

**Bamberg County School District  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
Bamberg County School District Office  
March 6, 2023  
6:00 p.m.**

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

**Absent:** Trustee Naomi Eckels.

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, WBSC-LP 102.3 FM, and the Bamberg County School District website have been notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting.

2. **Approval of Agenda**  
**Vice Chair Beverly Bonaparte moved and Trustee Harriet Coker seconded to approve the agenda as presented.** The motion passed 8-0.
3. **Approval of Minutes for February 9, 2023 and February 23, 2023**  
**Vice Chair Beverly Bonaparte moved and Trustee Blossom Thompson seconded to accept the February 9, 2023 and February 23, 2023 meeting minutes as presented.** The motion passed 8-0.
4. **School Reports: Chastity Evans, Denise Miller, Jordan Smith, Rhonda Ray, Patricia Moultrie-Goldsmith, and Deonia Simmons. Hand-outs:** School Reports (Reviewed by Principals/Assistant Principals)
  - Richard Carroll Elementary School –Principal Chastity Evans
  - Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School – Principal Denise Miller
  - Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School – Principal Jordan Smith
  - Denmark-Olar Elementary School – Principal Rhonda Ray
  - Denmark-Olar Middle School – Principal Patricia Moultrie-Goldsmith
  - Denmark-Olar High School – Principal Patricia Moultrie-Goldsmith in the absence of Principal Deonia Simmons.
5. **Athletic Reports: Robert Williams**  
Principal Jordan Smith reviewed the athletic report as presented for Bamberg County School District in the absence of Athletic Director Robert Williams. [Board Packet Enclosure]
6. **Approval: 2023-2024 School Calendar**  
Superintendent Brown presented the 2023-2024 Option C calendar for approval (second reading). Dr. Brown noted changes to the calendar that included July 19, 2023 and July 20, 2023 being changed from professional development days to teacher prep days. Dr. Brown further noted that during the intercession weeks, Mondays would be used as teacher prep

days with Tuesdays and Wednesday being used as student days, but this may have to be altered by adding a third student day, if needed. **Vice Chair Beverly Bonaparte moved and Secretary Tonie Holman seconded to approve the 2023-2024 School Calendar as presented with the understanding that intercession days may need to be altered depending on student needs.** The motion carried 7-0. [Board Packet Enclosure] [Trustee Blossom Thompson left early due to a family emergency]

7. **Student/Staff Recognition and Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Brown noted the following:

- a) Dr. Brown congratulated the Viking girls' basketball team and coaches for a job well done. Dr. Brown went on to further congratulate the boys' basketball team for a great season and Kymia Jamison for trailblazing in the predominantly male sport of wrestling.
- b) Dr. Brown informed of the National Child Identification Program national identification kits to be sent home to all K-12 students through a partnership with the SC Attorney General's Office, SC Department of Education and corporate partners Duke Energy and Dominion Energy. Dr. Brown advised the kits were inkless at home fingerprint kits to be completed and kept by parents and/or guardians only to be provided to law enforcement in the event of missing or trafficked children.
- c) Dr. Brown introduced Federal Program Director, Phyllis Overstreet, to present the school improvement designations. Miss Overstreet provided background information with regard to the school improvement designations, advising that schools have always had to have school improvement designations and that all schools in every state have to write plans and send to the federal government for approval. Miss Overstreet advised designations are based on the comparison of performance to the highest performing identified Comprehensive School Improvement school. If a school is in the bottom 10%, they are considered to be the worst designation and considered to be a CSI school. Bamberg County School District has no one in this category. Miss Overstreet advised that for identification of Additional Targeted Support and Improvement identification (ATSI), data runs are done by grade bands and grade levels. In 2019, Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School, Denmark-Olar Middle School, and Denmark-Olar Elementary School were identified as being ATSI schools and this is where the designations initially started. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, designations were not done in the fall of 2021 and report card ratings were not available. Miss Overstreet advised that according to the new designations, Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School and Denmark-Olar Middle School exited ATSI disabled status which indicates they improved over the 2019 baseline data. However, Denmark-Olar Elementary School is in its second round as an ATSI school for the disabled subgroup, which means they did not improve over their original performance data. Also, according to the new designations, Richard Carroll Elementary School was also identified as an ATSI school for the disabled subgroup. Designations are done every three years and for both schools to exit, they will have to improve over the 2022 benchmark data. Miss Overstreet warned that if Denmark-Olar Elementary School does not improve, they would become a CSI school, which is not what needs to happen. Miss Overstreet stated that the next

