

Bamberg School District One
Minutes of Regular Meeting of Board of Trustees
Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School
November 20, 2017
6:30 p.m.

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

Absent: None

1. **Call meeting to order:** Board Chair Chris Wallace called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of silence to be observed with Thanksgiving around the corner – our blessings as a country, state, school and life.
2. **Notice to Media:** In accordance with the S. C. Code of Laws of 1976, as amended, Section, 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 Advertiser-Herald
3. **Approval of Agenda**
Trustee John Hiers moved and Vice Chair Janeth Walker seconded to approve the agenda as written. The motion passed 5-0.
4. **Approval of Minutes**
Trustee Tony Duncan moved and Trustee Kim Berry seconded to approve the Minutes of October 16, 2017, as presented. The motion passed 5-0.
5. **School Reports: Stacey Walter, Denise Miller, and Dennis Ulmer**
Hand-outs: School Reports (Reviewed by Principals):
 - Richard Carroll Elementary School – Principal Stacey Walter
 - Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School – Principal Denise Miller
 - Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School – Principal Dennis Ulmer
6. **Athletic Updates**
Principal Dennis Ulmer noted that Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School and Barnwell High School will be playing for Lower State Championship on Friday night, November 24, 2017, in Bamberg. Barnwell High School received 1,000 tickets to sell. The South Carolina High School League will receive 20% of the proceeds from the top and a dollar for every ticket sold. The balance of the proceeds will be divided between the two schools. There will be no reduced price tickets sold for this game.
7. **Student/Staff Recognition and Superintendent’s Report**
Superintendent Schwarting reported the following:

➤ 2014 Abbeville Lawsuit (Plaintiffs: 48 school districts):

According to Molly M. Spearman, State Superintendent of Education, Bamberg School District One has been approved to receive \$1,163,101 which includes \$1,000,000 for various gym and school renovations and \$163,101 to support other renovations or upgrades consistent with the district's Abbeville Capital Improvement application and 2017 Facilities Assessment.

Proposed projects from the funding are as follows:

- a) Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School: new gym floor, permanent safety pads at the end of the gym; replace the gym ceiling; replace the exterior gym doors and door frames; upgrade the windows in the gym; remodel the bathrooms in the gym; install security cameras in the gym/school; connect the district's HVAC energy control system; install a sprinkler system throughout the school; remodel a special education classroom to teach students life skills (stove, refrigerator, washer, dryer, etc.); install a generator and security cameras; upgrade the cafeteria serving line equipment; replace the handwashing sink in the kitchen area; install a wall-mounted cooling unit in the pantry; re-key all door locks and cylinders; upgrade the lighting system; remodel the annex building (old auto mechanic building) and provide inside entry to the restrooms.
- b) Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School: replace the gym floor; replace all bleachers in the gym; replace the basketball goals in the gym; install safety pads at each end of the gym; renovate the adjoining dressing/bathrooms; install a generator; re-key all door locks; upgrade the lighting system (LED); and upgrade the wrestling mats
- c) Richard Carroll Elementary School: replace wood chip mulch under the playground equipment with a rubberized playground coating.
- d) District: add additional security cameras and GPS tracking systems to the buses, and renovate the track (questionable).

Carl Epps, chair attorney over the Abbeville lawsuit, has forwarded a letter from the South Carolina Supreme Court dismissing the litigations in the 2014 Abbeville decision. Dale Collier, previous overseer of construction (Brownstone Construction), has agreed to help the district with bidding, etc. (fee allowed).

- The 2017 Legislative Advocacy Conference & Delegate Assembly will be held December 1-3, 2017, in Charleston. Vice Chair Janeth Walker is the district's delegate.

➤ **Out of State Wrestling Tournament Trip Request**

Board Packet Enclosure: Request for Field Trip Requiring Overnight Lodging

Note: Trip is free

- a) Following a review of a request for an out-of-state overnight lodging field trip, Vice Chair Janeth Walker **moved and Trustee John Hiers seconded to approve a request from Wrestling Coach Jake Stewart to take approximately 16 wrestling students to North Wilkesboro, North Carolina on December 21-22, 2017, to attend a wrestling tournament.** The motion passed 5-0.

➤ **Student Request for Diploma - Act 155**

Upon the request of Superintendent Schwarting, **Trustee John Hiers moved and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded to approve the issuing of a high school diploma to Candidate A (2002 Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School Student) who has met the high school requirements through Act 155.** The motion passed 5-0.

