

MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Denmark-Olar Board Room
Bamberg County, South Carolina
August 10, 2020 – 5:00 p.m.

Members Present: Beverly Bonaparte, Chairman
Blossom Thompson, Vice Chairman (*arrived at 5:06 p.m.*)
Loretta P. Goodman, Secretary
Tonie Holman
Larry Bias

Also Present: Thelma Sojourner, Superintendent

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Bonaparte called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. In accordance with the SC Code of Laws, 1976, section 30-4-80(e) as amended, the following had been notified of the time, date, place and agenda of the meeting: WIIZ Radio Station, Barnwell; *The Advertiser-Herald*, Bamberg; and *The Times and Democrat*, Orangeburg.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call was conducted with attendance as recorded above.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

A moment of silence was observed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The meeting agenda was unanimously approved without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting held July 13, 2020 were unanimously approved as written without objection and signed by all members present.

The minutes of the special meeting held August 3, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. were unanimously approved as written without objection and signed by all members present.

The minutes of the special meeting held August 3, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. were unanimously approved as written without objection and signed by all members present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business for discussion.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mrs. Bonaparte reported that a virtual meeting was held with Representative Justin Bamberg, Senator Brad Hutto, and the boards of Bamberg One and Two to provide information to the boards and the public regarding the consolidation of the districts and that the meeting went well.

SECTION 1 - FINANCE

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AUGUST 10, 2020 – 5:00 P.M.

- **Finance Report**

Oggretta Tyler provided the finance report which was received as information.

- **Resolutions Authorizing Account Updates**

Dr. Sojourner stated that, due to recent changes in the finance department, South State Bank required signed resolutions noting the change of authorized signers on the district's bank accounts, including the operating accounts, lunchroom account, and federal programs account. The resolutions called for the signature of the board secretary. Mrs. Goodman, board secretary, was authorized to sign the resolutions on a motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Bias and unanimously passed.

SECTION 2 - CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

- **Dr. Ruby Johnson provided information regarding**

-A follow-up on a parent survey as discussed at the July board meeting. She stated that she received a total of 180 responses with 49.4% of parents expressing that they would feel more comfortable with face-to-face instruction after hearing the CDC's guidelines. Of 80 staff members responding, 12 may have underlying health issues and felt they may not be in favor of face-to-face instruction.

-Academic Recovery Camp (ARC) ended in July

-LEAP Week testing for K-8 grades was scheduled for August 17-21 and August 24-30 for K-8 make-up tests and ninth grade testing

-Student assessment dates scheduled for the 2020-2021 school year

The report was received as information.

SECTION 3 - ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

- **Attorney Fees**

Mrs. Bonaparte asked that action on the attorney invoice be tabled until an Executive Session discussion is held regarding some entries on the invoice. The board agreed by consensus.

- **Legislative Update**

Dr. Sojourner stated

-The SCSBA's August School Law Conference would be conducted virtually August 21-22

-Legislature is not currently in session

-COVID19 related policies and updates are being received continuously from SCSBA

The report was received as information.

- **2020-2021 Calendar Modification**

Mrs. Goodman moved that the proposed 2020-2021 calendar modifications be approved. Mrs. Thompson seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Dr. Sojourner stated that, due to the pandemic, the calendar is fluid and conditions may necessitate additional changes. Bishop Holman asked if students would have a four-day week. Dr. Sojourner responded that, once students return to face-to-face instruction, students would have a virtual instruction day on Fridays and that the district will still observe early release days.

- **Second Reading of Proposed Policies Updates**

-EBC-R(1) – Remote Work

-EBC-R(2) – Remote Instruction

-EBA-R(3) – Virtual Board Meetings

Mrs. Goodman moved that the three proposed policies updates be given second reading approval. Mrs. Thompson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

- **First Reading of Proposed Policies/Updates**

Mrs. Goodman moved that the following policies be given first reading approval.

-ADD - Face Covering

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-JE-R - Student Attendance
-IHA-R - Opt-out of Onsite Instruction
Mrs. Thompson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mrs. Goodman moved that the following policies be given first reading approval:
-IHA-E - Opt-out of Onsite Instruction Form
-KI-R - Visitors to School Facilities
-KI-E - Notice (to visitors to school facilities)
Bishop Holman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mrs. Goodman moved that the following policies be given first reading approval:
-GBAA-Sexual Harassment (Staff)
-GBAA-R - Sexual Harassment (Staff)
-GBAA-E1 - Sexual Harassment (Staff)
Mr. Bias seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mrs. Goodman moved that the following policies be given first reading approval:
-JIAA-Sexual Harassment (Students)
-JIAA-R - Sexual Harassment (Students)
-JIAA-E1 - Sexual Harassment (Students)
Bishop Holman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

SECTION 4 - SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Sojourner provided the following:
-The state was providing additional face masks and shields for students and staff
-Possibility on on-site testing by school nurses
-State's desire to have a nurse for each school
-Department of Education current mandate is 50% capacity for school buses, but could change to 65% capacity
-Hotspots are being supplied to more than 400 students to use through December at no charge, with the district picking up the cost after December
-More than 400 laptops are being prepared for students' use
-Progress being made on annexing the new elementary school into the city limits. Currently, the city is checking the accuracy of lines drawn on a map.
The report was received as information.

