

Superintendent's Board of Education meeting summary, February 18, 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 p.m.

Out of executive session, the Board made two motions:

- To accept the McNair Law Firm proposal for lobbying services, with an addendum from Chairman Evans.
- To participate in the proposed extension of the Town of Hilton Head Island TIF (Tax Increment Financing) agreement.

Both motions were approved. The Board also approved the meeting agenda.

Pledge of Allegiance; moment of silence in memory of students Leo Vannoni and Kyla Brown.

The national anthem was performed by "Out of the Blue," the Hilton Head High School Chorus, led by Larry Mercer.

Points of Celebration (presented by Phyllis White)

RECENT DONATIONS

I would like to start the Points of Celebration tonight by recognizing some very special individuals, businesses and organizations that have provided valuable support to our schools.

First, the Michael C. Riley PTO recently donated funds to cover the cost of new radios. The radios will improve communications between the elementary school and the early childhood center. The PTO is represented tonight by PTO co-chair Alia DeLong and school Principal Adrienne Sutton.

Next, I'd like to thank Mr. Gerry Costa, who generously provided almost 20 pieces of darkroom equipment to Hilton Head High School's photography program. This benefits students who use photography as an artistic outlet – and as many of you know, Hilton Head High School's photography program has won multiple awards for students' work.

Next, we'd like to recognize the All Sports Booster Club at Hilton Head Island High School. The club donated funds to upgrade the landscaping around the stadium. Here on behalf of Hilton Head High's All Sports Booster Club is its president, Bob Rozek.

Finally, we'd like to thank Kroger Grocery Store, which gave donations to all Hilton Head public schools as it opened its new store on the island. Mr. Jim Wilson is here on behalf of Kroger to accept this certificate of our appreciation for their support.

FUTURE COLLEGIATE ATHLETES

Tonight we are happy to announce that many high school seniors have done something exceptional by committing to pursuing their academic dreams through their athletic talents. Each athlete here tonight has officially accepted a scholarship offer from a college or university, and each athlete is wearing his or her new school's colors. Mr. McCord will ask those athletes who are here to come forward:

Beaufort High School:

- Stephen Baggett, football – East Carolina University
- Michelle Brown, softball – North Greenville University
- Bradley Brown, baseball – Wofford College
- Jordan Clegg, football – The Citadel
- Elise Dean, soccer – Wake Forest University
- Josh Fickes, golf – Clemson University
- Carson Gregory, baseball – Winthrop University
- Mike Rentz, football – The Citadel
- Austen Stoddard, soccer – Clemson University
- Olivia Taylor, soccer – University of South Carolina
- Ben Vaigneur, football – Presbyterian College
- Brandon Videtto, soccer – Lander University

JILL TORRE

Our next point of celebration tonight recognizes a Spanish teacher at Hilton Head Island Elementary School. Jill Torre recently received the 2014 South Carolina Foreign Language Teachers Association Study Abroad Scholarship during the association's annual conference in Columbia. This \$1,000 scholarship is awarded to a deserving teacher to support continued growth in the knowledge of the target languages and cultures taught in South Carolina. Jill will travel to Comillas, Spain, to take a graduate course through the Education Office of the Embassy of Spain, where she will study language, culture and teaching methodology. We are proud to have Jill represent Beaufort County and South Carolina.

FARM-TO-SCHOOL

Last but not least, we present to you a project many years in the making. The Farm-to-School program involves two key partners: Gullah Farmers Cooperative, which consists of 17 local farmers and Sodexo, provider of all school meals. They have worked together to make the Farm-to-School project a reality by getting all proper certifications and meeting USDA requirements. This means that food grown here in the Lowcountry is served to the students here in the Lowcountry. Just last week, the students at St. Helena Elementary had collards for lunch on Thursday – collards that were freshly picked Tuesday from a farm on St. Helena. We look forward to continuing the partnership to bring in more fresh, healthy and local foods to our school cafeterias and thank everyone

involved for the work they have done to this point.

Public Comment

One parent spoke in favor of the new high school having its own athletic program. A second parent also spoke in favor of the new high school and made comments regarding the rezoning proposal. A third parent spoke in support of the TIF with the Town of Hilton Head.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Evans reminded Board Members of the upcoming SCSBA conference.

Committee Reports

Community Outreach and Legislative Advocacy: Ms. Orischak reported that the committee met on February 17 and discussed the McNair lobbying proposal.

Curriculum and Instruction: Ms. Bush reported that the committee will meet March 4.

Finance and Operations: Ms. Cordray reported that the committee met last week with the Town of Hilton Head, then met today to discuss TIF. Items not covered include review of Quarterly Financial Report and Procurement Audit Report, which will be on the next agenda.

Human Resources: Mr. Beckert said the committee will meet on March 11.

Student Services: Ms. Anderson announced that the committee will meet again March 17 to finalize the attendance zones after town halls are completed. Next town halls are at Whale Branch Early College High School on the February 24, Beaufort High School on February 25 and Battery Creek High School on March 3.

ACE: Mr. Campbell reported that last week's meeting was cancelled. The committee will meet next week. Mr. Beckert reported that the Beaufort County Board of Education is asking that the ACE facility's plan for review include all CATE programs.

Website and Communications: Chairman Evans announced that the Board has budgeted for a part-time assistant to help with secretarial duties.

Superintendent's Report

Phyllis White introduced Robert Oetting, Planning & Facilities Officer, who gave the semi-annual construction update on facilities, including recent projects, upcoming summer projects and the three larger, long-term projects: the new k-8 school, the new high school and the conversion of Robert Smalls to a K-8 school.

Board Business Action

Chairman Evans reported that the McNair contract was handled out of Executive

Session.

A donation from the World Affairs Council to support Bluffton High students' conference expenses. Approved.

New Business

Ms. Bush asked that the Bluffton community be made aware of a new Bluffton Cluster meeting on March 6 from 6-8pm at the Bluffton Town Hall. Board Members representing Bluffton districts will be in attendance to listen to the public.

Consent Agenda

The Board unanimously approved the consent agenda.

Chairman Evans adjourned the meeting at 7:13 p.m.