

**The Beaufort County Education Association  
Superintendent Meeting  
November 21, 2013**

1. Original Question: With the average athletic budget on the chopping block annually, can you defend the money used for food, guest speakers, key chains and other materials on the Coach's Convocation, especially when teams rely on fundraisers to buy necessary equipment and coaches have not seen a raise in more than two years?

This question has been answered previously. There is no chopping block for athletics in BCSD. According to athletic directors, all coaches were made aware of the convocation consistently and continuously beginning in January 2013. The date for the event was set in November 2010. Any coaches not in attendance received a letter of concern regarding their lack of participation, but no assignments were changed as a result of not attending. All coaches have signed stipend contracts acknowledging the date for the 2014 convocation on July 31, 2014.

Follow-up questions:

How much money did the district spend on the Coaches' Convocation?

Approximately \$5,000.

What was the repercussion for not attending?

Letters were sent to those who did not attend.

Did anyone lose their coaching position for not attending?

No.

Many coaches are not county employees and had to take time off from their jobs to attend. So not only were they not compensated by the district, but they also were asked to miss work or else. This needs to be considered if planning future convocations.

The convocation's date was relayed to all coaches by athletic directors every month, beginning in January 2012.

Not all coaches were made aware of this convocation.

According to athletic directors, all coaches were made aware of the convocation.

2. When will teachers know what evaluation tool will be used next year to evaluate teachers? As a district, are we leaning toward the TAP Model or the Adept Enhanced Model?

The district will follow the guidelines from the South Carolina Department of Education. This is a pilot year for the Enhanced ADEPT Model. As of this date no model has been selected by the SCDE.

3. If a district employee applies for a position such as principal, why is he/she not given an opportunity for an interview?

All applicants are screened based on their qualifications for each position.

4. If a long-term sub works at a TAP school and attends the cluster meetings for six months, and if students perform well on MAP and PASS, is that person entitled to the TAP pay-out? If not, why not?

Only the teacher of record is entitled to a payout.

5. What is the rationale for school board members going on the Japanese trip since they are responsible for monitoring and implementing policy, not curriculum?

As the Board continues to conduct strategic planning as well as policy development and review, the two board members who participated in the trip to China will be able to provide valuable information and perspective regarding the district's Chinese immersion program.

6. It has been observed that students who return to their respective schools from the alternative school have great difficulty maintaining grades earned while attending the alternative school. How does the returning school determine a true reflection of a student's ability when he/she returns to the home school and does not maintain the average that was transferred back with them? How can this be addressed by the district?

Transition teams have been put in place this year to assist students and schools in ensuring that students receive the necessary resources for academic success upon returning to their home schools.

Transition teams consist of a behavior management specialist, school social worker, guidance counselor, school administrator and the Director of Alternative Programs. At the conclusion of this school year, baseline data will be collected, compiled, examined and shared for decision-making in future strategy meetings.

7. What is the status of the district's development of an appeals process for

schools piloting the new teacher evaluation system this year?

The district's appeal process for teacher evaluation is the same for all models.

8. What method of tracking will be used for the appeals filed and the disposition of the appeals?

Appeals are attached to personnel files of the individual filer.

9. Will school nurses receive additional compensation for providing documentation using the new EZtrac system? (It takes time to document what needs to be documented; for example, at least three to four hours if documentation is completed with clear explanation for one service day)

No.

10. What is the rationale for the district changing Summer Institute from June to August. Will participants still be able to receive \$100 per day or recertification hours?

Holding Summer Institute closer to the start of the new school year will better allow teachers to plan and apply professional development gained at the Institute. In addition, the change will allow staff hired over the summer to attend the Institute. As in the past, participants will be able to choose to receive a stipend or re-certification hours.