

Bamberg County School District
Minutes of Regular Meeting of Board of Trustees
Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School
February 7, 2022
5:30 p.m.

Members present: Board Chair Janeth Walker, Vice Chair Beverly P. Bonaparte, Secretary Tonie A. Holman, Trustee Gwendolyn D. Bamberg, Trustee Harriet H. Coker, Trustee Naomi Eckels, Trustee John L. Hiers, Trustee Cynthia “Cindy” F. Hurst and Trustee Blossom J. Thompson.

Absent: None.

1. **Call meeting to order:** Board Chair Janeth Walker called the meeting to order.

Notice to Media: In accordance with the S. C. Code of Laws of 1976, as amended, Section 30-4-80(E), The Times and Democrat Newspaper, The Bamberg County Leader, WIIZ 97.9 FM, and the Bamberg School Districts One and Two Websites have been notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting.

2. **Approval of Agenda**
Trustee Gwendolyn Bamberg moved and Vice Chair Beverly Bonaparte seconded to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed 8-0. [Trustee John Hiers had not arrived]
3. **Approval of Minutes for:**
 - a) **January 18, 2022 – Bamberg School District Two**
Vice Chair Beverly Bonaparte moved and Secretary Tonie Holman seconded to accept the January 18, 2022 – Bamberg School District Two meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed 8-0. [Trustee John Hiers had not arrived]
 - b) **January 19, 2022 – Bamberg School District One**
Trustee Harriet Coker moved and Secretary Tonie Holman seconded to accept the January 19, 2022 – Bamberg School District One meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed 8-0. [Trustee John Hiers had not arrived]
 - c) **January 25, 2022 – Bamberg County School District**
Secretary Tonie Holman moved and Trustee Blossom Thompson seconded to accept the January 25, 2022 – Bamberg County School District meeting minutes with a note to add Trustee Gwendolyn D. Bamberg’s name to the “Members present” section on Page 1. The motion passed 8-0. [Trustee John Hiers had not arrived]
4. **Board Member Training: School Boards: Roles, Responsibilities, Organization and Ethical Considerations**
Mr. Charles Boykin of Boykin & Davis, LLC, provided in depth board member training. Mr. Boykin discussed constitutional authority, functions/roles of the board, legislative policy, due diligence, due process, and board procedures.

5. **Discussion of Board Meeting Schedule (Action if Needed)**

The Board discussed regular scheduled meeting options for the new consolidated meetings and made the unanimous decision to schedule the regular monthly meetings on the first Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

6. **Discussion of Board Member Salary (Action if Needed)**

Board Chair Janeth Walker discussed the new board's responsibilities/duties and compensation relating to the same. Mrs. Walker advised due to the range of pay given by statute and the laws surrounding board compensation, she felt it necessary to appoint a committee to bring forth a recommendation for reasonable compensation for board members. Vice Chair, Beverly Bonaparte, Trustee Cynthia Hurst and Trustee Gwendolyn Bamberg were appointed to the committee.

7. **Discussion of Bamberg School District Two's Pupil Activity Accounts Being Moved to District Office**

Finance Director Devon Furr made the request for all Bamberg School District Two pupil activity accounts to be moved to the district office in order to have better accountability.

Vice Chair Beverly Bonaparte moved and Secretary Tonie Holman seconded to approve the Bamberg School District Two's pupil activity accounts being moved to the district office. The motion passed 9-0.

8. **RFP – BEHS/BEMS Roofs**

Superintendent Brown informed the board of the necessity for new roofs for Bamberg-Ehrhardt High and Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle Schools. Dr. Brown advised that the roofs can no longer be patched and must be replaced in order to avoid safety issues such as mold, ceiling collapse, etc. Dr. Brown requested RFPs for bids pursuant to the procurement process, but stated due to the immediate attention that is needed, the board could decide in lieu of RFPs to implement the emergency procurement process.

Trustee Harriet Coker moved and Trustee Blossom Thompson seconded to approve implementation of the emergency procurement process instead of RFPs to have new roofs placed on BEHS and BEMS. The motion passed 9-0.

9. **Executive Session**

Board Chair Janeth Walker called for a motion to enter Executive Session. **Trustee Naomi Eckels moved and Secretary Tonie Holman seconded to enter Executive Session.** The motion carried (9-0).

Board Chair Janeth Walker noted that the Board would be moving into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Recommendation for Resignations (If Needed), Personnel Recommendations for Hires (If Needed), Contractual Matters (If Needed), and Student Transfer Requests (If Needed).

Open session: Trustee Gwendolyn Bamberg moved and Secretary Tonie Holman seconded for the Board to come out of Executive Session and return to the regular session of the meeting. The motion carried 9-0.

10. **Action on Executive Session Items**

Trustee John Hiers moved and Trustee Gwendolyn Bamberg seconded for the Board to approve Agenda Item 9 (a) Personnel Recommendation for Resignations (If Needed) for employee #1 and Agenda Item 13 (b) Personnel Recommendations for Hires (If Needed) for employee #1, #2, #3, #4 and #5. The motion passed 9-0.

Under Agenda Item 9 (c) Contractual Matters (If Needed), Secretary Tonie Holman moved and Vice Chair Beverly Bonaparte seconded to approve authorization for the Superintendent to engage in discussion with the cultural exchange visitor program sponsors regarding terms of an agreement for placement of educators in the District. The motion carried 9-0.

Secretary Tonie Holman moved and Trustee Gwendolyn Bamberg seconded to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to offer contracts of employment for the 2022-2023 school year to certain teachers participating in the exchange visitor program, subject to the Board's approval of agreements with the program sponsors. The motion carried 9-0.

Secretary Tonie Holman moved and Trustee John Hiers seconded to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to offer employment for the 2022-2023 school year and pursue permanent resident status for Employee A. The motion carried 9-0.

Secretary Tonie Holman moved and Trustee Gwendolyn Bamberg seconded to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to extend Employee B's contract of employment for the 2022-2023 school year, subject to the District's receipt of employee's employment authorization. The motion carried 9-0.

Secretary Tonie Holman moved and Trustee Naomi Eckels seconded to approve the Superintendent's recommendation to pursue H1B petitions or extensions and offer contracts of employment for the 2022-2023 school year to certain designated employees. The motion carried 9-0.

There was no action taken on Agenda Item 9 (d) Student Transfer Requests (If Needed), as there were no recommendations presented at this time.

11. **Adjourn**

Vice Chair Beverly Bonaparte moved and Secretary Tonie Holman seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 9-0.

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The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Minutes approved:

Janeth Walker, Board Chair

Tonie A. Holman, Secretary