

Bamberg School District One
Minutes of Regular Meeting of Board of Trustees
Richard Carroll Elementary School
September 16, 2019
6:30 p.m.

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

Absent: None

1. **Call meeting to order:** Board Chair Janeth Walker called the meeting to order and noted that prior to calling for a moment of silence that the Kemp-Schwarting families and the Hurricane Dorian victims be kept in everyone’s thoughts. Superintendent Phyllis Schwarting lost her mother recently.
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 written. The motion passed 5-0.
4. **Approval of Minutes**
Trustee John Hiers moved and Trustee Kim Berry seconded to approve the August 19, 2019, minutes as presented. The motion passed 5-0.
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 – Principal Dennis Ulmer
6. **Election of Delegate/Alternate to 2019 Delegate Assembly (SCSBA)**
Trustee John Hiers nominated Vice Chair Gwendolyn Bamberg as the Delegate for the SCSBA’s annual business meeting on Saturday, December 7, 2019, in Charleston, South Carolina. The motion passed 5-0.

Trustee Tony Duncan nominated Trustee Kim Berry as the Alternate Delegate for the SCSBA’s annual business meeting on Saturday, December 7, 2019, in Charleston, South Carolina. The motion passed 5-0.
7. **LED Lighting Presentation – Border States**
Ms. Tonya Semer and Kurt Vetter, from Shealy Electrical in Columbia, presented their findings and pricing regarding the installation of LED lighting throughout the District.

It was noted that LED lamps fixtures may be purchased at a discount market basket price without going through a bidding process. Materials are provided through the state's contract but not the labor.

Financing:

The SC Energy Office has energy efficiency programs called Contra Funds and Contra Funds Plus. The Contra Fund Plus, in addition to a 1.5% low interest financing for the whole project, comes with a 30% grant. This path does not affect the District's bond indebtedness rating.

The government sponsored financing program is a net investment of \$314,000 financed over eight years; however, it may go up to ten years. Monthly payments would be approximately \$3,400 with a monthly savings of under \$10,000 – leaving a day one cash flow of \$6,478.00. No payments are made until after a year goes by and the project has been completed. The district would have an anticipated annual operating savings of \$119,000.

If the grant is not available, the net investment would be \$449,000 – monthly payments under \$5,000 a month with a savings of approximately \$10,000 a month and a monthly cash flow of under \$5,000. The products carry a 10-year warranty.

Grant money is re-built as people who have done other Contra Fund projects continues to pay back their interest. The administration does not have to get the entire amount of money and the cost outlined includes labor and materials.

8. **Student/Staff Recognition Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Schwarting noted the following:

a) Update: Teacher of the Year

Handout: Draft Copy – Teacher of Year Guidelines and Eligibility Requirements

The criteria are (abbreviated):

- A. The nominee should be a Kindergarten, Elementary, Middle, High School, Technology Center, or High School for Health Professions classroom teacher.
- B. Nominees should be exceptionally skillful and dedicated teachers who are planning to continue in an active teaching status.
- C. Nominees should have the respect and admiration of administration, faculty, staff, students, parents, and community
- D. Nominees should demonstrate a willingness to devote time and energy to activities which result in improved instruction for children.
- E. Nominees should demonstrate the ability and willingness to make contributions to the field of education by conducting seminars and workshops and by being involved in training and assisting fellow teachers in their professional development.
- F. Principals will provide a master roll of eligible teachers to the staff at each school.
- G. A committee to select the District Teacher of the Year will be formed to include Director of Technology, one (1) District Office staff member, and one (1) member at large (TBD).
- H. DISTRICT TEACHER OF THE YEAR WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL BREAKFAST (AUGUST 2020).

Note: Ideas from Board Members should be brought back to the next board meeting.

b) **Request for Out-of-State/Over Night Trip**

Trustee John Hiers **moved and Vice Chair Gwendolyn Bamberg seconded to approve Friday, October 11, 2019, as an excused day of school for the B-E Dancers, under the leadership of Mary Bray Mehrzad, to travel to Orlando, Florida, to participate in a professionally taught master class at Universal Studios. The motion passed 5-0. [Board Packet Enclosure]**

