, 2001.

Public Conversation

Lisa Lucas, special education teacher at Bluffton High School, announced that the president of the National Education Association will visit Beaufort County on Sept. 10. Her visit will include Bluffton High School, Whale Branch Early College High School and Penn Center.

Chairman's Report

Mr. Evans discussed the recent SCSBA Law conference attended by seven Board members. He said it was the most relevant and productive one he had attended in five years. Mr. Evans and Ms. Orischak gave update on ACE transition committee activities. The next ACE transition committee meeting will be at Battery Creek High School.

Committee Reports

ACE: At the last meeting, the committee updated the work of the transition team. The issue that got most attention was the enrollment at ACE (348 students). The ACE Board will meet Sept. 17.

Curriculum and Instruction: The committee did not meet and are discussing the next agenda.

Finance and Operations: The committee had not met since the last Board meeting.

Human Resources: The committee met yesterday to discuss expanding the locality supplement. Their next meeting is scheduled for Sept. 15 to review the evaluation instrument for Dr. Moss.

Legislative and Outreach Committee: At the last meeting, the committee reviewed the legislative agenda and legislation pertaining to the ACE transition team. At the next meeting, there will be an update on the SCSBA law conference that took place last week.

Student Services: The committee met on August 25 and discussed assistance for state competition winners, Board policy pertaining to diversity guidelines and the calendar for remainder of the year. The committee's next meeting will be Sept. 22.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Rhoads discussed the advisor programs for secondary schools, explained its purpose and benefits for teachers and students, and took questions from the Board. All of the district's secondary schools will implement this program. Dr. Rhoads took questions from the Board.

Board Business

Motion to accept a \$5,201 donation from Sea Island Rotary Club for school uniforms. Approved.

Motion to accept a Lowcountry Rotary Club donation to purchase items for anti-bullying efforts. Approved.

Motion to approve resolutions celebrating the National Arts in Education, National Hispanic Heritage Month, and Constitution Week as recommended by the Student Services Committee. Approved.

The Board discussed proposed revisions to BCR 13: Cost of Board Governance. Motion to approve the revisions. Mr. Roth expressed concerns, and Board members engaged in an extended discussion. Mr. Rivers moved to table the issue but withdrew the motion. Original motion to approve the revisions was approved.

New Business

No new business.

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the consent agenda. Approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Complete video footage of Board of Education meetings can be found at <http://www.co.beaufort.sc.us/departments/Community-Services/county-channel/index.php>.