

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

**Members present:** Board Chair Kedra H. Rivers, Vice Chair Chris Wallace, Secretary Tony E. Duncan, Trustee Janeth Walker, and Trustee John L. Hiers.

**Absent:** None

1. **Call meeting to order:** Board Chair Kedra Rivers 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, 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 Janeth Walker seconded to approve the agenda as presented.** The motion passed 5-0
4. **Approval of Minutes**  
**Trustee John Hiers moved and Vice Chair Chris Wallace seconded to accept the February 21, 2017, and March 13, 2017, minutes as written.** The motion passed 5-0.
5. **School Reports: Stacey Walter, Sandra B. Glover, and Dennis Ulmer**  
Hand-outs: School Reports (Reviewed by Principals):
  - Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School – Interim Principal Dennis Ulmer
  - Richard Carroll Elementary School – Principal Stacey Walter
  - Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School – Principal Sandra B. Glover
6. **Student/Staff Recognition and Superintendent's Report**  
Superintendent Schwarting reported the following:
  - a. With the permission of Superintendent Schwarting, Food Service Director Karen Threat noted that the serving of breakfast in the classroom began on March 13, 2017. The feeding is going better in the upper grades; however, there are some concerns with the lower grades -- more spilling with the smaller children which requires extra time for cleaning. The classes that volunteered to participate in this program were as follows: 5K – 2; 1<sup>st</sup> grade – 3; 2<sup>nd</sup> grade – 2; 3<sup>rd</sup> – 2; and 6<sup>th</sup> grade – 1.
  - b. Following a review for an overnight lodging field trip request, **Trustee Tony Duncan moved and Vice Chair Chris Wallace seconded to approve a request for the Raider Regiment Band and approximately 45 students and 8 chaperones to do an overnight lodging trip to Great Wolf Lodge in Concord, North Carolina, on Friday, April 28, 2017, and return on Saturday, April 29, 2017.** The motion passed 5-0.

The purpose of the trip is to reward the students for their hard work, recruitment, and retention. The cost for the trip is \$125 per person. District employees who will serve as chaperones on the trip are Larry Taylor, Jordan Smith, and David Whitaker. [Handout]

- c. Following a review for a one day field trip request, **Trustee John Hiers moved and Vice Chair Chris Wallace seconded to approve a request from Mr. William Laursen, math teacher, to take approximately 45 students and 6 chaperones to Carowinds in North Carolina, on May 5, 2017 (Engineering Day), to expose the students to real world math problems and concepts upon the receipt of the actual list of students who will be attending.** The motion passed 5-0.

The students will pay their expenses for the trip. The determining factor for students to make the trip will be: those who would like to, satisfactory grades, and behavior. [Board Packet Enclosure]

- d. Following a discussion regarding actions (Officer/Board Nominations, SCSBA Resolutions, and Changes to the SCSBA Constitution) that will take place at the Legislative and Advocacy Conference on December 2, 2017, **Vice Chair Chris Wallace moved and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded to accept for information the SCSBA Legislative and Advocacy Conference information and review it again at the April 2017, Board Meeting.** The motion passed 5-0. [Board Packet Enclosure]
- e. As of March 1, 2017, the student enrollment remains at 1,362. [Board Packet Enclosure]
- f. Handout: Approved District Monthly Board Meeting Schedule for January 2017 – December 2017.
- g. Pending the passage of House Bill 3726 there will be an increase in both the employee and employer contributions to Retirement Funds which will create significant budgetary problems. According to information formulated by Mr. Joey Preston, County Administrator, and Bamberg County Council, 11.56% is being paid for Retirement by the District. Next year it will increase by 2% to 13.56 and every year thereafter it will increase by 1% until the year 2024 when it will be 18.56%. This is an effort to salvage the Retirement Fund. The State plans to give the districts 1% of the 2% increase that was promised. At this time, the administration does not know exactly how much money to expect – spending with caution. [Board Packet Enclosure]

7. **Approval: 2017-2018 School Calendar**

The administration presented a proposed 2017-2018 school calendar that would require school to begin on August 17, 2017, in order for the students to be at school on the day of the solar eclipse (August 24<sup>th</sup>). The administration believes students should be in a school setting on this day where they will have the proper protective gear for the viewing. A local citizen donated money to purchase the protective glasses. Also, every teacher will go out with their students and be responsible for them. A committee at each school will formulate some lessons that could be used in an interdisciplinary manner. No child will be forced to participate and the school day may have to be extended. Orangeburg School District 4 whom the district works closely with because of students attending the Cope Vocational school does not plan to have school on the day of the solar eclipse; therefore, they are planning to begin school on August 22, 2017. Their graduation will be June 8<sup>th</sup>

and this District's graduation will be Friday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. However, the last day of school for students (non-graduates) will be June 5<sup>th</sup>.

Following a discussion regarding the 2017-2018 District's School Calendar and school being in session on the day of the solar eclipse, **Trustee Janeth Walker moved and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded to table the approving of the 2017-2018 calendar pending clarification from Legal Counsel (Attorney Charles Boykin)**. The motion passed 5-0. [Board Packet Enclosures]

8. **Monthly Financial Report**

Finance Director Devon Furr presented the Financial Report of February 2017, and it was reviewed by the Board. For information, Mrs. Furr provided accounts that the administration would like to make changes with – consolidate some of the school accounts – do away with some of the fundraiser accounts, with all teams working together. The District's auditor will be contacted regarding the "Consortium Fee" that continues to be listed in the auditor's report. [Board Packet Enclosures: Financial Reports – Pupil Activity Funds]

9. **Visitors' Comments**

Mrs. Nicole Toomer began to comment on a concern regarding her child; however, Board Chair Rivers informed her that this concern had to be discussed in Executive Session since it was about a student.

After listening to Mrs. Toomer's concern in Executive Session, Board Chair Rivers informed her that Mrs. Dottie Brown, Director of Student Services, and Superintendent Schwarting would look into her concern.

10. **Executive Session**

Board Chair Kedra Rivers called for a **motion to enter Executive Session**. Trustee John Hiers **moved and Vice Chair Chris Wallace seconded to enter Executive Session**. The motion carried 5-0.

The purpose for entering executive session was to discuss the following:

- a. Principals' Teacher Recommendations for 2017-2018
- b. Director of Student Services Recommendations for 2017-2018
- c. Superintendent's Administrators Recommendations for 2017-2018
- d. Employment Recommendations
- e. Personnel Matter
- f. Legal Advice

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

- Trustee Janeth Walker moved and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded that under:
- a) Principals' Teacher Recommendations for 2017-2018 that all recommendations for Richard Carroll Elementary School be accepted as presented except for legal advice for teacher "A"; for Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School to accept all recommendations as presented; and for Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School to accept all recommendations as presented except for employee "B"; and under
  - b) Director of Student Services Recommendations for 2017-2018 to accept the recommendations as presented; and under
  - c) Superintendent's Administrators Recommendations for 2017-2018 to accept the recommendations as presented except for employee #2 would get the job as assistant principal and employee #3 would get the job as the band director; and
  - d) Employment Recommendations to accept the retirees/resignations as presented; and under
  - e) Personnel Matter to finalize the drafted letter as presented and discussed with Legal Counsel; and under
  - f) Under Legal Advice no action be taken. The motion passed 5-0.

Trustee Chris Wallace moved and Trustee Janeth Walker seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 5-0

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p. m.

Minutes approved:

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Christopher Wallace, Vice Chair

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Tony E. Duncan, Secretary