

Bamberg School District One
Minutes of Regular Meeting of Board of Trustees
Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School
May 19, 2015
6:30 P. M.

Members present: Board Chair Kedra H. Rivers, Vice Chair Chris Wallace, John L. Hiers, Secretary Tony E. Duncan, and Trustee Janeth Walker

Absent: None

1. **Call meeting to order:** Board Chair Kedra Rivers called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of silence.

2. **Notice to Media:** In accordance with the S. C. Code of Laws, Section 30-4-80(e), as amended, the following have been notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting:

The Times and Democrat
The Advertiser-Herald

3. **Approval of Agenda**

Trustee John Hiers **moved and Trustee Janeth Walker seconded to approve the agenda as presented.** The motion passed 5-0.

4. **Approval of Minutes**

Trustee Janeth Walker **moved and Vice Chair Chris Wallace seconded to approve the regular Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes of April 20, 2015, and the Called Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes of May 6, 2015, as presented.** The motion passed 5-0.

5. **Election of Officers for 2015**

Superintendent Phyllis Schwarting presided during the election of Board Chair and Trustee Kedra Rivers presided during the election of Board Vice Chair and Secretary for the 2015 year.

Trustee Tony Duncan **nominated and Trustee Chris Wallace seconded to elect Trustee Kedra H. Rivers as Board Chair for the 2015 year.** The motion passed 5-0.

Trustee John Hiers **nominated and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded to elect Trustee Chris Wallace as Board Vice Chair for the 2015 year.** The motion passed 5-0.

Trustee Janeth Walker **nominated and Trustee Chris Wallace seconded to elect Trustee Tony Duncan as Board Secretary for the 2015 year.** The motion passed 5-0.

6. **School Reports: Stacey Walter, Dottie Brown, Leigh Ann Osborne, Randy Maxwell**
School reports were given by Mrs. Stacey Walter, principal of Richard Carroll Elementary School; Mrs. Leigh Ann Osborne, guidance counselor of Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School; and Mr. Randall L. Maxwell, principal of Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School. [Handouts/Presentations: School Reports]

Dottie Brown, Director of Student Services, reported as follows:

Handout: Year End Profile Report (Student Services and Special Education Department)

Mrs. Brown reviewed the following from the “Year End Profile Report” of the Student Services and Special Education Department:

Child Find (Locating Identified Students – 5 screenings this year), Regulatory Information, number of students served by categories (SY 2013-2014 – 222 and SY 2014-2015 – 208: Indicators (17) that the district is accountable for reporting; Summer 2015 Reporting to the SC Department of Education; and the Student Services Department Staff. Board members received a handmade gift from the kindergarten students.

In response to the request of Principal Randy Maxwell, Vice Chair Chris Wallace **moved and Trustee John Hiers seconded to approve an out-of-state trip for the Boys Basketball team to attend a basketball camp at Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia, on June 26-28, 2015. Also, for the Wrestling team to travel in a rental van to Bryson City, North Carolina, on June 10-12, 2015, to participate in a Team Bonding – Whitewater Rafting and to Erinboro, Pennsylvania, on June 25-July 3, 2015, to participate in a wrestling competition.** The motion passed 5-0.

7. **Student/Staff Recognition and Superintendent’s Report**

Superintendent Schwarting reported the following:

- Thanks were extended to Board Chair Rivers for doing an outstanding job in serving as acting Board Chair since the passing of Board Chair Rita M. Sease (January 22, 2015). Also, thanks were extended to Leigh Ann Osborne, Clifford Murph, Ginger Godley and all the people who have stepped forward to see that Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School continues on the path that it has been for a number of years in the absence of Principal Troy Phillips (May 19, 2015).
- Board members are invited to attend *The Leadership Day* event on May 20, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. [Board Packet Enclosure]
- The Teacher, Parent, and Student survey responses for 2014-15 School Year were reviewed. [Board Packet Enclosure]
- The administration is invited to enroll in the National Alliance of Black School Educators program. This program will provide African American students an opportunity to participate in educational programs at the college level in order to increase the number of African Americans into every field of education.
- According to the SDE, the district will lose \$32,359.10 in lottery money this year. This is money that the administration had already budgeted.
- Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School calendar of events for the month of May was reviewed. [Board Packet Enclosure]

