

Board of Education Summary
July 20, 2010
School Board Meeting

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

Chairman Washington called for the approval of the agenda

Board member, Dr. Wayne Carbiener, made a motion to remove two items from the Board Actions on the agenda – Motion passed

Board Member, Jim Bequette, made a motion to remove the minutes from the consent agenda – Motion passed

Board Member, Joan Deery, made a motion to remove the strategic governance from the consent agenda/board actions until discussed – Motion passed with objections noted.

Pledge of Allegiance

Media properly notified

Invocation

Mr. Burnes gave the invocation for the evening

Points of Celebration

Dr. Jim Rex, State Superintendent of Education, gave a presentation that acknowledged Whale Branch Elementary as a “turnaround school.” Beaufort County School District and the State Department of Education will be entering into a partnership.

Jeremiah Young, a teacher at Beaufort High School, is one of three finalists from South Carolina competing for the inaugural Teacher of the Year award from the nonprofit American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence. Young is competing against teachers from Dorman and Pelion high schools. State winners will be announced in early August. Congratulations!

Way to go! The Beaufort County School District has received a total of \$100,000 for 2010-11 under the Office for Exceptional Children for two grant projects.

1. The first grant of \$50,000 is earmarked to support professional development for para-professionals who work in our Early Childhood and Head Start classrooms. 60 teaching assistants will be able to participate in credit bearing courses through TCL designed to increase their knowledge of early care and education, human growth and development and teaching exceptional children.

2. The second \$50,000 grant will support professional development for classroom teachers in the area of Differentiated Instruction. 30 mainstream teachers will have an opportunity to participate in a credit bearing course through USC designed to increase their ability to provide instruction to students of various ability levels, including SPED students. 6 Hampton teachers will be allowed to attend as well.

More than 200 gifted and talented students from across the district are attending the Sea Island School for the Arts and Academics(SISA2) at Hilton Head High School for the next two weeks. SISA2 features classes for students grades 3 through nine running the gamut of creativity – from drama and dance to robotics and creative writing. Kudos to Margaret Rushton and Virginia Pratt for organizing this wonderful creative school.

We have been awarded \$250,000 from OEC since 2009-2010. Last year they gave us \$150,000 to support a Family Resource Center at RSMS, balanced literacy training for para-professionals and advanced training for elementary teachers in the teaching of reading.

Stephanie Weltz of The Battery Creek High School World Language department was awarded a grant in the amount of \$500.00 from Wal-Mart. This grant will be used to assist in the integration of 21st century technology in the world language classroom. The grant funds will be used to purchase 2 Flip Ultra HD Camcorders and product care plans. The camcorders would allow students enrolled in Spanish and French language programs to integrate multimedia presentations into their coursework, creating videos and other media in the target language which can be shared with other students across the county and the globe.

Bluffton Elementary School is in the news! Bluffton El was recently featured on the Toon Boom Animation website. Toon Boom is the animation program the school uses in its animation lab. In addition to the great story about the success of the Bluffton Elementary program, Toon Boom featured four students and their animations. You can check out the students' animation projects on: www.toonboom.com/showcase. Great job!

The Beaufort County School District, in partnership with the Confucius Institute at the University of South Carolina and the Hanban Society in China, has been approved to host two teachers from China starting 2010-2011 school year. The two teachers, who will be assigned to Hilton Head Island Elementary and Broad River Elementary School, will be co-teaching with a mainstream early childhood teacher and teaching Chinese daily to those students involved with the program. The goal of this program is to have students immersed in the Chinese language (Mandarin) and culture and to foster an understanding and appreciation of the Chinese people. The Hanban society is funding the salaries and health insurance for both teachers and the teachers will be living with "Host" families from these two schools. The school district has also applied for a Critical Language Grant to help supplement this initiative. Enrollment in this class is voluntary and has been greatly received.

Showcase

Fred Leyda gave an update regarding "Together For Beaufort Interim Report"
The report of the Accelerated Learning School was postponed

Public Conversation

Michael Allen addressed the Board regarding teacher and administrative step increases for the 2010-2011 school year.

Comment Corrections

Chairman Washington addressed the community regarding an article written in the paper.
Chairman Washington wanted to ensure the public that the school board is NOT seeking fiscal

autonomy. The school board wrote the Attorney General and is seeking clarity regarding roles played by both the School Board and County Council.

Superintendent's Report

Board kept to read over and come back later with questions.

Board Business

Riverview Charter School Annual Report

Riverview Charter School presented a report of their MAP Data

Riverview indicated they want to be a part of the school district and work cooperatively with both the school district and Board.

Chief Administration and Human Resource Services Officer, Dr. Jackie Rosswurm, presented the draft of the Charter School Handbook for review.

Board Action

Vice Chairman, Bob Arundell, made a motion to accept the recommendation from administration and award the Food Services Contract to Sodexo for the firm fixed cost of \$2.73 per meal.

Motion passed.

Board member, Dr. Carbiener made a motion to extend the meeting. Motion passed.

Board Member George Wilson made a motion to review and approve the mid-plan update. Motion passed.

Board Member, Jim Bequette, made a motion to authorize the distribution of the \$275 to teachers from the state at the beginning of the year for school supplies. Motion passed.

Board Member, Michael Rivers, asked for the classified salaries to be added under new business at the next work session for step increases.

Consent Agenda

**The consent agenda was approved minus the minutes from the July 6 Board Meeting*

July 6, 2010 Minutes

Build District Website

Revised 2010-2011 Strategic Governance Work Plan

Adjournment