

Board of Trustees Meeting
Denmark Olar High School Media Center
Denmark, South Carolina
September 13, 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. Bonaparte called the board meeting to order at 5:00 pm. 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. Goodman moved that the board accept the agenda. Ms. Thompson seconded the motion. The agenda was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the called meeting held on August 3, 2021, and the regular board meeting held on August 9, 2021, were approved.

SCHOOL – PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

- Denmark Olar Elementary School – Dr. Rhonda Ray stated the current enrollment is two hundred ninety-six (296); no confirmed COVID cases with staff, and three (3) confirmed students COVID cases. Dr. Ray detailed that it was a smooth opening with the students being administered the assessments and screenings. She commended the staff, teachers, and students for their support. Dr. Ray further stated Title I had their annual meeting virtually on September 2, 2021 and the meeting recording will be available on the website at a later time. Dr. Ray stated the school will continue to participate with Bamberg County Foodshare as well as Golden Harvest Food Bank and will cover fifty (50) students per week.

Finally, Dr. Ray informed the board that she will be giving teachers/staff Perfect Attendance Certificates for the month of August.

- Denmark Olar Middle School – Mr. Walter Baker affirmed there are one hundred and thirty-seven (137) students enrolled this school year including seventy (70) males and sixty-seven females (67). He stated there are two (2) confirmed COVID cases for students, zero cases for staff; with twelve (12) students quarantined and zero staff quarantined.
Mr. Baker confirmed that MAP testing is almost complete and make-up testing will be administered when school resumes. Benchmark testing for ELA, Math and Science will be provided using TE21 approximately every ten (10) weeks. Finally, the annual Title 1 meeting will be held on September 8, 2021.
- Denmark Olar High School – Mr. Walter Baker stated there are one hundred and eighty-nine (189) students enrolled this school year, one hundred seven (107) females, eighty – two (82) males. He affirmed that there are zero staff confirmed COVID cases, one (1) student confirmed COVID case, zero staff quarantine and eighteen (18) students are quarantined. Mr. Baker went on to state MAP testing is scheduled to begin on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 and the EOC classes will have the benchmark testing provided using TE21.

ATHLETIC REPORT

- Athletic Director in the absence of Mr. Littlejohn, Dr. Simmons informed the board that there are five (5) football players quarantined. Dr. Simmons went on to state that an upcoming game is scheduled for September 17, 2021 against Ridge Spring Monetta. He related that the football team won the game on last Friday night.
Dr. Simmons further stated the upcoming Volleyball event is scheduled for September 14, 2021 against Wagener Salley and September 16, 2021 against Blackville Hilda. Tickets will be available at the door for \$5.00.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- Ms. Brown stated the SCSBA requested a delegate from the district to attend the annual Delegate Assembly on December 4, 2021 and it was agreed that Ms. Bonaparte will be the delegate and Mr. Holman the alternate.
- Ms. Brown addressed the board regarding the resolution to the Legislation Proviso 1.108 requiring a face mask mandate and the board members’ signatures are required. Ms. Brown answered question(s) from board members regarding the mandating of mask wearing.
- Ms. Brown discussed the handbook that was presented to the board from the SC Law Conference. She also gave updated information from the Superintendents’ Symposium held on September 1-2, 2021 and engaging in the Roundtables for Administrators. She went on to explain DHEC guidelines for schools opening and closing and when the closures should be posted on the website. Ms. Brown commended the principals, faculty, staff, and technology department for their support.
- Ms. Brown reported the Trend Data that includes the district report cards for the 2021 school year. The reports show areas in need of improvement. Each board member was given a copy of this report.
- Ms. Brown presented to the board copies of a recent incident report from the Bamberg County Sheriff’s Department detailing an incident at one of the vacant schools (Denmark

Olar Elementary). The report stated students from Denmark Technical College and Voorhees College were loitering on the property.

- Finally, Ms. Brown did not have any definite information regarding consolidation, only that Ms. Janeth Walker and Mr. Justin Bamberg are in touch with potential candidates for the consolidation board.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- Ms. Devon Furr submitted copies of the financial report to each board member.

BOARD CHAIRPERSON REPORT

- No report was given by Ms. Bonaparte

Ms. Bonaparte asked if there was there any public input from the audience.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Goodman moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss the following:

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

The motion was seconded by Ms. Thompson and unanimously approved.

Return to Open Session

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

ACTION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Employment/Personnel Matters

-Recommendation for hiring LSH (Custodian), moved by Ms. Goodman and seconded by Ms. Thompson. The motion passed by raising hands (5/0).

-Recommendation of hiring ZTM (assistant principal) moved by Ms. Goodman and second by Ms. Thompson. The motion passed by raising hands, three in favor/ two opposed (3/2).

The three (3) board members in favor were Ms. Beverly Bonaparte, Ms. Blossom Thompson and Mr. Tonie Holman.

The two (2) board member opposed were Mr. Larry Bias and Ms. Loretta Goodman. Mr. Bias stated for the record, he is against hiring ZTM due to student population and Ms. Loretta P. Goodman did not feel the need for an assistant principal.

-Recommendation for hiring MBS (Guidance Counselor) moved by Ms. Goodman and seconded by Mr. Holman. The motion passed by raising hands (5/0).

Student Personnel Matters

No Action Needed

Contractual Matters

-Ms. Goodman moved to give approval to AC Contractors to construct a bus port at the Denmark Olar High School in the amount of \$ 297,480.00. The motion was seconded by Ms. Thompson and unanimously passed by show of hands (5/0)

-The Board approved to accepted the offers for the purchase of the Denmark Olar Elementary and the Denmark Olar Middle School to be purchase in the amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) each with the contingent upon the buyers agreeing with the terms of the sale of the properties. Consideration will be given to Mr. Billy Kemp or Mr. Charles Boykins to officiate the closing.

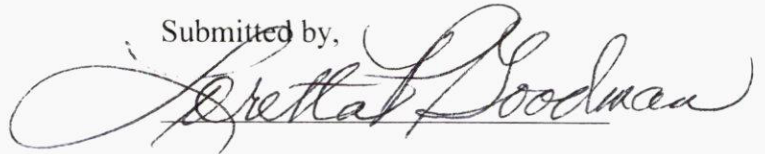
Legal Matters

-No Action Needed

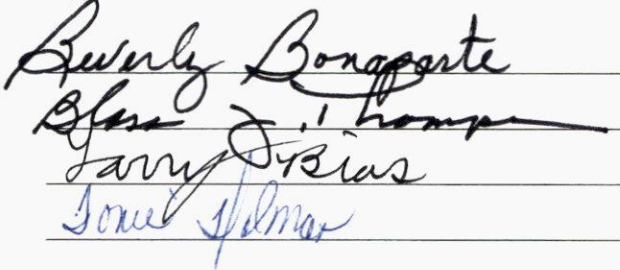
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 pm.

Submitted by,



Approved:



Prepared by:
Edrie. Breeland

