

Superintendent's Board Meeting Summary: December 7, 2017

Special Called Board meeting

Chair Earl Campbell called the meeting to order at 4 p.m.

Motion to approve the agenda (approved).

Several Board members expressed their concerns about the special called meeting. Board Chair Earl Campbell responded to their concerns.

Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation, Statement of Media Notification.

Dr. Moss discussed a proposal to reconfigure grade levels at Hilton Head Island School for the Creative Arts; data on requests granted for employee courtesy school choice; and the county's upcoming reassessment of property values as it relates to the district's 8 percent capital funds. Dr. Moss addressed the Board's questions.

A meeting for parents in the Hilton Head cluster was scheduled for Wednesday, December 14, at 5:30pm to discuss the possible reconfiguration of Hilton Head Island School for the Creative Arts from K-5 to either K-6 or K-8.

Mr. Campbell opened the floor to public comments. A community member spoke regarding a possible school construction bond referendum and possibly building a new school in the New Riverside area.

Motion to adjourn approved. Meeting adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

Joint Board/School Improvement Council Meeting December 7, 2017

Chair Earl Campbell called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Motion to approve the agenda. Motion approved.

Pledge of Allegiance, invocation.

River Ridge Academy SIC member Amanda Walrad proposed a district-wide group of SIC members that might function in an advisory capacity to the Board.

Board and SIC members broke up into three groups to discuss a variety of topics. What follows are summaries of those breakout discussions, listed by topic:

SIC Advisory Board

1. Group 1 - The group thanked Ms. Walrad for proposing a district-wide SIC network.

2. Group 2 – Group members suggested that Dr. Moss propose the idea of an SIC network to the district's schools. They also suggested a link on district website for SIC minutes. Mr. Campbell asked if SICs could lobby on behalf of the district and suggested recruiting former military personnel as teachers. (Director of Communications Jim Foster later provided some clarification on the issue of government lobbying by SIC members).
3. Group 3 – The group's consensus was the SIC network should operate similar to the district's Teacher Forum, and each SIC could collaborate at their respective grade levels.

2018-2019 Academic Calendar

1. Group 1 – Group members said parents used to have more input before the proposed calendar went to the Board, and they would like that opportunity again. They did not like Saturday make-up days. A longer fall break was also discussed.
2. Group 2 – Group members did not want Saturdays as make-up days and wanted consistency when make-up dates are selected. Start times were discussed, and the group was divided between elementary and high school parents who discussed individual clusters setting their own start times.
3. Group 3 – The majority of the group agreed that the modified 4x4 block schedule is preferable. They supported equal numbers of days in both semesters and don't mind if first-semester final exams were held after winter break. They did not want make-up days on Saturdays.

Rezoning/Referendum

1. Group 1 – Group members favored adding buildings over rezoning as a long-term solution to overcrowding. Several group members expressed hope that the Board could reach a workable compromise that Board members can support. Members would like to have a short-term plan in place and build when needed. Members also discussed how to attract teachers if new schools are built.
2. Group 2 – The group's consensus is to hold a referendum for both short-term and long-term solutions. Board members in the group learned about new developments in Bluffton. Their discussion also took up teacher salaries, teacher retention and opportunities for joint SIC lobbying efforts to address district issues.
3. Group 3 – Group members want to see consistency for students and parents, and they agreed that the best long-term solution is to add on and build. Bluffton parents expressed concern that their students are worried about where they will go to school next year.

Teacher Village/Affordable Housing

1. Group 1 – Group members questioned what the district could do to contribute to providing affordable housing for teachers.
2. Group 2 – No discussion.
3. Group 3 – The consensus of the group was that affordable teacher housing is not the Board's responsibility, but the Board should support the effort to fund affordable housing for teachers by other organizations. The group also briefly discussed teacher

mentorship and agreed that it would be a good idea to mentor teachers in terms of their emotional well-being and overall classroom performance.

Motion to adjourn approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

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