

**Board of Trustees Meeting
Denmark Olar High School Media Center
Denmark, South Carolina
October 11, 2021
5:00 pm**

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

Also Present: Dottie Brown, Superintendent
Deonia Simmons, Deputy Superintendent

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Beverly Bonaparte called the 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 has been notified of the time, date, place and agenda of the meeting: WHZ 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

Ms. Loretta P. Goodman moved and Ms. Blossom Thompson seconded to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Loretta P. Goodman stated due to some correction(s) needing to be made, the minutes of the September 13, 2021 board meeting will be approved at the November meeting.

SCHOOL – PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Denmark Olar Elementary School – Dr. Rhonda Ray stated the current enrollment was three hundred (300) with two additional enrollments. There are no confirmed COVID cases of staff or students. Dr. Ray explained the Waterford Program for Pre-K was held as a drive through program as opposed to the student’s families coming into the building. Dr. Ray went on to say the weekly Parent Video series was posted on the website and if there are any changes it will be held virtually.

Students had an early release day on September 28, 2021 which allowed the teachers to review information and evaluate MAP data.

Dr. Ray advised the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) will be administered on October 12-19, 2021. Dr. Ray further reported Professional Development Day will be on October 19, 2021 and Red Ribbon Week will be held October 25-29, 2021 for drug awareness.

Denmark Olar Middle School – In the absence of Mr. Walter Baker, Dr. Simmons affirmed the current student enrollment as being one hundred thirty-six (136). There were eleven (11) confirmed COVID cases and fifty-two (52) quarantined since the beginning of the school year.

Dr. Simmons stated Benchmark testing will begin later this month. Dr. Simmons went on to state that Professional Development Day is October 19, 2021 and Red Ribbon Week will be observed the October 25-29, 2021. Homecoming will be October 29, 2021.

Denmark Olar High School – In the absence of Mr. Walter Baker, Dr. Simmons reported there were one hundred and eighty-nine (189) students enrolled this school year. There are twenty (20) confirmed COVID cases and one hundred and eleven (111) quarantined from the beginning of the current school year. Dr. Simmons went on to state MAP testing is scheduled to begin later this month and Professional Development Day is October 19, 2021. Red Ribbon week will be observed the week of October 25, 2021 and Homecoming is scheduled for October 29, 2021.

ATHLETIC REPORT

Athletic Director - Mr. Littlejohn informed the board, at this time, there were no confirmed cases of COVID and no players or staff were quarantined. Mr. Littlejohn explained the football team was doing a great job and was currently in first place. They had a record of 4-2 on the season and 3-1 in the region. Mr. Littlejohn further stated the upcoming football games are on October 15, 2021 against Williston Elko, October 22, 2021 against Blackville Hilda and Homecoming on October 29, 2021 against Military Magnet Academy.

Mr. Littlejohn congratulated the following players:

- TJ Williams for being awarded the Times and Democrat Player of the Week for his outstanding performance against Eau Claire High School.
- Keithan Washington for being awarded the Times and Democrat Player of the Week for his performance in the Ridge Spring Monetta and Calhoun County games. Keithan was further recognized by the South Carolina Football Coaches Association and named WJBF 44 strong player.
- Anthony Bias was awarded the South Carolina Football Coaches Association Player of the Week for his performance against Calhoun County.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Brown reviewed the district's three-year enrollment trends.

Facilities Construction Update:

*The construction of the bus pad has begun and should be completed within a couple of weeks.

*The renovations being performed at the district office were going well, but due to product demands and shipping delays, the remaining windows, air conditioning units, and furniture delivery were not complete.

*Ms. Brown advised a Dominion Energy representative has suggested that concrete barriers be installed around the light poles in the front parking lot of Denmark Olar High School as a safety precaution.

Selling of Properties:

Ms. Brown informed the board that local attorney William S. Kemp has agreed to conduct the closing on the sale of the Denmark Olar Elementary and Denmark Olar Middle School properties. The contract may be ready by the end of the week. Mr. Kemp will only charge a fee for the filing of the deeds. The district thanks Mr. Kemp and Kemp Law Firm for their services.

Ms. Brown acknowledged Ms. Laura Buss for her volunteer services to the school's science and afternoon programs. The students are learning farming techniques and as well as skills on ways to cook and prepare foods.

