

Bamberg School District One
Minutes of Regular Meeting of Board of Trustees
Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School
November 25, 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 asked for a moment of silence. Also, she noted that the community recently lost a great person, Jerry Halmon, former employee of the District and sports news reporter. She asked that this family continue to be kept in your thoughts.
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 Advertiser-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 Tony Duncan seconded to approve the October 21, 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. **Student/Staff Recognition Superintendent’s Report**
Superintendent Schwarting noted the following:
 - a) **Makeup School Days**
As suggested by the Board, a survey was taken from the teachers regarding a makeup day for students and the results were that December 20, 2019, be the day for makeup.
 - New carpet has been installed in the media center of Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School.
 - Mulch is being replaced with a new rubberized product underneath all playground equipment at Richard Carroll Elementary School.
 - The retention ponds at Richard Carroll Elementary School have been cleared and are being maintained by a new company. As a result, they now look good.
 - Current Student Enrollment: 1,247 [Board Packet Enclosure]

7. **2019 Bamberg School District One Audit – Neal Crider, McGregor & Company Board Packet Enclosure:** Annual Financial Report – Year Ended June 30, 2019
Mr. Neal Crider, auditor, noted that the District received a “clean opinion” on the financial statements – no internal weaknesses or significant deficiencies related to internal control on financial reporting -- no material non-compliance. A “clean opinion” was issued on Food Service and Title I which are major programs this year. The General Fund ended with an increase in the Fund Balance of \$50,113.00 bringing the total Fund Balance for the General Fund to \$1,236,170.00. Food Service had a decrease in participation this year; therefore, \$53,911.00 was transferred from the General Fund. This program may need to be looked into in order to avoid having to transfer funds. Overall, Mr. Crider noted that this was not a bad year for the District.

8. **Discussion: Board Policy BID – Board Member Compensation and Expenses**
Following another discussion regarding the amount of money Board members in this District receives in comparison to some neighboring school districts, Board Chair Walker noted that an increase in compensation will be discussed further among Board members and, perhaps, be addressed at the next Board meeting. [Board Packet Enclosures]

Allison Hanna, the District’s Attorney, and Superintendent Schwarting, beliefs are that in order for Board members to receive an increase in compensation, the Board would need to submit a new request (compensation) to Representative Justin Bamberg and Senator Brad Hutto, local legislators. Currently, Board members in this District are paid \$1,200.00 a year (\$100.00 per month).

9. **Monthly Financial Report**
Finance Director Devon Furr presented the Financial Report for October 2019, for review. Ms. Furr noted that, at this time, the replacing of mulch at Richard Carroll Elementary School is the only project that is being undertaken in the District. Also, Mrs. Furr noted that the Abbeville money has been spent and all the schools in the District received some of the funding. [Board Packet Enclosure]

Trustee Tony Duncan moved and Trustee Kim Berry seconded to accept the October 2019, Financial Report as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

10. **Visitors’ Comments**
Ken Ahlin wanted to know if the Audit Report would be made available for the public and if there was any update on consolidation.

Superintendent Schwarting responded by stating that information regarding consolidation will be made available following a discussion with the District’s attorney in Executive Session and that the audit report will be placed on the District’s Website.

11. **Executive Session**
Board Chair Janeth Walker 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).

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The purpose for entering executive session was to discuss:

- a. Consolidation: Legal Advice
- b. Student Transfer Request

Open session: Trustee John Hiers moved and Trustee Tony Duncan 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**

Trustee John Hiers moved and Trustee Kim Berry seconded by noting that there was no action taken on Agenda Item #11 (a) Consolidation: Legal Advice and to approve Agenda Item #11 (b) Student Transfer Request for student #1 as presented. The motion passed (5-0).

Adjourn

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes approved:



Janeth Walker, Board Chair

Tony E. Duncan, Secretary