

Superintendent's Board of Education meeting summary: March 4, 2014

Chairman Bill Evans convened the meeting at 5 p.m., and the Board went into executive session. The Board came out of executive session and reconvened at 6:15 p.m.

Out of executive session, the Board voted to authorize the administration to contract with Management Advisory Group International Inc. for a classification/compensation study (not to exceed \$39,400).

The Board approved the meeting agenda with the removal of the minutes of the February 10 meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Evans introduced four Right Choices students, who read essays about their experiences at the district's alternative high school.

Points of Celebration (presented by Superintendent Jeff Moss)

Grant for Travelling Preschool Bus

I would like to start tonight's Points of Celebration by recognizing Beaufort County Council for their Human Services Alliance and Together for Beaufort Coalition. They recently granted funds to support the Beaufort County Travelling Preschool Bus, which is directed by Ashley Hutchinson and promotes school readiness in prekindergarten children. This grant will provide each child on the bus with a special package that includes a children's book, parent resources, a toothbrush, finger puppets, scissors, crayons and other items. The Travelling Preschool Bus is an asset to our county, and we are very grateful to the county for this support.

We also just received notice of being awarded a South Carolina Department of Education Family Literacy and Adult Education Collaborative grant in the amount of \$13,000. This will further assist families participating in our preschool programs by enhancing the literacy of the parents, often helping them obtain their GEDs to better support their family. We are very grateful for the support of these important programs.

State wrestling champions

Now we will shift the focus to athletics and the state champions who are with us tonight. The Battery Creek High School wrestling team recently won the state championship for the 1-A and 2-A divisions. While wrestling is comprised of individual matches – and Battery Creek won 9 out of its 14 individual matches – they also won as a team. Also impressive was the fact that no Battery Creek wrestler was pinned during the matches. An opposing coach was quoted as saying, "Battery Creek was ready to go. We made mistakes, and they made us pay for

them.” The team is led by Coach Day and Assistant Coach Beach. The team’s accomplishments this season include being Red Raider Invitational Champions, Region Champions, Lower State Champions and ultimately, State Champions.

Public Comment

No public comments.

Chairman’s Report

Chairman Evans invited everyone to the River of Words student reception at ARTworks Friday, March 14, 5-7pm.

Mr. Evans also reminded Board members of the upcoming work session Friday, March 28 and Saturday, March 29, during which the 2014-15 budget and the proposed redistricting plan will be discussed.

Committee Reports

ACE: Michael Rivers announced a meeting on Friday to interview potential new directors and work on realigning ACE operations with state legislation.

Community Outreach and Legislative Advocacy: Earl Campbell stated that the committee will travel to the capitol on March 26 to meet with legislators. The committee will meet before then.

Curriculum and Instruction: Geri Kinton reported that the committee met today. They moved to approve the administration’s recommendation for textbook adoption for 6-12 ELA and 9-12 U.S. History, including Advanced Placement. Approved. The committee also moved to approve the Administration’s final Controlled School Choice programs, which includes 13 choices with addition of an Animation, Creation and Design program. Mr. Evans clarified that this is the list for the schools to review and decide what they would like to offer. Approved.

Finance and Operations: Mary Cordray reported that the committee met on March 3 to review the Procurement Audit Report, PE 4.7 (Quarterly Financial Report) and 5.0 (Annual Insurance Coverage). The committee went into executive session but took no action.

Human Resources: Jim Beckert announced the next meeting on March 11 at 4:30 p.m.

Student Services: Evva Anderson reminded everyone that the next meetings are Monday, March 17 and Wednesday, March 19 to discuss input from the community at town hall meetings. Both meetings are at Okatie Elementary from 6-8 pm and are open to the public. The committee will develop a rezoning plan to present to the Board at the upcoming work session.

Website and Communications: Ms. Cordray stated there has not been a meeting, but informal discussion has taken place. A meeting will be scheduled.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Moss introduced Dr. Dereck Rhoads to give information about the Professional Development Day on February 17. Feedback has been positive, especially the use of BCSD teachers as presenters to share their strategies and applications of best practices.

Board Business Action

Chairman Evans asked Dr. Moss to propose the weather make-up date. Dr. Moss suggested using the upcoming March 24 staff development day for the make-up day, then adding a staff development day at the end of the year on Friday, June 6. Approved.

New Business

Ms. Kinton proposed condensing graduation ceremonies into two days (Friday and Saturday). Mr. Evans asked staff to investigate and report back to the Student Services Committee. If a change is made, it would not become effective until 2015.

Laura Bush asked staff to look into the Daufuskie Island Ferry proposal. Dr. Moss said the county is involved in a discussion of providing that transportation. Ms. Bush also asked staff to look into the status of Bluffton property desired for a new children's center. Mr. Evans asked that both of those items be reported to the finance and operations committee.

Consent Agenda

The Board unanimously approved the consent agenda as amended.

Ms. Bush reminded everyone of the upcoming March 6 town hall meeting with Bluffton-area Board Members for Bluffton residents. The two-hour meeting will begin at 6 p.m.

Chairman Evans adjourned the meeting at 7:12 p.m.