

**Board of Education
Summary
July 6, 2010**

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

Motions from Executive Session:

Vice Chairman, Bob Arundell, made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to employ Kim Bratt as the principal for Hilton Head Island Early Childhood Center. Motion passed.

Vice Chairman, Bob Arundell, made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to employ Mark Dievendorf as the principal for Bluffton High School. Motion passed.

Board Member, Jim Bequette, added the discussion of the Tax Incentive Financing (TIF) to the agenda under Board Business.

Agenda Approved

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation

Media appropriately notified.

Points of Celebration

Phyllis White, Chief Operational Services Officer, was honored with a Certificate of Achievement for Financial Accounting.

Bluffton High School was again the site of a very productive and well attended Summer Institute, June 22 – 24th. More than 750 district teachers attended the three-day event and participated in more than 150 Institute offerings. Let's extend congratulations to N'Kia Campbell and Dr. Sean Alford and the entire Instructional Services Department for another successful Summer Institute!

Robots are in the news! More than 80 District students participated in a special two-week Lego Robotics Camp co-sponsored by the District and Georgia Tech Savannah. Held at the Bluffton and Hilton Head Elementary Schools, the camp focused on the design and building of robots. Students also worked on animation projects in the Bluffton El Animation Lab. The camp was open to all district students and was especially focused on those who often learn best with visual and hands-on materials. Many thanks are extended to our district teachers who helped with the camp and Georgia Tech professionals who provided materials and training.

Sarah Owen has informed us that the Neighborhood Outreach Connection (NOC) has partnered with the school district. NOC is an organization that provides a variety of services and assistance to impoverished, primarily Hispanic families on Hilton Head and in Bluffton. Services

include organizing scouting troops, health clinics and tutoring and literacy classes for children and adults. We welcome this new alliance.

Bluffton Middle School opened with a gala flourish last week as nearly a hundred students, community, and school district personnel were on hand at the ribbon cutting. Our Facilities Planning and Construction Department, architects AAG Associates, and Thompson Turner Construction have produced a beautiful building – on time and under budget! Congratulations!

Public Conversation:

Two parents addressed busing issues for prospective AMES students south of the Broad.

A former employee of First Student Transportation Company submitted a petition to the Board of Education with 150 signatures stating: *We the Beaufort County School District / First Student School Bus Drivers need our jobs and believe we should be grand fathered into the new contract with Durham School Services, as we continue to transport our most important / precious cargo (the students of Beaufort County Schools). It was discussed in the School Board meeting that if Durham got the contract we would not lose our positions. Our signatures below represent our voices.*

A representative from Chartwell Dining Service spoke regarding the bid process for dining contract services.

Comment Corrections

Vice Chairman, Bob Arundell, spoke of blogs recently posted on the Island Packet Web Site. 15% percent is the recommended fund balance – blogger stated 5-7.5% is the recommended fund balance.

Vice Chairman, Bob Arundell, stated the School District was requesting a 1.8 mil increase which is about 2%. County Council is ALSO asking for a 1.57 mil increase which isn't that different from the 1.8 mils being sought by the School Board. It would appear County Council is making more of an issue regarding the School Board requesting an increase while quietly imposing a 1.57 mil increase of their own.

Showcase

Battery Creek High School presented the Pearson Learning Team Update.

Chairman's Report

Agenda item moved to follow the Superintendent's Report

Committee Report

Mr. Wilson reported on the Legislative Committee Report and Legislative Priorities

Superintendent's Report

Chief Instructional Services Officer, Dr. Sean Alford, shared a report on graduation rates.

Chief Instructional Services Officer, Dr. Sean Alford, presented the testing calendar for the 2010 – 2011 school year.

Chief Instructional Services Officer, Dr. Sean Alford, gave an update of Strategic Planning document for information.

Web Content Manager, Emilee MacPhee introduced school fusion which all schools will use – friendly for students, teachers and parents.

Board Business Action

Discussion on motion of June 30, 2010 regarding Riverview

Vice Chairman, Bob Arundell, made a motion that the Board intends to modify the Riverview Charter School's charter such that any increase or expansion for the following year is frozen until such time that the Board gets some confident level that the increase will be funded appropriately by a increase in the tax revenue. Motion passed.

Vice Chairman, Bob Arundell, made a motion that the board recommend to County Council that a separate line item be shown on Beaufort County tax bills for the charter school as representative of school choice. Motion failed.

Chairman, Fred Washington, made a motion to suspend the previously planned Step Increase for the 2010 – 201 school year and work towards ensuring Step Increases in FY'12 for certified classroom teachers.

Board Member, George Wilson, made an amendment to delay (instead of suspend) the Step Increases until such time it could be funded. Motion and amended motion failed.

Chairman, Fred Washington, made a motion for the Board's support for him to communicate with the County Council through its chairman by the following proposal/course of action:

- That the Beaufort County Council will be the lead local political subdivision to work with our Legislative Delegation to repeal or reform Act 388
- That the Beaufort County Board of Education will be the lead political subdivision to work with our Legislative Delegation to bring about changes in the method/formula used by the State to fund public education. A particular focus will be paid to the EFA funding component that would result in an equitable number of dollars being returned to the Beaufort County School District
- That the Joint Initiative Committee of the Board of Education and County Council become the vehicle for sharing concerns and progress on our respective assignments

Motion fails

Chairman, Fred Washington, made a motion that the District establish a Business Public Education Funding Awareness Committee for the singular purpose of sharing, in plain language, the impact on our District and Taxpayers of EFA Funding, Act 388 and Fund Balance. A team consisting of Business Owners, Board Members and Staff will develop, coordinate and present

information at meetings with the business community to be completed by August 15, 2010.
Motion passes.

Board Member, Dr. Wayne Carbiener, made a motion that the Beaufort County Board of Education request a legal opinion from the South Carolina State Attorney General clarifying the extent of the Beaufort County Council's lawful authority, if any, over the annual School District budget. Dr. Carbiener further moved this request be without delay. Motion passed.

Board Member, Jim Bequette, made a motion that the Board of Education obtain the following information for each Tax Incentive Financing (TIF) Program in which the Board of Education participates:

- Copy of contract if not in our files
- Cost accountability of monies spent by each jurisdiction
- Continue to receive annual collection amounts of Beaufort School District Tax Collected for TIF's
- Forecast of future collections until bonds are retired for each TIF which is to be updated annually

Motion passed

Vice Chairman, Bob Arundell, made a motion to direct Chief Operational Services Officer, Phyllis White, to put the previous motion in place immediately. Motion passed.

Board Member, George Wilson, made a motion to approve the work plan presented by Chief Administrative and Human Resource Services Officer, Dr. Jackie Rosswurm.

Board member, Joan Deery, made a motion to table discussion of the previous motion until the work session, July 23 and 24. Motion passed.

Chief Operational Services Officer, Phyllis White, presented the 8% list from the last board meeting with answers to previous questions.

Vice Chairman, Bob Arundell, made a motion to approve the highlighted items on the 8% list and table the discussion of the other items until the work session July 23 and 24. Motion passed.

Consent Agenda

Approved

Adjournment

Note

This summary is intended to inform Beaufort County School District employees about issues and actions that affect our school system. These summaries are not designed to replace official board minutes.