

Berkeley County School Board Meeting

May 23, 2017

Observer: Jane Pulling

Meeting Highlights

- **New board officers:** Sally Wafford, Chair; Mac McQuillan, Vice Chair
Absent board members: Laura Kelley, Frank Wright, Kelly Spann
- **Citizen Comments:** Krista Buchanan wants the board to stop the superintendent search and hire Interim Superintendent, Deon Jackson
- **2018-19 Calendar:-** decreases the number of late-in and early out days and ensures that they are not on the same day.
- **New School/Foxbank Elementary** - will cost \$33, 313,000. House 900 students with the possibility of building out to house 1,200. Opens August 2018.
- **Building Repair Projects** - Roof replacement/repair at St. Stephen Elementary, St. Stephen Middle, Berkeley High Band Building, Marrington Elementary, Marrington Middle, a portion of Goose Creek High
- **General Fund Budget for 2017-18** - Changes have been made since the first proposed budget was presented to the board. The board specified no millage increase. The revised proposed budget will be \$22,178,000 revenue, \$21,997,000 expenditures with \$182,000 leftover. The budget includes a 1% COLA
- **Board Policy** - A new policy for School Wellness was given 1st reading. The policy calls for no food to be used as incentives for student behavior or achievement, only healthy foods in vending machines, and no physical activity to be used as punishment, i.e. no laps run or walked etc. Several board members voiced concerns about these issues. The consensus was that the board would only want to do what is absolutely required by law.
- **Rural School Initiative** - this program of wrap around services (mental and physical health, Parents as Teachers, faith and business community involvement, Read 180) has been successful in its first year of implementation

Fiscal Wellness Update - School Efficiency Consultants presented an overview of their recommendations to the board. They recommended a risk management analysis for the district. They believe the district may be paying more than they could for insurance. They recommended implementing procedures to reconcile hospital bills and payroll deductions monthly. Insurance should be paid directly to vendors, not a broker. They suggest budgeting all funds, not just the general fund. They suggest a formula personnel allotment for all schools.

Executive Session Items Voted on in Regular Session -

- **Personnel reorganization update from Parker, Hardy, and Associates** - the board voted to accept the report and tasked Interim Supt. Jackson to come to June 13th meeting with specific recommendations to implement the reorganization of district office. Parker Hardy's contract was extended for 30 days.