Berkeley County Board of Education Meeting (Tuesday, November 15, 2022)
Generated by Lacey Brabham on Friday, November 18, 2022

Members present
Mac McQuillin, Sally Wofford, Michael Ramsey, David Barrow, Kathy Littleton, Crystal Wigfall, Joe Baker, Jimmy Hinson, Yvonne Bradley

Meeting called to order at 5:30 PM

1. Meeting Opening

A. Chair Barrow called the meeting to order declared a quorum was present, and the media had been notified.

B. Swearing in of New Board Member. The following Board members were sworn in...
District 1 - Michael Ramsey
District 2 - Mac McQuillin
District 3 - Joe Baker
District 4 - Kathy Littleton
District 5 - Jimmy Hinson
District 6 - Sally Wofford
District 7 - Yvonne Bradley
District 8 - Crystal Wigfall

C. Motion by Kathy Littleton, second by Yvonne Bradley to approve the agenda. Mac McQuillin made a motion to amend the agenda to move agenda item 14 - Election of Board Officers, to agenda item 1D. Michael Ramsey made the second. The Board voted unanimously to approve the amended agenda.

D. Motion by Michael Ramsey, second by Mac McQuillin. The Board voted 6-2-1 to approve Mac McQuillin as Board Chair, Sally Wofford as Vice Chair, and Michael Ramsey as Board Secretary effective immediately. Yvonne Bradley and Crystal Wigfall voted against. David Barrow abstained.

E. Motion by Michael Ramsey, second by Kathy Littleton. The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the Board meeting held on October 25, 2022.

2. Executive Session

Motion by Michael Ramsey, second by Jimmy Hinson. The Board voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session to discuss the following...

- Discussion of Evaluation, Employment, Appointment, Assignment, Demotion, Discipline, or Release of an Employee(s), as Needed
- Legal Update Regarding a Pending, Threatened, or Potential Claim or Other Matters Covered by the Attorney-Client Privilege
- Two Student Attendance and Six Student Expulsion Appeals

Motion by Sally Wofford, second by Jimmy Hinson. The Board voted unanimously to return to regular session.

3. Regular Session (6:30 p.m.)

A. Chair McQuillin led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Board observed a Moment of Silence.

B. Chair McQuillin recognized the Berkeley Elementary School Bucket Drummers as they perform Rhythm Stick Rondo led by Ms. Lisa Racioppo and thanked the students, teacher, and Principal Kelly Gabriel for sharing their students talents.

4. Citizen Comments

A. Chair McQuillin read the guidelines for speaking during Citizen Comments. Due to the number of citizens signed up to speak, Chair McQuillin cut the time to one (1) minute per speaker to give each speaker an opportunity to speak. The following guests spoke...

1. Lynette Duggins
2. ~~Jaymes McCloud~~
3. Kathleen Low
4. Ann Conder
5. Tory Liferidge
6. Christi Dixon
7. Heather Hickman
8. Alana Lewis
9. Cindy Fisk
10. Paul Bowers
11. Kimberly Clark
12. Darien Jones
13. LaTisha Vaughn
14. Sharina Haynes
15. Shirley Martin
16. Tracy Hughes
17. Cleo Scott Brown
18. Brandon Fish
19. Natanya Miller
20. Marcus Taylor McDonald
21. Brittni Guerry
22. Dr. Chris Hanley

5. Any Action as Required for Items from Executive Session

<u>Student Attendance Appeals</u>

- Motion by Mac McQuillin, second by Michael Ramsey. The Board voted 8-1 to deny the attendance appeals for both Students #1 and #2. Crystal Wigfall voted against.

<u>Student Expulsion Appeals</u>

- Motion by Kathy Littleton, second by Michael Ramsey. The Board voted 8-1 to approve the appeal for Student #1 and assign to the Berkeley Alternative School. David Barrow voted against.
- Motion by Kathy Littleton, second by Sally Wofford. The Board voted 8-1 to approve the appeal for Student #2 and assign to the Berkeley Alternative School. David Barrow voted against.
- Motion by Mac McQuillin, second by Kathy Littleton. The Board voted 5-4 to approve the appeal for Student #3 and assign to the Berkeley Alternative School. Sally Wofford, Yvonne Bradley, Crystal Wigfall, and David Barrow voted against.
- Motion by Kathy Littleton, second by Mac McQuillin. The Board voted 8-1 to deny the appeal for Student #4 and allow the student to return to their current school. Yvonne Bradley voted against.
- Motion by Kathy Littleton, second by Sally Wofford. The Board voted unanimously to deny the appeal for Student #5.
- Motion by Mac McQuillin, second by Michael Ramsey. The Board voted 7-2 to grant the appeal for Student #6 and assign to the Berkeley Alternative School. Yvonne Bradley and David Barrow voted against.

Motion by Kathy Littleton, second by Sally Wofford. The Board voted 6-3 to terminate the employment of Dr. Tiffany Richardson, In-house General Counsel, and retain services with Brandon Gaskins effective immediately as discussed in Executive Session. Discussion was held. Yvonne Bradley, Crystal Wigfall, and David Barrow voted against.

