

Bamberg School District One
Minutes of Regular Meeting of Board of Trustees
Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School
February 25, 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 Tony Duncan moved and Trustee John Hiers seconded to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

4. **Approval of Minutes**
Vice Chair Janeth Walker moved and Trustee Kim Berry seconded to approve the minutes of January 22, 2019, as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

5. **Approval of 2019 School Board Calendar**
Superintendent Schwarting noted that January, February and April do not reflect meetings on a third Monday night because these dates fall on holidays.

Following a review of the 2019 Monthly Board Meeting Calendar, **Trustee John Hiers made a motion and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded to accept the 2019 Monthly Board Meeting Calendar as presented.** The motion passed 5-0. [Board Packet Enclosure]

6. **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

7. **Student/Staff Recognition Superintendent’s Report**
Handouts: Board Packet Enclosures
Superintendent Schwarting noted the following:

a. Overnight/Out-of-State Field Trip Request

Vice Chair Janeth Walker **moved and Trustee John Hiers seconded to approve the Out-of-state field trip request for Kathy Hunt, Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School teacher, to take her students to attend a Career Day event at Carowinds in North Carolina, on April 12, 2019. The motion passed 5-0.**

b. Bamberg School District #1 Tax Information

Superintendent Schwarting compiled and reviewed a tax structure for the District.
[Board Packet Enclosure]

Superintendent Schwarting continued with her report as follows:

- The Education form Bill adopted by the House Education Subcommittee includes the following:
 - US History end of course assessment is no longer required and that the eight-grade science assessment has been deleted.
 - Districts have to provide appropriate in-class intervention until all students are at grade level
 - The State will have authority to hire and fire personnel in reconstituted unsatisfactory schools.
 - Deletes the authority of traditional public schools to hire up to 25% non-certified teachers.
 - Removes possible imprisonment for school board members who fail to attend mandatory training.
 - The committee rolled up two lines, EFA Base Student Cost and EFA Fringe and created a new line entitled “State Aid to Classrooms.”
 - First year teacher salaries will increase to \$35,000.
 - 4% increase salary increase to all teachers.
 - Amends to add language to recognize a new funding line for School Resource Officers (\$10 million added for SROs).
 - There won’t be any more aid to District Technology.
 - There is a \$50,000,000 pot for school districts that have a poverty index of 70% or higher.
 - Specifies that any district that uses reserve funds to pay for teacher pay raises, to include step increases, would not be subject to the minimum reserve fund amounts stipulated in the Fiscal Accountability Act.
 - The “Safe School Team” has been changed to Threat Assessment Team.
 - The consolidation of school districts will begin in 2020-2021 if a single county meets 4 of the criteria: ADM of less than 1500; accreditation status of probation or denied; state designation of fiscal caution or warning; risk assessment of medium or high or school or schools in improvement status for 3 years.
 - If the districts identified above have not submitted a plan for consolidation by August 1, 2022, the SCDE will direct the consolidation and the district will not be able to receive consolidation funds. Districts that meet the qualifications are Bamberg, Hampton, Clarendon, and Barnwell.
- The District’s total enrollment is 1,303. The enrollment is down by approximately 32 students. For every 30 students the District loses, it loses \$100,000.00. The budget is built on base student cost on the 145th day of the preceding year.
- Board Members are asked to let Kim Johnson know the upcoming SCSBA meetings they wish to attend by returning the memo they received.

8. **Draft: 2019-2020 School Calendar**

The proposed 2019-2020 school calendar was reviewed by Superintendent Schwarting. This calendar is being considered by Orangeburg School District 4 because of the Career Center and the Alternative School where students from this district attend.

Vice Chair Janeth Walker moved and Trustee John Hiers seconded to table the 2019-2020 draft school calendar until further notice. The motion passed 5-0. [Board Packet Enclosure]

9. **First Reading: Policy DKC-R – Expense Authorization/Reimbursement**

Money for meals have decreased – \$25 a day instead of \$32 unless for Hilton Head, Myrtle Beach, Greenville or Charleston or out-of-state. The mileage reimbursement travel will be .44 to .54 per mile. If an employee stays at a conference hotel or an overflow hotel the rate is acceptable.

Following a review of Policy DKC-R, **Vice Chair Janeth Walker moved and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded to table Policy DKC-R to the March 2019, board meeting.** The motion passed 5-0.

10. **Monthly Financial Report**

Board Packet Enclosure: Financial Report for January 2019

Finance Director Devon Furr reviewed the financial report and noted that the financial report now has a budget column. The system does not give a percentage anymore; it gives the percentage remaining. Richard Carroll Elementary School had a computer virus that required everything to be shut down and to bring in a company to help resolve the issue. Everything is back up and working again.

Vice Chair Janeth Walker moved and Trustee Kim Berry seconded to accept the January 2019 Financial Report as presented. The motion passed 5-0

11. **Visitors' Comments**

Mr. Ken Ahlin wanted to know if the District's Budget would be placed on the District's website; are there any known mold issues at Richard Carroll Elementary School; and does the District have a method of fighting state mandates?

Finance Director Devon Furr noted that she would make sure the Budget gets put on the District's website. Superintendent Schwarting noted that the administration is in the process of finding out if there is a mold problem at Richard Carroll Elementary School. Two air quality men have been brought in. If there is a problem, it will be addressed. Nevertheless, there is no visible mold. Also, Superintendent Schwarting noted that she does not know of a method of fighting State Mandates; however, the district's representative is Justin Bamberg and Brad Hutto is our Senator for this area.

12. **Executive Session**

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

The purpose for entering executive session was to discuss:

- a. Principals' Teacher Recommendations for 2019-2020
- b. Director of Student Services Recommendations for 2019-2020
- c. Superintendent's Administrators Recommendations for 2019-2020
- d. 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 4-0. [Trustee Tony Duncan absent due to illness]

13. **Action on Executive Session Items**

Vice Chair Janeth Walker **moved and Trustee John Hiers seconded to accept Agenda Item (a) Principals' Teacher Recommendations for 2019-2020; Agenda Item (b) Director of Student Services Recommendations for 2019-2020; Agenda Item (c) Superintendent's Administrators Recommendations for 2019-2020; and Agenda Item (d) Personnel Recommendation(s) Resignations / Employment as presented.** The motion passed 4-0. [Trustee Tony Duncan absent due to illness]

14. **Adjourn**

Trustee John Hiers moved and Vice Chair Janeth Walker seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 4-0. [Trustee Tony Duncan absent due to illness]

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes approved:

Christopher Wallace, Board Chair

Tony E. Duncan, Secretary