

Bamberg School District One
Minutes of Regular Meeting of Board of Trustees
Richard Carroll Elementary School
March 18, 2019
6:30 p.m.

Members present: Board Chair Christopher “Chris” Wallace, Vice Chair Janeth Walker, Secretary Tony E. Duncan, Trustee Julia “Kim” Berry and Trustee John L. Hiers.

Absent: None

1. **Call meeting to order:** Chairman Chris Wallace called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of silence.
2. **Notice to Media:** In accordance with the S. C. Code of Laws of 1976, as amended, Section 30-4-80(E), the following have been notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting:

The Times and Democrat
The Advertizer-Herald
3. **Approval of Agenda**
Trustee John Hiers moved and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed 4-0. [Vice Chair Janeth Walker – Late Arriving]
4. **Approval of Minutes**
Trustee Tony Duncan moved and Trustee Kim Berry seconded to approve the minutes of February 25, 2019, as presented. The motion passed 4-0. [Vice Chair Janeth Walker – Late Arriving]
5. **School Reports: Stacey Walter, Denise Miller, Dennis Ulmer**
Handouts: School Reports (Reviewed by Principals):
 - Richard Carroll Elementary School – Principal Stacey Walter
 - Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School – Principal Denise Miller
 - Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School – Dennis Ulmer
6. **Student/Staff Recognition Superintendent’s Report**
Handouts: Board Packet Enclosure
Superintendent Schwarting noted the following:
 - a. **Overnight/Out-of-State Field Trip Request**
Trustee John Hiers moved and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded to approve the Overnight lodging field trip request for Mrs. Bridget Kinard, Student Council Advisor, to take her students to attend a state conference at Chapin High School, Columbia, South Carolina, on March 29-31, 2019. The motion passed 5-0.
Superintendent Schwarting continued with her report as follows:
 - The District’s student enrollment is 1,291. It has been fluctuating this school year.

- The SCSBA Delegate Assembly for Board members is scheduled for December 7, 2019, at the Legislative and Advocacy Conference. Nominations for officer/board (none from this district); new Proposals for 2019-20 Legislative Resolutions (filing deadline: June 21, 2019); and Proposals for changes to the SCSBA Constitution (filing deadline: June 21, 2019) must be sent to SCSBA, 111 Research Drive, Columbia, SC 29203 or they may be dropped off at the District Office for mailing.
- In a memo from the SC Department of Education dated March 14, 2019, regarding the status of “Risk Assessment”, it was noted that this District has been removed from “financial caution”. The District’s overall risk score is “14” which is considered **low risk**. The criteria that must be observed is as follows (10): Required Reporting; Turnover of Key Personnel; Programmatic Compliance; Fiscal Compliance; Performance; Frequency and Need of Technical Assistance; Financial Stability; Quality of Management Information Systems (internal controls); Timelines of Annual Financial Audit Submission; and Other Material Factors (accreditation and confirmed cheating/test security violations).
- According to SCSBA Weekly Legislative Update, the following are being considered among the legislators:
 - Start school earlier than August 15th each year.
 - Add \$159 million to pay for a 4 percent teacher pay increase and to raise the starting teacher pay from \$32,000 to \$35,000 but provides no additional dollars for the Base Student Cost to districts to help pay for the state mandated teacher step increase.
 - Add a requirement that districts have an index of taxpaying ability of less than .0009 to be eligible for the Rural School Districts Capital Improvement funding. The District’s tax ability is .00082.
 - \$10 million in EIA funding for School Resource Officers (SROs).
 - \$19.3 million in lottery funding for the lease, purchase of school buses.
 - Directs schools to include a cultural sensitivity component in African American history instruction in grades 3-12 to teach how students should interact with and be respectful of the beliefs and practices of people of a different race or creed.
 - Mandating the consolidation of certain school districts by August 1, 2022. Bamberg County, Barnwell County and Clarendon County will be included.
 - State funds to be established to support costs directly related to the consolidation, which may include, but are not limited to, salary adjustments, facilities, debt mitigation, mileage rate adjustments, transportation, technology and other factors. If there is no effort for consolidation, this funding will not be available to those districts.
 - The consolidation of board, transition procedures and disposition and/or assumption of district assets and liabilities. Prior to the consolidation districts are prohibited from hiring new personnel, raising salaries above the state mandated raises, spending existing reserves or incurring any bond indebtedness.
 - A joint resolution to create a Mold Abatement and Remediation Study Committee.