Superintendent Brown presented current updated Policies KB and KBB for first reading:

First Reading: Policy KB - Parent and Family Engagement in Education and Policy KBB – Parent Rights and Responsibilities

The policy updates are due to references to No Child Left Behind which is old legislation. The policies will be updated to reflect current legislation, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Ms. Loretta P. Goodman made a motion and Mr. Tonie Holman seconded to accept the first reading of Policy KB - Parent and Family Engagement in Education and Policy KBB – Parent Rights and Responsibilities as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

Finally, Ms. Brown discussed new legislation passed regarding masks, which overturned the Governor's previous legislation, thereby reverting power to make mask mandate decisions back to school districts. Ms. Brown suggested continuing with current policy to encourage mask wearing and social distancing and make changes when necessary.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Devon Furr reviewed copies of the financial report along with legal bills from Boykin and Davis, LLC. Ms. Furr stated the financial report gives more detail description of expenditures.

The motion was made by Mr. Larry Bias and seconded by Mr. Tonie Holman to pay Boykin and Davis, LLC for legal services rendered for the month of September in the amount of One Thousand Four Hundred Fifty – One Dollars and Seventy-Three Cents (\$1,451.73). The motion passed 5-0.

BOARD CHAIRPERSON REPORT

Ms. Beverly Bonaparte reiterated Ms. Brown's previous statements, that things were moving smoothly with construction at the district office. Ms. Bonaparte thanked Coach Littlejohn for all his hard work and dedication to his staff and players.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Loretta P. Goodman moved and Ms. Blossom Thompson seconded to enter into Executive Session to discuss the following:

- Personnel Matters
- Student Matters
- Contractual Matters
- Legal Matters

The motion passed 5-0.

Return to Open Session

Ms. Loretta P. Goodman moved and Ms. Blossom Thompson seconded to return to open session to take the necessary actions on executive session matters.

ACTION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Personnel Matters

Superintendent Brown made the recommendation to accept the resignation for employee RM. Ms. Goodman made the motion and Ms. Blossom Thompson seconded to accept the resignation of employee RM as Registered Nurse of Denmark Olar High School. The motion passed 5-0.

Superintendent Brown made the recommendation for hiring of employee TRC as Registered Nurse for Denmark Olar High School, employee JLG as the Business Ed Teacher for Denmark Olar High School, and employee MDW as Custodian for Denmark Olar High School and Denmark Olar Middle School for the 2021-2022 school year.

Ms. Loretta P. Goodman made a motion and Ms. Blossom Thompson seconded to accept the recommendation for hiring of employee TRC as Registered Nurse for Denmark Olar High School, employee JLG as the Business Ed Teacher for Denmark Olar High School, and employee MDW as Custodian for Denmark Olar High School and Denmark Olar Middle School for the 2021-2022 school year. The motion passed 5-0.

Student Matters

Superintendent Brown made the recommendation to accept the transfer of students ZJD and SJD to attend school in another district.

Ms. Loretta P. Goodman made a motion and Mr. Larry Bias seconded to accept the transfer of students ZJD and SJD to attend the school of their choice in another district. The motion passed 5-0.

Contractual Matters

-No Action Needed

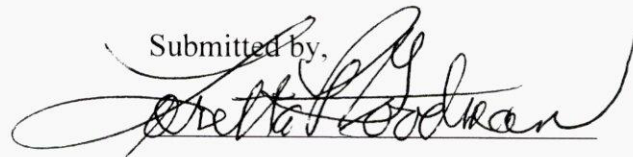
Legal Matters

-No Action Needed

ADJOURNMENT

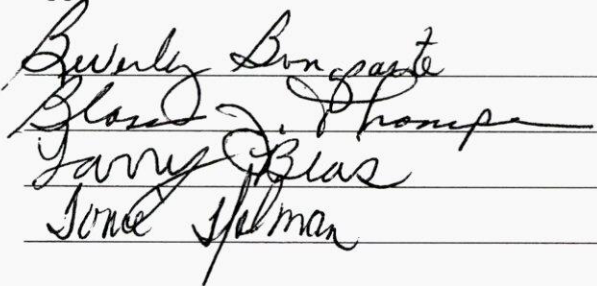
The meeting was adjourned at 5:56 pm.

Submitted by,



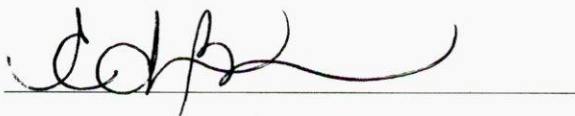
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Loretta P. Goodman", written over a horizontal line.

Approved:



Four handwritten signatures in cursive script, each written over a horizontal line. From top to bottom, they appear to be Beverly Bongaste, Gladys J. Phompa, Larry Bias, and Jone Selman.

Prepared by:
Edrie Breeland



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Edrie Breeland", written over a horizontal line.