

Bamberg School District One
Minutes of Regular Meeting of Board of Trustees
Bamberg Ehrhardt High School
September 20, 2021
6:30 p.m.

Members present: Board Chair Janeth Walker, Vice Chair John Hiers, Secretary Tony E. Duncan, Trustee Gwendolyn Dianne Bamberg, and Trustee Naomi Eckels.

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, and the Bamberg School District One Website have been notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting.

2. **Approval of Agenda**
Secretary Tony Duncan moved and Vice Chair John Hiers seconded to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed 5-0.
3. **Approval of Minutes for August 16, 2021**
Vice Chair John Hiers moved and Trustee Gwendolyn Bamberg seconded to accept the August 16, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed 5-0.
4. **School Reports: Chastity Evans, Denise L. Miller, and Dennis R. Ulmer.**
Hand-outs: School Reports (Reviewed by Principals/Assistant Principal)
 - Richard Carroll Elementary School –Principal Chastity Evans
 - Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School – Principal Denise Miller
 - Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School – Principal Dennis Ulmer
5. **Athletic Report: Robert Williams**
In the absence of Coach Robert Williams, Principal Dennis Ulmer reviewed the athletic report as presented. [Board Packet Enclosure]
6. **Student/Staff Recognition and Superintendent's Report**
Superintendent Brown noted the following:
 - a) **SCSBA Delegates for 2021 Delegate Assembly December 4, 2021**
Superintendent Brown reviewed the SCSBA's Delegate Assembly information and requested a delegate be sent from Bamberg School District One. The board agreed to send Secretary Tony Duncan as the delegate with Trustee Naomi Eckels as the alternate.
 - b) **SC School Board's Resolution to Legislation – Proviso 1.108 Repeal**
Mrs. Brown introduced and explained the Resolution of the Bamberg School District One Board of Trustees Urging the South Carolina General Assembly to Repeal 2021-2022 Budget Proviso 1.108 to the board for their consideration. After a brief discussion, the board decided it would be in the best interest of the district's students and staff to participate in submitting the repeal to legislators in an attempt to give schools local

control over mask mandates. Vice Chair John Hiers read the repeal aloud for all parties present.

Vice Chair John Hiers moved and Secretary Tony Duncan seconded to approve signing of the Resolution of the Bamberg School District One Board of Trustees Urging the South Carolina General Assembly to Repeal 2021-2022 Budget Proviso 1.108 as presented. The motion passed 5-0. [Board Packet Enclosure]

c) **Professional Development Information**

Superintendent Brown advised professional development roundtables were under way and available for those interested.

d) **Closing/Reopening Schools Update**

Superintendent Brown reminded the board of the school wide closure on September 1, 2021 due to COVID numbers and stated it was primarily due to the number of staff quarantined and/or isolated. Ms. Brown commended the technology department and administration for their quick response in getting the resources out so quickly to implement virtual learning and further went on to commend the parents and community in their understanding and support. Superintendent Brown also presented SCDHEC's Guidance for K-12 Schools which provided more up-to-date and detailed guidelines regarding COVID quarantines, school closure guidance, etc.

e) **District Enrollment Trend Data**

Superintendent Brown reviewed the district's student enrollment trends compared to the prior three years and noted the enrollment numbers change daily.

f) **2021 District Report Cards**

Superintendent Brown set forth the data presented in the district's report card and emphasized the areas in which the district exceeds, meets and needs improvement.

g) **SPED Updates/SDE Notices**

Mrs. Brown presented the district's SPED school report card which indicated the district had no findings and are doing well with compliance. Mrs. Brown went on to congratulate the special education staff and Ms. Cynthia Tucker for their hard work in ensuring the district stays in compliance.

h) **Facilities Updates**

Superintendent Brown reported the paving project, which began last year, has been completed and work has begun on the football stadium repairs. Mrs. Brown advised the section under the bleachers where the roof collapsed has been cleaned up and work is currently in progress to have new fencing put in place for safety purposes. Mrs. Brown further informed that a structural engineer has inspected the bleachers and they suggest installing steel cross-beams to further secure the bleachers in the immediate future, but recommend replacing the bleachers within the next five years.

7. **Consolidation Updates**

Mrs. Brown requested to combine consolidation updates and shared services under the next agenda item.

8. **Shared Services Updates**

Superintendent Brown noted that Bamberg School District One and Bamberg School District Two are continuing to use shared services with superintendent, deputy

superintendent, technology, finance, and food service. Ms. Brown indicated they are still waiting on the consolidated board to be named and that the consolidation committee, Bamberg School District One's board chair, Bamberg School District Two's board chair along with the consolidation consultant, Dr. Dean Wittwer, continue to be in contact with legislators to try and speed up the process so the next steps in consolidation can take place.

9. **Second Reading – Updated Policies:**

- a. Policy GCD/GDD – Professional/Support Staff Annual Leave

Superintendent Brown presented Policy GCD/GDD for second reading.

Secretary Tony Duncan moved and Trustee Naomi Eckels seconded to approve for second reading of Policy GCD/GDD – Professional/Support Staff Annual Leave as presented. The motion passed 5-0. [Board Packet Enclosure]

10. **Monthly Financial Report**

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

Vice Chair John Hiers moved and Trustee Naomi Eckels seconded to accept the Financial Report for August 2021, as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

11. **Visitors' Comments**

Mr. Ken Ahlin addressed his concerns with the drive-up vaccine clinic and parental notification regarding the same.

12. **Executive Session**

Board Chair Janeth Walker called for a motion to enter Executive Session. **Secretary Tony Duncan moved and Trustee Gwendolyn Bamberg seconded to enter Executive Session.** The motion carried (5-0).

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), and Student Transfer Requests (If Needed).

Open session: Trustee Gwendolyn Bamberg moved and Trustee Naomi Eckels seconded for the Board to come out of Executive Session and return to the regular session of the meeting. The motion carried 5-0.

13. **Action on Executive Session Items**

There was no action taken on Agenda Item 12 (a) Personnel Recommendation for Resignations (If Needed), Agenda Item 12 (b) Personnel Recommendations for Hires (If Needed), and Agenda Item 12 (c) Student Transfer Requests (If Needed) as there were no recommendations/transfers presented at this time.

14. **Adjourn**

Vice Chair John Hiers moved and Secretary Tony Duncan seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 5-0.

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The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Minutes approved:

Janeth Walker, Board Chair

Tony E. Duncan, Secretary