

**Board of Trustees Meeting
Denmark-Olar High School Media Center
Denmark, South Carolina
January 18, 2022
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

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair 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 have 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

The meeting agenda was unanimously approved without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting held on November 8, 2021 were approved as written, without objection. The minutes were signed by all board members.

2022 SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION-REVIEW OF ETHICAL PRINCIPLES

The board was presented with the South Carolina School Board Association's 2022 Ethical Principles for review. Each board member took their turn and shared in the reading of the ethical principles, followed with the signing of the 2022 Ethical Principles poster to reiterate their pledge as a school board member.

PRINCIPALS REPORT

In the absence of Dr. Rhonda Ray (Denmark-Olar Elementary School), Dr. Lorraine Peeples (Denmark-Olar Middle School) and Dr. Deonia Simmons (Denmark-Olar High School),

Superintendent Dottie Brown presented the principals' reports for review and advised if there were any questions or concerns, the board members could reach out to the principals.

ATHLETIC UPDATE

In the absence of Athletic Director Coach Littlejohn, Dr. Brown presented the athletic report for review.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Dottie Brown informed the board that January was School Board Appreciation month. As a small token of appreciation, Dr. Brown presented each board member with a potted plant that included the message "Your service helps us grow!". Dr. Brown thanked the board members for their dedication and continued service.

Dr. Brown recognized Ms. Loretta P. Goodman with a certificate of appreciation and pin from the South Carolina School Boards Association for 15 years of dedicated school board service.

Superintendent Brown acknowledged and congratulated the Savannah River Nuclear Site Mini Grant winners, Mr. Richard Donahue and Mr. Daniel Scott. Mr. Donahue was awarded \$500.00 and Mr. Scott was awarded \$1,000.00 in grant funding, for a total award allocation to Bamberg School District Two in the amount of \$1,500.00.

Superintendent Brown reviewed the district's student enrollment trends for Bamberg School District Two and Bamberg School District One as of January 2022 compared to the prior three years.

Superintendent Brown reported the district's staff and student updated COVID numbers as of January 18, 2022 and noted the numbers were slowly coming back down due in part to the decision to revert to e-learning.

Dr. Brown referenced the most recently updated DHEC guidance dated January 15, 2022. Dr. Brown advised quarantine timelines have changed and vary depending on whether a person has been vaccinated/unvaccinated and whether a person was symptomatic/asymptomatic. Superintendent Brown advised the guidelines have been posted to the schools webpage and social media page so the public can have access to the most recent information.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Director Devon Furr presented the Financial Report for FY 2021-2022 as of November and December 2021, for review. [Board Packet Enclosure]

Board Chair Beverly Bonaparte presented the December 2021 legal bill from Boykin and Davis, LLC, in the amount of \$1,567.50.

Trustee Larry Bias moved and Trustee Tonie Holman seconded to approve payment to Boykin and Davis, LLC, in the amount of \$1,567.50, as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

BOARD CHAIRPERSON REPORT

Board Chair Beverly Bonaparte praised Superintendent Brown for keeping up with the district's COVID numbers and her handling of COVID within the schools. Board Chair Bonaparte advised parents have been pleased with how the situation has been managed.

Dr. Brown responded by extending her appreciation to the Board, administrators, teachers and parents for putting the health and safety of staff and students first and their willingness to revert to e-learning on short notice.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board Chair Beverly Bonaparte called for a motion to enter Executive Session. **Secretary Loretta Goodman moved and Vice Chair Blossom Thompson seconded to enter Executive Session.** The motion carried (5-0).

Board Chair Beverly Bonaparte noted that the Board would be moving into Executive Session to discuss Employment/Personnel Recommendations/Matters (If Needed), Student Personnel Matters (If Needed), Contractual Matters (If Needed), and Legal Matters/Counsel (If Needed).

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Trustee Larry Bias moved and Vice Chair Blossom Thompson seconded for the Board to come out of Executive Session and return to the regular session of the meeting. The motion carried 5-0.

ACTION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Personnel Matters

Superintendent Brown made the recommendation to accept the resignations of employee WB, EB, BN and LP under **Agenda Item 15 (a) Employment/Personnel Recommendations/Matters (If Needed)**.

Secretary Loretta Goodman moved and Vice Chair Blossom Thompson seconded to accept the resignations of employee WB, EB, BN and LP. The motion passed 5-0.

Student Matters

There was no action taken on **Agenda Item 15 (b) Student Personnel Matters (If Needed)**, as there were no recommendations presented at this time.

Contractual Matters

There was no action taken on Agenda Item 15 (c) Contractual Matters, as there were no matters presented at this time.

Legal Matters

There was no action taken on Agenda Item 15 (d) Legal Matters/Counsel (If Needed), as there were no matters presented at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

Minutes Approved:

Janeth Walker, Board Chair

Tonie A. Holman, Secretary