

MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Denmark-Olar Board Room
Bamberg County, South Carolina
May 10, 2021 – 5:00 p.m.

Members Present: Beverly Bonaparte, Chairman
Blossom Thompson, Vice Chairman
Loretta P. Goodman, Secretary
Tonie Holman
Larry Bias

Also Present: Thelma Sojourner, Superintendent
Deonia Simmons, Interim 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, 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 April 12, 2021, and special meetings held April 20, 2021, and May 3, 2021 were approved as written without objection. The minutes were signed by all board members.

STUDENT SERVICES

- **Student Recognitions**

Dr. Sojourner recognized the following 2021 high school seniors who graduated from the dual enrollment program at Denmark Technical College:

Tierra Washington	Brevin Samuel	Nianne Rivers
Aaron Carter	Ebony Crawford	Zynea Williams
Isha Patel		

Mrs. Doris Beard, Coordinator of the Dual Education Program at Denmark Technical College, presented awards and certificates to the students.

Laila Donaldson was recognized for her participation in the APP Challenge at Denmark Technical College.

Sgt. Leveretter presented students who were inducted into the Senior Beta Club and the National Honor Society.

National Honor Society

Aaron Carter

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National Honor Society AND Senior Beta Club

11th Grade

Lakiyah Coleman
Laila Donaldson
Ta'Najya Holman
Majada Odom
Kavonia Owens
Raj Patel
Teonna Rice
Marquez Turner
Serenity Williams

12th Grade

Ebony Crawford
Ishaben Patel
Nianne Rivers
Brevin Samuel
Tiara Washington
Zynea Williams

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business for discussion.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mrs. Bonaparte congratulated Dr. Deonia Simmons on his new position as Deputy Superintendent for Bamberg Districts One and Two, effective July 1, 2021.

SECTION 1 - FINANCE

- **Finance Report**

Mrs. Oggretta Tyler presented the finance report which was received as information.

SECTION 2 - CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

In Dr. Johnson's absence, Dr. Sojourner shared that standardized testing for third and fifth graders would be conducted during the next two weeks. The report was received as information.

SECTION 3 - ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

- **Attorney Fees**

Mrs. Goodman moved that the attorney fees for March and April 2021, totaling \$11,009.28, be approved for payment. Mrs. Thompson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

- **Legislative Update**

Dr. Sojourner reported that legislators were discussing the following:

- Student base cost
- Teacher salary increase
- SRO continuation
- Bus driver salary increase
- ESSER funds
- CERDEP continuation

Dr. Sojourner stated that the legislature had passed the following:

- Resolution exempting school districts from COVID liability claims
- High school courses required for graduation on the US Constitution, Declaration of Independence, the Emancipation Proclamation, and the Federalist Papers
- Suicide prevention cards for students
- Continuation of masks for students

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The report was received as information.

- **Second Reading of Proposed 2021-2022 School Year Calendar**
The proposed 2021-2022 school year calendar was given second reading approval on a motion by Mrs. Goodman, seconded by Mrs. Thompson and unanimously passed.
- **Second Reading of Policy**
-DJD – Expense Authorization/Reimbursement (Update)
Mrs. Goodman moved that policy DJD-Expense Authorization/Reimbursement, as printed, be given second reading approval. Mrs. Thompson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

SECTION 4 - SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Sojourner provided the following information:

- Teacher and staff appreciation was observed during the past week with all employees receiving a small token
 - Offered condolences to Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Bonaparte who both experienced the loss of a family member
 - Requested approval of summer hours June 14-August 13, 2021, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday; closed on Friday. Mrs. Goodman moved that the summer hours schedule be approved. Mrs. Thompson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
 - Graduation ceremony to be held only for high school seniors this year
 - Distributed SC School Board Association training hours for board members
 - Requested approval of use of facilities by Maurice Kimble, representing the Kamp Future Football Team, May 24-June 14, two days a week for two hours; and June 14-July 23, three days a week and Saturdays for four hours. Mrs. Goodman moved that the request be approved. Mrs. Thompson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
 - List of expectations as outlined by the SC High School League, governing the conduct of spectators and team members during athletic events
 - SC High School League COVID protocols with regard to athletics
 - Sale of remaining school furniture and equipment scheduled for May 13-14.
- 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

Mrs. Goodman moved that the board return to Open Session. Mrs. Thompson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS

- **Employment/Personnel Recommendations/Matters**
Dr. Simmons requested that the personnel recommendations from the human resource department be accepted. Mrs. Goodman moved that the request be approved. Bishop Holman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Dr. Simmons requested that the coaching assignments for 2021-2022 be approved. Mrs. Goodman moved that the request be approved. Bishop Holman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

- **Student Personnel Matters**

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Mrs. Goodman moved that the requests for release of students ECB, LMD and ACR to attend school in another school district for 2021-2022 be granted. Bishop Holman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Contractual Matters

No action was taken.

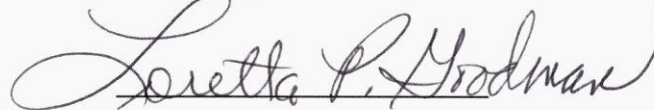
- **Legal Matters/Counsel**

No action was taken.

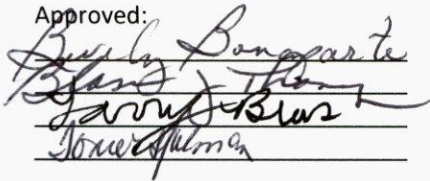
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned without objection at 6:49 p.m.

Submitted by,



Approved:



Prepared by
Deborah Anderson