- The 2015 Boardmanship Institute Calendar of Events was reviewed. [Board Packet Enclosure]
- Board members are asked to check the SCSBA Conferences(s) they plan to attend and return their response to Jessica Moody at the District Office. She will register and make the hotel accommodations. The first block of rooms will open on June 4, 2015. [Board Packet Enclosure]
- The student enrollment is currently 1,383. Last year's budget was based on the 135-day count which was 1,424 and at a student base cost of \$2,109. Currently, the district is operating on 1,384 students for a difference of 40 students. Due to the decrease in student enrollment, the district will not receive \$77,331.
- SCSBA reported the following Training Hours for the District's board members: Tony Duncan – 9.5; John Hiers -30.5; Kedra Hill-Rivers – 47; Rita Sease – 31; Janeth Walker – 0; and Michael Wallace – 30.5 [Board Packet Enclosure]
- The 2015 Summer Work Schedule for personnel who work more than 190 days will be as follows: 4-day schedule (Monday through Thursday) from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or substitute 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. starting June 8, and ending on July 31. July 2, and July 3, will be holidays. June 29-30, and July 1, will be regular work days. The regular 5-day work week will begin on August 3. [Board Packet Enclosure]
- The Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School Graduating Class of 1965 designed a Spirit Flag and presented it to Principal Randy Maxwell at their recent 50th Class Reunion. [Board members reviewed a picture of the flag.]
- The doors to the gym will be opened at 5:30 p.m. and closed at 6:50 p.m. at the 2015 Graduation on May 29th. This information will be widely publicized. The commons area/cafeteria will be set up with a quality camera system for the overflow crowd.
- The Office of School Facilities in Columbia, South Carolina, recently informed the administration that a sprinkler system which is very costly and not covered under the district's insurance plan will not have to be installed – building grandfathered in – built 1938. The next debate will be with the insurance company – not wanting to pay for the re-wiring of the gym. They may want to pay only for the portion of the ceiling where the actual burning took place. The administration believes that since the ceiling is torn out, the entire building should be re-wired. The gym will be ready before school starts back in August.

In response to the request of Mrs. Angela B. Williams, Project Beyond teacher, Trustee John Hiers **moved and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded to approve an out-of-state Project Beyond trip for classes in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades to travel by chartered bus to the Outer Banks of North Carolina (Kitty Hawk, Nags Head, and Ocracoke Island) on May 21-23, 2015.** The motion passed 5-0.

8. **Federal Programs Report – Phyllis Overstreet**

Phyllis Overstreet, Federal Programs Coordinator, reported the following:

Board members are invited to the Wellness Celebration on Thursday, May 28, 2015. A trophy will be presented from the Greater Savannah River Community Foundation and the school will receive a monetary award.

Title I: \$501,289.00 (4% decrease)

The school to be served is Richard Carroll Elementary. Activities to be funded are six teachers and one classroom aide for class size reduction efforts and classroom instructional supplies. Additional priorities identified include supporting *The Leader in Me* program and having an afterschool or summer school program, if funding permits.

Title II – Teacher Quality: \$114,059.00

Funds will support class size reduction in the 6th grade as well as teacher professional development activities.

Title III – ESOL: \$600.00

Funds will be used for professional development activities for teachers to support the English Language Learners in the district.

Title VI – Rural Education Achievement Program

Allocations will be sent down in August. Funds are used to support instructional supplies, staff development, and technology. Allocation for 2015 was approximately \$21,000.

