



Board of Education Summary
February 16, 2010
School Board Meeting

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

Chairman Washington called for the approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved

Pledge of Allegiance

Media properly notified

Invocation

Red Cedar students delivered the invocation from the satellite office on Hilton Head with letters of appreciation to the school board members

Points of Celebration

As spoken by Dr. Truesdale –

Congratulations to nine Beaufort County teachers who recently received their Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from Lesley University. The teachers' coursework specialized in literacy and its application across different populations and content areas. The nine new grads include: Kelly Wersler, Benji Morgan and Bethanne Barner from Red Cedar; Kim Waters, Port Royal Elementary; Erika Smith, Hilton Head Elementary; Stacie Gleva and Doris Belshir, MC Riley; Kristin Hessey, Bluffton Elementary; and Jamie Allen, Broad River Elementary.

District musicians are in the news. Congratulations to the following students who auditioned and were accepted into the **South Carolina Region Band**. These middle and high school musicians will perform with the other top musicians in the Region Band at Charleston Southern University at the end of this month.

From Beaufort Middle School:

- Brandon Little
- Tafari Salaam
- Mikel Hannah-Harding

From Hilton Head Island High School:

- Caitlin Brown
- Tony Scacchi

From Robert Smalls Middle School:

- Christopher Daigle
- Krystyn Kibler

From Hilton Head Island Middle School:

- Benjamin Sigmon

In addition, we applaud those students who qualified for the **South Carolina All-State Band**. After qualifying at the regional level, they advanced to the state level. These students will perform with other student musicians in the All-State Band at Furman University in March.

From Hilton Head Island Middle School

- Brandon Johnson

From Hilton Head Island High School

- Billy Glesias
- Tyler Dunn

From Beaufort High School

- Joseph Hindahl
- Jacob Galvan
- Ashton Wheeler
- Bobby Semler

Bluffton High School reports that two of their seniors are in the running for prestigious national honors. William Gwozdz has been named a finalist candidate in the United States Presidential Scholars Program and Deshara Gadson, is a finalist in the National Achievement Scholarship Program sponsored by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. These two students are in the rarified echelon of all high school seniors and are to be commended for their hard work and achievement. We wish them the best in their pursuit of scholarships that will be awarded this spring.

Our district is leading the way in environmental stewardship. Ten Bluffton High School students have been named Champions of the Environment 2010 by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control for their Tee-Bag Project. The Tee-Bag project involves creating reusable shopping bags from unused tee-shirts and fabrics. Bags will be distributed for no charge to local stores and contain a pamphlet on protecting the environment. The Tee-Bag program is a project of STEP – Student Training Empowerment Program. The Bluffton High students were in the top five out of 73 DHEC applicants. Please join me in congratulating the following Bluffton students: Mady Kent, Sandra Padillo, Alexi Magos, Taryn Hart, Megan McKinley, Wesley Hencely, Monique Bryant, Hannah Albert, Evelyn Cortez, and Ashley Moore.

H.E McCracken Middle School has also been awarded a South Carolina Champion of the Environment Award/Grant by SC DHEC. Their project, Protect OUR Watershed- Be River Smart was implemented by Environmental Studies classes in grades 6, 7 and 8. In this award winning project, students acted as stewards of the rivers by performing water quality tests, identifying and counting phytoplankton, recycling paper, plastic and aluminum, picking up trash and facilitating demonstrations to teach other students and adults about pollution sources. Project organizer, teacher Susan Dee explained that all these activities are educational experiences connected to the local rivers. “Educating the students about the unique and beautiful ecosystem in which they

live is the goal of the program. They are the future stewards of the local waterways.” Besides a prize of grant money to purchase supplies to continue and expand the program, a television commercial will be made by DHEC and shown on local TV and web sites. Congratulations to our McCracken students!!

We have several celebratory points from Robert Smalls Middle School this evening. Many thanks are extended to Okatie Rotary Club members who recently presented a personal dictionary to every member of the 6th grade class at Robert Smalls. That's over 200 books! We are most grateful to these generous Rotarians!

Two of the four first place winners in the recent Beaufort Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution Essay contest were from Robert Smalls! The Contest was open to all 5th through 8th grade students in public as well as private schools in Beaufort. Please congratulate our two winners from Robert Smalls -- Bailee Jones and Nicholas Western.

And we have even more writing award news with Nicholas Western..... eighth grader Nicholas and Lady's Island Intermediate School fifth grader Allie Nicole Brummer have been named winners in the district's 2009-2010 State Superintendent's Writing Awards Program. Offered to only fifth and eighth grade students, the topic this year was "People's Influence on Other Living Things." Fifth graders were asked to write a letter to fellow students urging them to be better environmental stewards. Eighth graders wrote a letter to County Council members regarding property for sale that was a habitat for rare or endangered species. The award winning essays will be posted on our district web site this week. Congratulations, Allie and Nicholas.

