

Superintendent's Board of Education meeting summary

Two-day work session, February 28-29, 2020

Vice Chair Cathy Robine convened the Board's work session at 9:03 a.m.

Motion to approve the agenda. Board discussion. Motion approved.

Pledge of Allegiance, statement of media notification.

FY 2020-2021 Budget Update – Chief Financial Officer Tonya Crosby presented a budget update and addressed the Board's questions.

Hilton Head Island TIF Update – Ms. Crosby introduced John Troyer from the Town of Hilton Head, and they presented on TIFs for Hilton Head Island. They addressed the Board's questions.

School Security – Director of Protective Services Dave Grissom presented on the difference between SROs and armed security guards, then updated Board members on proposals for enhances to school security. Mr. Grissom and Dr. Rodriguez addressed the Board's questions.

Motion to move the Town of Bluffton Meeting Space agenda item to the next topic (approved).

Town of Bluffton Meeting Space – Board Executive Assistant Robyn Cushingberry and Director of Network Operations Rob Confare gave the Board information on the logistics involved with using the Town of Bluffton meeting space for future Board meetings, including available dates. Ms. Cushingberry and Mr. Confare addressed the Board's questions. Motion to direct the Board's assistant to set meetings for June and September of the calendar year at Bluffton Town Hall. Board discussion. Motion approved.

Discussion on Legislative Agenda with Lobbyist – Board legislative lobbyists Lynn Stokes-Murray and Shannon Bruning gave an overview of the Education Reform Bill and the state budget, and addressed Board members' questions. Ms. Robine shared the Board's legislative priorities with Mrs. Stokes-Murray and Mrs. Bruning.

ISD Update – Chief Instructional Services Officer Mary Stratos presented an update on the district's strategic plan and instructional initiatives and addressed the Board's questions.

Motion to recess the first day's work session (approved). Work session recessed at 2:18 p.m.

Day Two – February 29, 2020

Chair Christina Gwozdz reconvened the Board's work session at 8:45 a.m.

P.E. 2.D Debt Management – Frannie Heizer of Burr Forman McNair presented on referendum-approved debt and introduced various options for handling that debt and planning for future 8 percent projects. Ms. Heizer answered Board members' questions. Chad Cowan of Hilltop Securities, the district's financial advisers, briefed Board members on the school district's excellent credit ratings and how those ratings will allow the district to borrow at very low interest rates. Mr. Cowan presented Board members with various options for the sales of referendum-related bonds. Mr. Cowan and Chief Finance Officer Tonya Crosby answered Board members' questions. Chief Operations Officer Robert Oetting summarized referendum-funded construction and spending over the next few years. Board discussion. Board members asked district administration to bring the Board a recommendation on referendum bond sales for discussion at the Board's next regular meeting on Tuesday, March 3.

Board Proposed Budget FY2020-21 – Ms. Crosby introduced a proposed FY2020-21 budget for the Board of Education's budget. Board discussion. Motion to direct the superintendent to present to the Board and the public a district-wide FY2020-21 budget in three distinct and separate segments: instructional budget, operational budget and administration budget. Dr. Gwozdz ruled the motion as out of order because it applied to the district budget as a whole, whereas the current agenda item dealt with the Board's budget for its own operation. Motion to overturn the chair's ruling (approved). Board discussion. Original motion approved. Renewed discussion on the Board's FY2020-21 budget.

Review of Coherent Governance Policies – Rachel Wisniewski, speaking for the Ad Hoc Policy Committee, introduced a review of the Board's Coherent Governance policies. Board discussion. Motion that the Board create a standing Policy Committee to include, but not limited to, codifying motions from Board actions (approved). Discussion resumed on the Ad Hoc Policy Committee's policy review.

Motion that the chair direct the ad hoc policy committee to complete their work on the Governance Parking items #1,3,4,5,6 and will codify OE.6.13 in reference to PE 2.D. and direct the standing Policy committee to begin work tentatively after the April 7th meeting and work on items #7(the develop)8,9 and the highlighted areas in the draft policy (approved).

Motion to adjourn approved at 2:30 p.m.

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