8. **Second Reading – Updated/New Policy (SCSBA)**

Following a second review of Policies IC – School Year; IHBA – Special Education/ Programs for Students With Disabilities; KDB – Public’s Right to Know/Freedom of Information; and KLGA – School Resource Officers (New), **Trustee Kim Berry moved and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded to approve the updated policies and the adoption of a new policy as presented for second and final reading as recommended by SCSBA.** The motion passed 5-0.

9. **First Reading – Updated/New Policies (SCSBA)**

Superintendent Schwarting reviewed for first reading revised Policies IHAM – Health Education; IHAQ – Career/Transition To Work Education; IHCD-R – Advanced College Placement; IKA-R – Grading/Assessment Systems; JLD – School Counseling; and JICDA-R – Code of Conduct for first reading as recommended by SCSBA. These policies will be presented for second reading at the next Board Meeting.

10. **Discussion: Ag Education Program – Steve Sanderson and Mindy Sandifer**

Mr. Steve Sanderson from Clemson University noted that he was in support of the district bringing an Agricultural Education program back to the district. Clemson offers or assists in programs that will help to develop leadership skills, personal growth, and a successful career for students. Students will graduate with the skills necessary to become productive citizens who will succeed in postsecondary education or the workforce. Clemson will also provide financial aid for students and the district. Also, Mr. Sanderson noted that he will assist the district in getting equipment through funding and in finding a classroom teacher. [Handout]

Mrs. Mindy Sandifer, Ag Teacher from the Barnwell County Career Center, noted that she was in support of the district getting an Ag Education program. Mrs. Sandifer noted further that as a classroom teacher her students get to travel and receive hands-on experiences. She writes and receives grants for funding projects and the students do community service projects. Projects that are done by students are helpful to the district and the community. Also, Mrs. Sandifer noted that some colleges will allow dual enrollment opportunities for Ag students. [Handout]

Lauren Eubanks, a senior and former Vegetarian Animal Science student at Barnwell High School, noted that she gained exposure from the Ag class by travelling to different places on field trips. She believes that without this program, students are not always able to further their education or decide what path to take before enrolling in college. Also, she was nominated for the United States Presidential Scholars through the Ag program.

In response to a question as to whether this school district has explored students taking Ag classes at the Cope Career Center, Superintendent Schwarting responded by stating that when the Ag program was discussed some time ago the Career Center did not want one. Nevertheless, she believes an Ag program would be more successful if it is implemented in this district.

11. **Date for December Board Meeting**

Vice Chair Janeth Walker moved and Trustee Kim Berry seconded to omit the December 18, 2017, Board of Trustees Meeting (winter holidays); however, if an emergency should occur, a called meeting will be scheduled. Otherwise, the next meeting is scheduled for January 15, 2018. If someone discovers later that this date which is on Dr. King's Birthday is a problem, the Board will be contacted. The motion passed 5-0.

12. **Monthly Financial Report**

Finance Director Devon Furr presented and reviewed the amended Budget for FY 2017-2018, and the financial reports for August and September 2017. She noted that she is still waiting on some figures from the Bamberg County Treasurer for the 2016-2017 district audit. The audit must be submitted by December 1, 2017. Hopefully, the auditor will have everything completed for the January 2018, Board Meeting. [Board Packet Enclosures]

13. **Visitors' Comments**

Ms. Amanda Croft noted that she is thankful to the Board for allowing the presenters to come on behalf of the Ag program in the district. She believes it is important for this program to come to the district and she is willing to be a resource person when it begins. She also noted that she had the experience of serving on the state level in an officer's position and she will never forget it.

14. **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 Executive Session**. The motion carried 5-0.

The purpose for entering executive session was to discuss:

- a. Superintendent's Evaluation

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.

15. **Action on Executive Session Items**

(A) Superintendent's Evaluation

Vice Chair Janeth Walker **moved and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded to extend the Superintendent's contract for one year or until June 30, 2020, at which time she will retire. Also, to increase the Superintendent's salary to \$130,000.00 effective July 1, 2017, which would mean that she would be paid retroactively accordingly**. The motion passed 5-0.

16. **Adjourn**

Trustee John Hiers **moved and Trustee Kim Berry seconded to adjourn the meeting.**

The motion passed 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p. m.

Minutes approved:

Christopher Wallace, Board Chair

Tony E. Duncan, Secretary