SECTION 5 - EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Goodman moved that the board enter Executive Session to discuss the following:

- Employment/Personnel Recommendations/Matters
- Student Personnel Matters
- Contractual Matters
- Legal Matters/Counsel

The motion was seconded by Mrs. Thompson and unanimously approved.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The board voted unanimously to return to Open Session.

ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS

Mrs. Goodman moved that the board approve that every person in the district (full-time employees) receive a \$1,000 gift at Christmas to show appreciation for all of their hard work from March to the present. Mr. Bias seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

- **Employment/Personnel Recommendations/Matters**

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Mrs. Goodman moved that a middle school secretary be hired. Mr. Bias seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mrs. Goodman moved that the employment recommendations presented be accepted: hiring of AB, RE; acceptance of the resignation of AS; approve coaching staff HD, KS, CJ; and approve football assistants WMD, MM, DC, DW. Mrs. Thompson seconded the motion which passed by majority vote. Mr. Bias voting in favor of all employment recommendations presented but recused from voting on AB.

Mrs. Goodman moved that the recommendation of AB for position of teacher for 2020-2021 be approved. Mrs. Thompson seconded the motion which passed by majority vote. (Vote: In favor of the motion: Goodman, Bonaparte, Thompson, Holman; Recused: Bias - due to relationship with AB)

- **Student Personnel Matters**

Mrs. Goodman moved that the requests for release of students (initials AC; AC; TD,V) be granted. Bishop Holman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

- **Contractual Matters**

No action was taken.

- **Legal Matters/Counsel**

No action was taken.

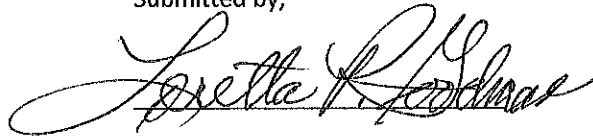
- **Attorney Fees**

Mrs. Goodman moved that the July 2020 attorney invoice totaling \$1,170.00 be paid. Mrs. Thompson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

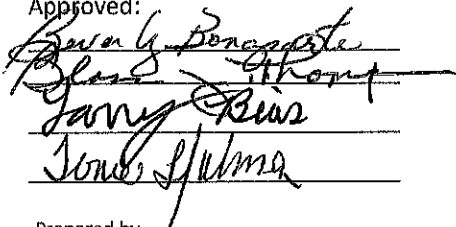
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned without objection at 6:40 p.m.

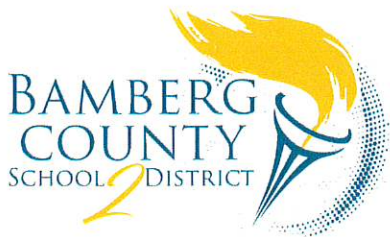
Submitted by,



Approved:



Prepared by
Deborah Anderson



**Board of Trustees Meeting
District Office Board Room**

AUGUST 10, 2020 - 5:00 P.M.

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

MOMENT OF SILENCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDUM (Action)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Action)

- Regular Meeting Held July 13, 2020
- Special Called Meeting Held August 3, 2020 -10:00 a.m.
- Special Called Meeting Held August 3, 2020 - 6:00 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Action if Needed)

NEW BUSINESS (Action if Needed)

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT (Action if Needed)

SECTION 1 - FINANCE (Action if Needed)

- Finance Report Oggretta Tyler
- Resolutions Authorizing Account Updates

SECTION 2 - CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION Dr. Ruby J. Johnson

SECTION 3 - ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION (Action)

- Attorney Fees
- Legislative Update
- 2020-2021 Calendar Modification
- Second Reading of Proposed Policies Updates
 - EBC-R(1) - Remote Work
 - EBC-R(2) - Remote Instruction
 - EBC-R(3) - Virtual Board Meetings
- First Readings of Proposed Policies/Updates
 - ADD - Face Covering
 - JE-R - Student Attendance
 - IHA-R - Opt-out of Onsite Instruction
 - IHA-E - Opt-out of Onsite Instruction Form
 - KI-R - Visitors to School Facilities
 - KI-E - Notice (to visitors to school facilities)
 - GBAA-Sexual Harassment (Staff)
 - GBAA-R - Sexual Harassment (Staff)
 - GBAA-E1 - Sexual Harassment (Staff)
 - JIAA-Sexual Harassment (Students)
 - JIAA-R - Sexual Harassment (Students)
 - JIAA-E1 - Sexual Harassment (Students)

SECTION 4 - SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT (Action if Needed) Dr. Thelma Sojourner

SECTION 5 - EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Employment/Personnel Recommendations/Matters
- Student Personnel Matters
- Contractual Matters
- Legal Matters/Counsel

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS

- Employment/Personnel Recommendations/Matters
- Student Personnel Matters
- Contractual Matters
- Legal Matters/Counsel

ADJOURNMENT