SAMHSA Project AWARE Update: Approximately \$80,000

The SAMHSA (Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration) program is underway. This is a federally funded program that is used to implement Youth Mental Health First Aid in the District. All Staff will complete the one-day training, along with at least 60 additional community members. YMHFA provides information on a number of critical mental health issues facing youth, including eating disorders, depression and other mood disorders, self-harm, and suicide. Three instructors are trained at this point, with an additional staff member scheduled to attend training in June. The grant called for six instructors trained by September 2015. One community training was conducted in February with 17 attendees, and another one is planned for August.

EEDA College and Career-Ready Graduates Grant

The district plans to submit an application for an EEDA grant to the state department; the deadline is June 5th. The schools are currently working on their needs assessments and developing draft plans for summer programs. This grant is for \$150,000.00 a year for three years.

Trustee Tony Duncan **moved and Vice Chair Chris Wallace seconded to authorize Superintendent Phyllis Schwarting to serve as the district' authorized representative to sign for Federal Projects for 2015-2016.** The motion passed 5-0.

9. **Bond Resolution**

Following a request and discussion for the approval of a Bond Resolution by Finance Director Devon Furr, Trustee Tony Duncan moved and Trustee John Hiers seconded to approve a Bond Resolution to implement the 1:1 technology implementation and to keep the mileage at 109 – not to exceed \$525,000. The motion passed 5-0.

10. **Monthly Financial Report**

Finance Director Devon Furr presented the Finance Report for April 2015. [Board Packet Enclosure]

Finance Director Furr reviewed the financial report for April 2015, and noted that at the end of the year items that are overspent will be off-set by those that are not in other places.

11. **Visitors' Comments**

Betty J. Mack noted that she made a request for leave on May 25, 2015, which is Memorial Day. She received a response that it was okay to take the day with no salary deducted; however, later she received a copy of the District's policy and a memo stating that the request was denied. Ms. Mack noted that she was not aware of this policy and had no problem with accepting it; however, she questioned the request being okay at one point and then at another point the same request was not okay.

Superintendent Schwarting responded by stating that the district does have a policy (GCC-GCD) that states employees cannot take personal leave during the first two weeks of school or during the last two weeks of school, before or after any holiday or on a staff development day. Therefore, when she realized that errors were being made, she asked Jessica to pull all requests in that time frame, attach a copy of the policy, she signed off on them, and sent it to those who had made such requests. The policy has been in the policy manual for quite a number of years; however, this is the first year that it has been enforced. She also noted that Ms. Mack is not one to abuse her days.

Trustee Janeth Walker noted that she would like to see the Board honor the request because the administration made the mistake of not following the policy that was written. **Board Chair Rivers** noted that the Board would discuss the issue during Executive session since it deals with personnel and Superintendent Schwarting will notify Ms. Mack of the Board's decision.

12. **Executive Session**

Board Chair Kedra Rivers called for a **motion to enter Executive Session**. Trustee Tony Duncan **moved and Vice Chair Chris Wallace seconded to enter Executive Session**. The motion carried 5-0.

The purpose for entering executive session was to discuss:

- a. Student Transfer Request(s)
- b. Employment Recommendations

Open session: Trustee Tony Duncan **moved and Trustee Janeth Walker seconded for the Board to come out of Executive Session and return to the regular session of the meeting**. The motion passed 5-0.

A & B. Student Transfer Request(s) and Employment Recommendations

Vice Chair Chris Wallace **moved and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded to accept the transfer request of Student #1. And, under Employment Recommendations, accept the resignation of employees #1, #2, and #3. Also, accept the employment of employee #1, and table the employment of employee #2** as presented by Superintendent Schwarting. The motion carried 5-0.

Trustee John Hiers **moved and Trustee Chris Wallace seconded to adjourn the meeting.** The motion passed 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Minutes approved:

Kedra H. Rivers, Board Chair

Tony E. Duncan, Secretary