The Colleton County Board of Education held a special board meeting in the Board Room at the Colleton County School District, Administrative Offices, 500 Forest Circle, Walterboro, SC on Saturday, **January 28, 2023** at 8:45 a.m. with the following members present:

Ms. Patricia Simmons, Chair  
Mrs. Mary Jones  
Mr. Craig Stivender  
Mr. Daryl Erwin  
Mrs. Lynn Stroble  
Mrs. Sharon Witkin  
Mr. Charles Murdaugh

Board members absent:

Staff Members present:

Dr. Vallerie Cave  
Ms. Peggy Wysong  
Ms. Linda Hyman  
Ms. Wilsey Hamilton  
Mrs. Jessica Williams  
Mrs. Ramona Barrett  
Mrs. Ellen Fitch  
Dr. Vanessa Reed  
Ms. Mary Jo Fox  
Mr. BJ Humphries  
Mrs. Tracy McDonald  
Mr. Kenny Blakeney

Attorney present:

Mr. Bert Duffie

News Media and others present:
The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Simmons followed by the Pledge. Mrs. Ellen Fitch gave the invocation.

**New Business**

Overnight/Out of Town Field Trip Request: Motion by Mrs. Witkin, seconded by Mr. Erwin to approve. All in favor.

Video Bar Camera Purchase for CCHS & CCMS: Motion by Mr. Murduagh to purchase the video bar cameras, Mrs. Jones seconded. Dr. Cave demonstrated the video bar camera. 25 virtual teachers that are need of this camera. Cannot interact with all the students in the classroom. Letter from 2 principals. Ms. Fox gave a demonstration how the camera works. There is a remote that comes with the camera. The virtual teacher will have access to an app that will allow her to see the children in the class. Will allow the teacher to zoom in on the child talking. Special price online and quoted a $100 discount. Mrs. Simmons had a question, about the issues during the pandemic. This camera will allow the students to be live in the classroom. This gives teachers control who can be in the classroom. How can this help with having students turn on their camera? This will allow the teacher to have the student turn on the camera and see what the student is looking at. This camera will allow the teacher to see the entire classroom. Discussion was had about why students may not turn on cameras. This camera will allow the virtual teacher to be in the room. From an instructional standpoint, the camera is on the smartboard. The set up would be more like the teacher at the front of the room. The teacher will be the only one who will see the students. Will be sharing a camera quote for 25. In the amount of $18,792.04 out of

13 needed at CCHS  
9 needed at CCMS

Same request that was made last week. Not asking for the document camera only asking for the video bar camera.

Will teachers need professional development? Teachers will get to see it and handle it.

Mr. Erwin would like not to have virtual teachers next year. What is the realistic expectations for next year? We are trying to find people to fill the positions. In reality there is a teacher shortage. If this is approved for 25 cameras, in realistic expectations, will the 25 cameras be enough for next year. We will probably need 25 cameras for next year. Dr. Cave, it is not just Colleton who does not have teachers. Bamberg has entire 7th grade team is virtual as they do not have the staff. Came in to vote against as he wants to hold the students accountability. HE is completely in favor for voting for cameras for safety for students. He wants us to stop
comparing what everyone else is doing. Does not want this to be an excuse, wants us to be the first district to have all positions filled. We want to be the leaders. Strive to make us the best.

Stroble – document cameras. – very few in the district unless the schools bought them for their school. Will do an inventory on document cameras and what is the teacher needs. Why was this back today? The why is because the principals approached for the students have safety classroom, after looking at academics, need a change. Students have a tendency to walk out of a virtual classroom. This is why this came back for safety, engagement and academic. The virtual classrooms are not as well as the other classes. Would like this tracked which it has been tracked. The facilitator in the room is supposed to monitor the classroom. The facilitator is in direct contact with the PBIS or hall monitor who will bring to the administrator.

Witkin – does not like this on a Saturday needs to be brought before a regular school board meeting. This is not an urgent need.

Murdaugh – the public is invited to the meeting.

Stroble: How long will it take? Not sure, as soon as he gets the approval, they will be ready to go. This is a critical time to make these decisions. It is a need in January. It can help those students.

5 in favor, 2 opposed (Witkin and Stivender)

Motion to adjourned by Erwin, seconded by Witkin. All in favor.

Chairperson

Secretary