

Superintendent's Board Meeting Summary: May 5, 2020

Chair Christina Gwozdz called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Coming out of executive session, motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for employment listed on the April 1-30, 2020, Personnel Ratification Report (approved). Motion to move that the Board of Education approve to extend the current contract with Willis Tower Watson for a period of one year (approved). Motion that the Board of Education approve to extend the current contract with Power School's Student Registration Module for a period of one year (approved). Motion that the Board use the Administration's recommended Option 1 to rerun the solicitation for bond counsel utilizing broadened contacts and state-wide advertisements. Board discussion. Amended motion that the Board use the Administration's recommendation to rerun the solicitation for bond counsel utilizing broadened contacts and regional advertising (approved).

Motion to approve the agenda. Board discussion. Motion approved. Pledge of Allegiance. Moment of Silence. Statement of media notification.

Points of Celebration

Dr. Rodriguez spoke in recognition of National Teacher Appreciation Week and the school district's 2020-2021 Teachers and Support Staff of the Year, and thanked parents for their home-schooling efforts during the statewide COVID-19 shutdown. He also spoke in recognition of National School Nurse's Day and School Nurse's Week.

Public Comments

A community member spoke about the inequality of online education.

Chair's Report

Dr. Gwozdz thanked all the mothers in Beaufort County School District and on the Board and wished them a happy Mother's Day.

Superintendent's Report

Goal #3 Fiscal Responsibility – Chief Financial Officer Tonya Crosby introduced Hope Pendergrass with Mauldin & Jenkins, who presented the results of the district's P-Card Audit. Ms. Crosby and Ms. Pendergrass addressed the Board's questions.

Dr. Rodriguez provided a COVID-19 update regarding high school graduation ceremonies. The District will provide virtual graduation ceremonies as well as drive-through celebrations. Dr. Rodriguez addressed the Board's questions.

Board Business

Board member Rachel Wisniewski began a discussion on real-time communications between members of the public and individual Board members during meetings.

Board discussion regarding suggestions for shortening Board meetings given the current environment.

Ms. Crosby presented an update to the FY20-21 proposed budget and addressed the Board's questions.

Future Agenda Topics

Board member John Dowling would like to explore impact fees and how Board issues are impacted by coherence governance. Ms. Wisnefski would like to address the technology plan, wi-fi inequity and the impact of COVID-19 on technology use. Tricia Fidrych would also like to discuss the technology disparity. David Striebinger would like to address start time. Joann Orischak would like a technology update as well as discussions about district-wide broadband that was considered under a previous administration, as well district plans for when schools resume. Mel Campbell would like to address summer school plans.

Public Comments

A community member spoke about various topics that included Policy, Budget, Emergency Resolution, legislative action and others within the Board's domain.

Motion to adjourn approved at 8:32 p.m.

District staff seeking more detailed information about Board actions can view Board meetings in their entirety, at any time, on the County Channel. Archived meetings may be viewed at this link: <http://www.bcqov.net/departments/community-services/county-channel/index.php>