

Board of Education Summary – November 20, 2012

Board Chairman Fred S. Washington, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:12 PM.

Mrs. Bush moved to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement relating to the New River Tax Increment Financing District between Beaufort County and the School District of Beaufort County, reviewed with the Board in executive session, and to amend the District's 2012-2013 Budget to conform to the agreement. The motion passed.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was modified and approved.

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation

Reverend Rivers made the invocation.

Statement of Media Notification

Points of Celebration (Dr. Rosswurm)

Parker Donation of \$4,000

The generosity of our communities is ever present through financial donations from our community partners. In the Bluffton area, we benefit from the wonderful philanthropy of Parker Gas Stations. It's my pleasure to introduce Mr. Greg Parker, who will tell us about Parker's "Fueling the Community" program. (A certificate of appreciation was presented to Mr. Parker).

Youth in Government – Bluffton High School, Erin Reichert Faculty Advisor

The South Carolina YMCA Youth in Government Program helps to create the next generation of good citizens by demystifying local, state, federal and global government systems. This past weekend, Erin Reichert and her Youth in Government students from Bluffton High School were in Columbia at the annual Model Legislature and Court Conference for high school students. I would like to invite Erin and her students to come forward and tell us what and how they did.

Mrs. Reichert and students made a presentation to the board regarding the program and revealed that their team was named the "Premier Delegation;" Mrs. Erin Reichert was named the "Outstanding YIG Advisor" and several students won top awards as provided below:

Outstanding Statesman Senate: Dan Brown

Outstanding Statesman Senate: Harrison Dixon

Outstanding Statesman Premier Senate: Mikyla Houghlan

Outstanding Statesman Premier House: Samantha Perkowski

Dan Brown: Selected to attend the Conference on National Affairs in Black Mountain NC in July with 24 other delegates from SC and hundreds from all over the country!

School Report Card

South Carolina School Report Cards are in, and the Beaufort County School District continues on its path to significant improvement and achievement.

- Improved student achievement and increased on-time high school graduation rates led to higher ratings for Beaufort County schools on 2012 School Report Cards released recently by the South Carolina Department of Education.
- The total number of Beaufort County schools with Absolute ratings of Good or Excellent increased from 14 in 2011 to 22 in 2012.
- The number of district schools rated Good or Excellent has increased from seven in 2009 to 22 in 2012 (25 percent to 71 percent).
- The number of schools rated Average, Good or Excellent has increased from 21 in 2009 to 29 in 2012 (75 percent to 94 percent). The district uses 2009 as the base year for longer-term comparisons because South Carolina adopted a new statewide testing system (PASS) for all students in grades 3-8.

A PowerPoint for cluster Information was presented.

Public Conversation:

- Members of SICs spoke in support of Calendar Option No. 2.
- A member spoke about the restructuring of the Bluffton Middle and High School configuration.
- A community member spoke about the NEA and salaries.
- A community member spoke about St. Helena Elementary School.

Board Business Action

Board made a motion to approve Calendar Option No. 2 (school year ending in June). Dr. Rosswurm shared survey results from parents and the public. Twenty-one percent selected Calendar 1 and 79 percent selected Calendar 2. The Board voted 9-1 in favor of Calendar 2.

Board Comment

Mr. Evans reported on bullying presentations made at several schools in Beaufort County and commended the students and teachers.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Melissa Sheppard reported on Extended Learning Time and reviewed four years of progress since its inception in 2008-2009. Last year, achievement gaps in math were not as significantly changed by ELT as in other years, while reading gaps were improved in all grades except Kindergarten and 1.

Dr. Dereck Rhoads reviewed annual student achievement for MAP, HSAP, College Admissions, Advanced Courses and AP. MAP (K-8) testing showed that in math, students were above the national norm at all grade levels. In reading, students were above the norm in all grades but Grade 2. The percent passing HSAP on the first attempt has jumped from 74.1 in 2010 to 81.4 in 2012 and is above the state norm. College admission tests saw a slight decrease in both the SAT and ACT over last year. In AP tests, the number scoring 3 or better is down slightly, but the percentage of students passing has gone from 48 percent to 50.1%.

The Board requested that future reports indicate longitudinal growth.

Mrs. White presented the Quarterly Financial Reports. A copy of the unaudited 1st Quarter FY13 Financial Summary is posted on the district website: [Departments/Finance/Accounting](#).

Mr. McCord reported on the bus camera installation. Currently we have 60 regular buses and five activity buses installed. The RSMS, BHS and Mink Point lots are completed. They will start next week at SHES and should be finished with North of the Broad schools by December 3. The projected finish date is December 21, 2012.

Chairman's Comments

Mr. Washington commented on the recent Board work sessions and how valuable it was to have the newly elected members of the Board in attendance.

Consent Agenda

The Board approved the minutes of November 6, 2012.

The Board approved the Minority Business Enterprise Report.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.