Motion by Mac McQuillin, second by Jimmy Hinson. The Board voted 6-3 to terminate the employment of Superintendent Deon Jackson effective immediately. Discussion was held. Yvonne Bradley, Crystal

Wigfall, and David Barrow voted against.

Motion by Jimmy Hinson, second by Mac McQuillin. The Board voted 6-1 to name Dr. Anthony Dixon Superintendent in Berkeley County School District effective immediately and in order for Dr. Dixon to be immediately successful in this mid-year transition he will have authorization to immediately hire a new Deputy Superintendent, Chief Academic Officer, and to restructure and reassign his Cabinet with no further Board action. Discussion was held. David Barrow voted against. Yvonne Bradley and Crystal Wigfall were not present during the vote.

6. Committee Assignments

A. Temporarily assigned Sally Wofford to Chair the Human Resources Committee along with Joe Baker and Jimmy Hinson to serve as committee members.

7. Recess for Committee Meeting

A. Recess for Committee Meetings

B. Return to Regular Session

8. Academics and Innovation Committee Report

A. Motion by Kathy Littleton, no second required. The Board voted unanimously to approve the Head Start Budget Expenditures Report for September 2022, Head Start Credit Card Report for September 2022, and Prospective New Hires. Crystal Wigfall not present at vote.

B. Motion by Kathy Littleton, no second required. The Board voted unanimously to approve the administrative Rule: JICDA-R - Student Behavior Code - Second Reading. Crystal Wigfall was not present at vote.

C. Motion by Kathy Littleton, no second required. The Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed 2022 - 2023 Local Board Approved and Innovative Courses as provided. Crystal Wigfall not present at vote.

9. Finance and Capital Planning Committee Report

A. Motion by Mac McQuillin, no second required. The Board voted unanimously to approve the out-of-state travel as presented. Crystal Wigfall not present at vote.

B. Motion by Mac McQuillin, no second required. The Board voted unanimously to approve the award of FPB #666-(22-23) to East Coast TVM, LLC for the Design, Provision, and Installation of Metal Canopies for an initial contract term of one (1) year for an estimated value of $784,000 with the option to renew for four (4) additional one (1) year terms with a potential contract value of $4,000,000. Crystal Wigfall not present at vote.

C. Motion by Mac McQuillin, no second required. The Board voted unanimously to approve the award of IFB #667-(22-23) to Trane U.S., Incorporated for HVAC Equipment for an initial contract term of one (1) year for an estimated value of $300,000 with the option to renew for four (4) additional one (1) year terms with a potential contract value of $1,500,000. Crystal Wigfall not present at vote.

D. Motion by Mac McQuillin, no second required. The Board voted unanimously to approve the award of RFP #668-(22-23) to Top Priority Maintenance Services, LLC for Moving Services for an initial contract term of one (1) year for an estimated value of $20,000 with the option to renew for four (4) additional one (1) year terms with a potential contract value of $100,000. Crystal Wigfall not present at vote.

10. Human Resources Committee Report

A. Motion by Sally Wofford, no second required. The Board voted unanimously to approve the amendment of Board Policy BA - First Reading as presented. Crystal Wigfall not present at vote.

11. Resolutions

A. Motion by Michael Ramsey to direct the finance staff to work with the Chairman of the Finance Committee to be named the Committee on Finance and Human Resources on a property tax decrease proposal regarding the County's significant debt service millage leveraged on Berkeley County Citizens and the districts failure to lower millage as promised to the voters from previous bond issuances. Discussion was held. Chair McQuillin amended the motion to include the finance staff to work with the Board of Trustees, second by Michael Ramsey. The Board voted unanimously. Crystal Wigfall was not present at vote.

B. Motion by Mac McQuillin, second by Kathy Littleton. The Board voted 6-2 that the teaching of Critical Race Theory in any form in Berkeley County School District be permanently disallowed. Discussion was held. Yvonne Bradley and David Barrow voted against. Crystal Wigfall was not present at vote.

C. Motion by Kathy Littleton, second by Sally Wofford to establish a committee to evaluate appropriate guidelines for the evaluation of materials of inappropriate sexual/pornographic content in the Berkeley County School District. Amended motion by Yvonne Bradley, second by David Barrow to have the committee include school librarians, reading teacher/coaches, administrators, board member(s), parents, community member, mental health, and teacher forum. The Board voted unanimously to approve the amended motion.

12. Superintendent's Report

A. No Superintendent's Report

13. Board Chair Update

Mr. McQuillin announced the new committee structure under policy BA.

- Academics and Innovation Committee
    - Kathy Littleton, Chair
        - David Barrow
        - Mac McQuillin
- Finance and Capital Planning Committee > Capital Planning Committee
    - Dr. Jimmy Hinson, Chair
        - Yvonne Bradley
        - Joe Baker
- Human Resources Committee > Finance and Human Resources Committee
    - Michael Ramsey, Chair
        - Dr. Crystal Wigfall
        - Sally Wofford

Mr. McQuillin also announced New Board Orientation is required for all new members and is scheduled for February 16, 2023 in Hilton Head.

15. Meeting Closing

A. Motion by Sally Wofford, second by Kathy Littleton. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn. Crystal Wigfall not present at vote.