

Board of Education Summary
December 15, 2010
School Board Meeting

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

Chairman Fred Washington called for the approval of the agenda

Vice Chairman Bob Arundell made a motion to approve the agenda with one exception to move the agenda item regarding the postponement of discussion regarding closing schools to after the invocation. Motion passed.

Pledge of Allegiance

Media properly notified

Invocation

Given by Board Member Herbert Burns

Vice Chairman Bob Arundell made a motion to postpone any discussions regarding the closing of any schools until after the beginning of the new year. Board Secretary Laura Bush made a motion to amend the previous motion to establish January 7 as the date to revisit this discussion of school closings. Motion failed. The motion made by Vice Chairman Bob Arundell stood and was passed.

Points of Celebration

- Our teachers and staff have done an incredible job of applying for grants this year to help fill the economic void. We recently heard of several more grant recipients in the district.
- Two Beaufort Middle and Okatie Elementary School classes have received \$750.00 grants from Target to underwrite the cost of field trips to Historic Beaufort. Participating students will learn about the city's architecture. Congratulations and thank you, Target!
- Hilton Head Island Elementary School for the Creative Arts and the SERG Restaurant Group on Hilton Head Island are partnering to teach children more about healthy eating. The school received \$2000 worth of cooking supplies through the Partnership for a Healthier America under The Chef's Move initiative. Chefs from the Serg Group will instruct students on healthy food preparation and demonstrate how to cook nutritious meals.
- The District recently hosted a training for 25 child care directors and staff from centers across Beaufort, Jasper and Hampton counties. The topic was an Overview of the new SC Infant & Toddler Guidelines. Additional trainings sponsored by the District in the 6 domains of school readiness have been planned in the coming months.

- Hilton Head Island High School, Bluffton High School and Beaufort High School are among the 79 high schools from across South Carolina to be recognized by the SC Department of Education for their efforts on either the ACT or SAT college entrance exams. The improvement awards were created to showcase schools that showed high performance on the ACT or SAT and those that have had rapid or continuous improvement in their scores.
- Children at Okatie Elementary School who struggle with reading have a new and very patient listening partner. According to Jamie Pinckney, Dante the Great Dane makes a great audience!

Public Comment

Several parents and community members made comments regarding Shell Point Elementary and discussions of district rezoning. Several parents spoke to the Board on behalf of Shell Point Elementary and discussions of district rezoning. Some parents thanked the Board for tabling the discussion of possibly closing Shell Point Elementary however insisting to the Board to keep the school open. Vice Chairman Bob Arundell again stated no decisions have been made at this time regarding the closing of any school and continues to encourage parents and community members to become involved with the district and with County Council as the budget season approaches.

Showcase

Roland Gardner, Executive Director for the Beaufort Jasper Hampton Comprehensive Health addressed the Board and presented the Sheldon Township Health & Fitness Initiative and Beaufort County School District.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Washington commended the partnership between Sheldon Township and the Beaufort County School District.

Committee Report

Board Member Jim Bequette gave a report on the audit committee. The audit committee has submitted two recommendations:

1. It is moved that our audit firm Webster Rodgers LLP conduct an audit of the controls and approval process for using the contingency money on the school buildings completed in the past two years. This would be accomplished as soon as it can be scheduled.
2. It is recommended that Webster Rodgers LLP audit compliance with control policies on the credit card utilized for small purchases. This would be accomplished as part of the 2011 annual audit.

Motion passed on both recommendations.

Legislative Committee Report was moved to the next meeting

Superintendent's Report

Information Items

1. Update on Sale of Property
2. Letter to the SCDOT requesting Flashing School Zone Signs at St. Helena Elementary School

Board Business Action

Motion to reduce the number of reports submitted by administration

Motion to reduce the number of reports provided by administration was postponed.

Motion to review extra-curricular activities as possible budget cuts

Motion to look at extra-curricular activities as possible budget cuts was postponed until the next meeting.

Approval of Summer 2011 Construction Contracts

Board Member Dr. Wayne Carbiener made a motion to approve the districts recommendation for the request and recommendation to grant the approval to authorize the District to negotiate fair contracts with the firms listed below:

1. MB Kahn Construction
2. Fraser Construction
3. Thompson Turner Construction

Motion passed

Student Advisory Council Resolution

The Superintendent's Student Advisory Council presented for the Beaufort County School Board's consideration the following resolution:

1. The BCSD uniform policy be amended to allow students to wear "hoodies" during school hours.
2. Such "hoodies" must meet the same criteria as all other permissible outerwear (i.e. style and color).
3. The school administration will determine when school sponsored "hoodies" may be worn.
4. Rules governing the wearing of headgear will be applied to "hoodies".
5. This amendment will be revisited after a one year period to determine if the wearing of "hoodies" has a detrimental effect on discipline within the schools.

Motion passed.

Request to allow ACE to use Construction Portables

Chris Dinkins, Director of ACE, presented a request to allow students to use the portables brought to ACE from M.C. Riley Elementary School in the Spring of 2010. Mr. Dinkins explained while the renovations at ACE were tremendous, it only added three classrooms to the existing building. Mr. Dinkins explained that ACE would like to use four of the portables to house the 9th grade transitional program and the remaining four to move teachers out of some of the older portables.

Chairman Fred Washington made a motion to approve the request from ACE and allow the portables to be used. Motion passed.

Resolution of Beaufort County Board of Education for Low-country Economic Alliance

A motion was made to commit an appointed staff and at least one board member to the regional planning process. Motion passed.

New Business

Board Member Earl Campbell suggested to the Board members that they get involved with School Improvement Councils.

Beaufort County Education Association will be placed on the next agenda

Consent Agenda

Board Secretary Laura Bush made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed.

- Semi-Annual Maintenance Report
- Preventive Maintenance Program
- Donation of \$1,000 from Jack Nietert for Beaufort High School Chorus Voice Program
- Donation of \$1,500 from Mazzanna's Lawn Service, Inc. for Battery Creek High Basketball Classic

Adjournment