- Current District Student Enrollment is 1,267 – down by approximately 18 students from where the school year ended (May 2019). [Board Packet Enclosure]
- Noted in an email from Attorney Kyle Michel, he was in a meeting with Emily Heatwole, Superintendent Spearman’s Legislative Liaison, where it was stated that there is nothing to report regarding consolidation. [Board Packet Enclosure]
- Noted in an email from Betsy Carpenter, all requests for the money for consolidation exceeded the \$37.5 million. They were only looking at priority requests, and at this time that would only be shared with high school and career and Technology Education serving multiple school districts with average daily membership counts of less than 1,500. School facilities shall not include real property, centralized district administration facilities or other facilities including normally identified with interscholastic sports activities. Basically, this is saying that this district did not get any of the \$37.5 money. [Board Packet Enclosure]
- On September 12, 2019, Dr. Tiffany Richardson, attorney from SCSBA, met with Administrative Professionals in a workshop and shared information on Specific Reason for Executive Session, Roberts Rules Cheat Sheet, Minutes Checklist, Agendas and Minutes taken in a Board Meeting. Superintendent Schwarting noted that this district has been told previously that our minutes include more than what is needed. She, therefore asked the Board to think about it and talk about going to a set of minutes that are similar to these at the next Board Meeting. In the meantime, minutes from this meeting will be as they normally are written. [Board Packet Enclosure]
- The South Carolina School Boards Association presents “Beyond The Basics Workshop” on October 10, 2019, at the SCSBA Training Center in Columbia, starting at 9:00 a.m. Board members who are interested in attending should contact the District Office regarding registration. [Board Packet Enclosure]
- The Administration will be pressing charges against the person who recently maliciously destroyed some parking lot cones at Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School.
- Several Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School students jumped the fence at Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. to smoke marijuana. If anyone should see anything out of the ordinary, they are asked to report it in order to avoid these type of activities.
- The results of an IDEA Audit indicated that there are 16 areas that have been monitored and the district has a 100% in 12 of the areas thus far. The administration is waiting on the results from 4 other areas. Dottie Brown, Director of Student Services and her staff, were given a round of applause for doing an outstanding job.

9. **Second Reading – Updated Policies:**

Superintendent Schwarting reviewed for second reading the following updated Board Policies: [Board Packet Enclosures]

- a) Policy EEAE – Bus Safety Programs
- b) Policy IHBF – Homebound Instruction
- c) Policy KLGA – School Resource Officers
- d) Policy IKA-R – Grading/Assessment Systems

Trustee John Hiers moved and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded to table Policy IKA-R – Grading/Assessment Systems as presented for further studies. The motion passed 5-0.

Trustee John Hiers moved and Trustee Kim Berry seconded to approve for second reading updated Policy EEAE – Bus Safety Programs, Policy IHBF – Homebound Instruction, and Policy KLGA – School Resource Officers as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

10. **First Reading – Updated Policies:**

- a. Policy IKA-R – Grading/Assessment Systems

Policy IKA-R – Grading/Assessment Systems was listed again for first reading due to updated changes again made by SCSBA. Nevertheless, as noted above under Agenda Item 9, a motion was made and approved by the Board to table this policy for further studies by the administration.

11. **Monthly Financial Report**

Finance Director Devon Furr presented the Financial Report for August 2019, for review. She noted that the auditors have returned. Also, there are a few issues that are being addressed with technology and air conditioners. [Board Packet Enclosure]

Trustee Kim Berry moved and Vice Chair Gwendolyn Bamberg seconded to accept the August 2019, Financial Report as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

12. **Visitors' Comments**

Ken Ahlin noted that he was wondering if the administration was looking for some more money since it appears that the \$37.5 million from the SDE no longer exist and who will say now if consolidation will take place.

Superintendent Schwarting noted that she does not believe there is money available to help with consolidation appropriately. Nevertheless, it was included in the District's plan that was submitted to the SDE, that if the money was not given to carry out the plan, the District would not be able to move forward with consolidation.

13. **Executive Session**

Board Chair Janeth Walker 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. Student Transfer Requests
- b. Personnel Recommendation for Release
- c. Superintendent's Evaluation

Open session: Trustee Tony Duncan moved and Vice Chair Gwendolyn Bamberg seconded for the Board to come out of Executive Session and return to the regular session of the meeting. The motion passed 5-0.

14. **Action on Executive Session Items**

Trustee John Hiers moved and Trustee Kim Berry seconded to accept Agenda Item #13 (a) Student Transfer Requests and Agenda Item #13 (b) Personnel Recommendation for Release and noted that there was no action taken on Agenda Item 13 (c) Superintendent's Evaluation as presented. The motion passed (5-0).
[Board Packet Enclosure]

15. **Adjourn**

Trustee Kim Berry moved and Trustee John Hiers seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Minutes approved:

Janeth Walker, Board Chair

Tony E. Duncan, Secretary