Battery Creek High School was a big winner at the recent Future Business Leaders of America District IV Leadership Conference Competition. Competition areas, placement and winners include:

Desktop Publishing	1 st Place Team	Romia Verett and Wyatt Minton
Desktop Publishing	4 th Place Team	Kayla White and Makeba James
Business Calculations	1 st Place	Allyson Morgan
Business Communications	2 nd Place	Eboni Frazier
Business Math	5 th Place	Willie Brown
Economics	5 th Place	Stanisha Stroman
Business Calculations	<i>No Placement but Competed Also, so Honorable Mention or something for her on the announcements too would be nice if you want</i>	Tiara Green

All of these students are now eligible to compete on the State Level at the State Leadership conference in Charleston in. Congratulations to these students and advisor, Desiree Mungin.

Kudos are extended to our ESOL teachers who are helping bridge the communication gap with Hispanic parents and the Latino community by contributing stories and school information on a regular basis to La Isla Magazine, our Hispanic media partner. In turn, La Isla is now being distributed monthly to our schools to be used as a teaching tool in our ESOL classes. This is a wonderful partnership – a real win-win! A special thank you to Eric Esquivel and his staff at La Isla!

I mentioned last meeting that many schools have held fundraisers to raise money for earthquake victims in Haiti. Two of the initiatives include an orthopedic equipment drive by students at Battery Creek High School and a combined reunion fundraiser by alumni of Robert Smalls High School, Battery Creek High School and Beaufort High School with money going to Samaritan's Purse. School donations continue to pour in for the Red Cross as well. I am very proud of the compassion shown by our Beaufort County School District students.

There were approximately 175 teachers, health professionals and community members in attendance at the Eat Smart Move More Wellness Conference at Bluffton High School yesterday. Keynote speaker was Joanne Owens-Nausler who emphasized pairing physical education with other subjects for improved achievement. The event featured a variety of activities including exercise participation and cooking demonstrations. Congratulations to the Eat Smart Move More Lowcountry organization for an informative day!

And, while we are on the subject of moving, Don Gruel and his students at Mossy Oaks are really moving these days! Each class is walking to Vancouver! So far, the school has collectively walked 6780 miles. Leading the way in class competition is the 5th grade with a total of 2016 miles walked followed by the 4th grade with 1364; the 3rd grade with 1258; the K/1st grade with 1212 and the 2nd grade with 930 miles walked. This is a great effort by the Mossy Oaks boys and girls!

I close tonight with Points of Celebration on the sports front.....Our Hilton Head High School Wrestling Team will be going for the State Championships tomorrow night – great job; and we have a number of students who signed with colleges recently for various sports. Those athletes include:

Spencer Wallace, HHIHS, has signed with the Citadel for Track

From Battery Creek High School:

Ricky Cheney signed a National Letter of Intent to play football at Clemson

Spencer Shine signed a National Letter of Intent to play football at Johnson C. Smith

Cleon Wright – will play football for Hutchinson Kansas Junior College

Angie Whalen will play volleyball at Spartanburg Methodist College

Public Conversation

Several parents, teachers and community members addressed the school board concerning Riverview Charter School

Showcase

Construction update on Pritchardville Elementary

Chief Operational Services Officer, Phyllis White, gave an update on the progression of Pritchardville Elementary School. The school is on schedule and under budget. The school is expected to be complete in April 2010 and ready to open for fall 2010.

Board Business Action

Chairman Washington made a motion to change the agenda to move the Riverview Charter School Expansion Option Request.

Chief Administrative and Human Resource Services Officer, Jackie Rosswurm, gave a report on the status of enrollment at Riverview Charter School and how it relates with OCR compliance. Dr. Rosswurm presented six options to the school board that would be in compliance with the Office of Civil Rights (OCR). The school board reviewed the options and asked questions for clarification. Chairman Washington motioned the board to not make a decision on an option rather the board of Riverview Charter School be innovative and determine options as long as they were in compliance with OCR and not exceed 304 students, holding true to the charter. The school board's position is that extra funds can't be allocated to Riverview while schools in the district are in need as well.

Chairman's Report**Committee Report**

Ad hoc Committee met to determine academic goals for the 2010-2011. The committee decided to continue using the PASS scores as a measurement of progress instead of MAP scores. Next committee meeting will be Monday, March 29 at ACE.

Superintendent's Report

Evaluate Instructional Programs

Quarterly Spending

Allocate Resources

Quarterly Financial Statement

Proposal to Provide Used Mobile Unit to Sheriff's Department

Board Business Action

- Presentation of Proposed Pritchardville Mascot and Colors – Panthers, Navy, Kelly Green, and Red
Uniform colors – Navy, Kelly Green, Red, and White shirts with Khaki pants. No action was taken on the mascot or colors.

New Business

Motion made to reconsider grandfathering in rising 8th, 9th, and 11th graders at Beaufort High School. Discussion tabled for a later time.

Consent Agenda

Technology – Donation of Student Response System – moved to March 2 meeting

Minutes 1/05/10; 1/08/10; 1/15/10; 1/19/10

Adjournment