- High school students to be required to successfully complete a one-half credit course of study in personal finance and an end-of-course test as a requirement for high school graduation, beginning with the 2020-2021 school year.
- It is the intention for Daylight Saving Time to be year-round if legislation is passed by the United States Congress.
- Superintendent Schwarting will be “presenting” at the 7th annual Telehealth Summit of South Carolina at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center in Columbia on April 2-4, 2019. She will tell how this rural school district uses Telehealth.
- Each Board member received the policies that were recently approved by SCSBA for insertion in their School Board Manuals. These policies have been updated on the website. They are: AC Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity, EF-R Food Service, EF-E Resolution of Community Eligibility Provision, GBA Open Hiring/Equal Opportunity Employment and Affirmative Action, GCC/GCD Staff Leaves and Absences, GCE Professional Staff Recruitment, GCEC Posting and Advertising of Professional Vacancies, GCF Professional Staff Hiring, GCO Evaluation of Professional Staff GDF Support Staff Hiring, and IMG Service Animals. [Handouts]

7. **Approval: 2019-2020 School Calendar**

Following a second review of the District’s 2019-2020 School Calendar by Superintendent Schwarting, **Vice Chair Janeth Walker moved and Trustee Kim Berry seconded to accept the 2019-2020 School Calendar as presented.** The motion passed 5-0. [Board Packet Enclosure]

Superintendent Schwarting noted that the first semester will consist of 85 days and the second semester 95 days. The reason for this is to have exams before going home for the Christmas holidays. Also, if it is approved for school to start prior to the 15th of August, the calendar will be brought back to the Board.

8. **Second Reading: Policy DKC-R – Expense Authorization/Reimbursement**

Following a second review of the revisions made to Policy DKC-R Expense Authorization/Reimbursement, **Trustee John Hiers moved and Trustee Kim Berry seconded to approve the policy as presented.** The motion passed 5-0.

9. **Monthly Financial Report**

Board Packet Enclosure: Financial Report for February 2019

Finance Director Devon Furr reviewed the financial report for February 2019, and noted that the administration is working hard not to spend a lot of money. Recently, the computer system crashed and it cost more money than anticipated for the repairs. Also, the district is working on a problem at Richard Carroll Elementary School that was not anticipated. The work on the track is coming along.

Mrs. Furr reminded Board members to submit their Economic Interest Forms by the 31st of March 2019.

Trustee Tony Duncan moved and Vice Chair Janeth Walker seconded to accept the February 2019, Financial Report as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

10. **Visitors' Comments**
None

11. **Executive Session**

Board Chair Chris Wallace called for a **motion to enter Executive Session**. Trustee John Hiers **moved and Trustee Kim Berry seconded to enter the Executive Session**. The motion carried (5-0).

The purpose for entering executive session was to discuss:

- a. Personnel Recommendation(s) for Resignation / Employment

Open session: Vice Chair Janeth Walker **moved and Trustee John Hiers seconded for the Board to come out of Executive Session and return to the regular session of the meeting**. The motion passed 5-0.

12. **Action on Executive Session Items**

Vice Chair Janeth Walker **moved and Trustee Kim Berry seconded to accept Agenda Item (a) Personnel Recommendation(s) Resignations / Employment (Person #1)** as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

13. **Adjourn**

Trustee Tony Duncan moved and Vice Chair Janeth Walker seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Minutes approved:

Janeth Walker, Board Vice Chair

Tony E. Duncan, Secretary