round of school designations will be in 2025, as it takes three years to get in and three years to exit and improve.

8. **Request for Out of State/Overnight Trips:**

- a. Concert Band – Carowinds – Charlotte, NC – April 7, 2023 (Katherine Bloomfield, Band Director)
- b. RCES Safety Patrol – Carowinds – Charlotte, NC – April 21, 2023 (Jazmyn Medlin, RCES Guidance Counselor)

Following a review of the requests for overnight trips, **Trustee Harriet Coker moved and Trustee Cynthia Hurst seconded to approve the request from Band Director Katherine Bloomfield of Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School for the Concert Band to travel to Carowinds in Charlotte, North Carolina on April 7, 2023 and the request of Guidance Counselor Jazmyn Medlin of Richard Carroll Elementary School for the RCES Safety Patrol to travel to Carowinds in Charlotte, North Carolina on April 21, 2023.** The motion passed 7-0. [Board Packet Enclosures]

9. **SCAGO Bond Resolution**

Finance Director Devon Furr proposed that the SCAGO Bond be reissued to keep millage at a steady level. Ms. Furr advised that if approved, the bond would be issued in May of 2023 to take care of more costly maintenance items across the district.

After brief discussion, **Trustee John Hiers moved and Secretary Tonie Holman seconded to approve issuance of the annual SCAGO Bond.** The motion passed 7-0. [Board Packet Enclosures]

10. **Monthly Financial Report**

Finance Director Devon Furr presented the Financial Report for Bamberg County School District for FY 2022-2023 as of February 2023, for review. [Board Packet Enclosures]

**Vice Chair Beverly Bonaparte moved and Secretary Tonie Holman seconded to accept the Financial Report for February 2023, as presented.** The motion passed 7-0.

11. **Visitors' Comments**

None.

12. **Executive Session**

**Board Chair Janeth Walker called for a motion to enter Executive Session. Trustee Cynthia Hurst moved and Trustee Harriet Coker seconded to enter Executive Session.** The motion carried 7-0.

Board Chair Janeth Walker noted that the Board would be moving into Executive Session to discuss Employment/Personnel: Personnel Recommendations for Hire, Personnel Recommendations for Resignation, Discussion of Release of Students, Contractual Matters Regarding: Incidental to Potential Sale of Property, and Discussion of Superintendent Evaluation.

**Open session: Trustee Cynthia Hurst moved and Trustee Harriet Coker seconded for the Board to come out of Executive Session and return to the regular session of the meeting.** The motion carried 7-0.

13. **Action on Executive Session Items**

**Trustee John Hiers moved and Secretary Tonie Holman seconded to approve Agenda Item 12 (a) (1) Personnel Recommendations for Hire for employees a, b, c, d, and e.** The motion passed 7-0.

**Trustee John Hiers moved and Vice Chair Beverly Bonaparte seconded to approve Agenda Item 12 (b) Discussion of Release of Students for student #1.** The motion passed 7-0.

There was no action taken on Agenda Item 12 (a) (2) Personnel Recommendations for Resignation, Agenda Item 12(c) (1) Contractual Matters Regarding: Incidental to Potential Sale of Property, and Agenda Item 12 (d) Discussion of Superintendent Evaluation.

14. **Adjourn**

**Vice Chair Beverly Bonaparte moved and Trustee Harriet Coker seconded to adjourn the meeting.** The motion passed 7-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Minutes approved:

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Janeth Walker, Board Chair

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Tonie A. Holman, Secretary