

**Bamberg School District One**  
**Minutes of Regular Meeting of Board of Trustees**  
**Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School**  
**July 20, 2015**  
**6:30 P. M.**

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

**Absent:** Trustee Janeth Walker

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 Advertizer-Herald**
3. **Approval of Agenda**  
Trustee John Hiers **moved and Vice Chair Chris Wallace seconded to approve the agenda as presented.** The motion passed 4-0.
4. **Approval of Minutes**  
Vice Chair Chris Wallace **moved and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded to approve the Board Minutes of June 15, 2015, as written.** The motion passed 4-0.
5. **School Reports: Stacey Walter, Sandra B. Glover, Randall L. Maxwell**  
Hand-outs of “School Reports” were given to each Board member from a school representative as follows:
  - Richard Carroll Elementary School – Principal Stacey Walter
  - Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School – Principal Sandra Glover
  - Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School – Principal Randall Maxwell
6. **Student/Staff Recognition and Superintendent’s Report**  
Superintendent Schwarting reported the following:
  - The District received “All Clear” on the Accreditation Update for 2014-15 in the following areas: Board of Trustees, District Operations, Summer Schools, Bamberg/Barnwell Adult Education, Cope Area Career Center, Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School, and Bamberg Ehrhardt High School. Richard Carroll Elementary School received “Probation”. Three staff members were not properly certified and students in grades K-5 did not receive 60 minutes of physical education per week by a PE teacher. Nevertheless, all citations have been worked out by the administration.  
[Board Packet Enclosure]

- The District was awarded a three-year grant of \$255,763 from the State Department of Education to provide after school activities for at-risk students at Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School and Richard Carroll Elementary School. Only six districts out of the state of South Carolina were awarded this grant. [Board Packet Enclosure]
- Due to a significant increase in the insurance premium for the students of the District, the administration changed their insurance company. The insurance premium two years ago was \$19,000 -- last year it increased to \$31,000 -- this year it would cost \$74,000. After shopping around, the Young Insurance Group offered a cheaper plan. Option 4: Plan 3 for \$44,105 with this company was in the best interest of the students and the District. This plan, however, pays 80% versus 100% of the cost for injuries. The policy became effective on July 1, 2015. [Board Packet Enclosure].
- Coaches will be informed to practice safety as much as possible.
- The Substitute Teacher Training is scheduled for August 4, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.
- The 2015-2016 School Supply lists for students are posted in some of the local stores and Wal-Mart (Orangeburg). [Board Packet Enclosures]
- The 2015-2016 student fees for all schools in the District, as requested by the Board, were reviewed. [Board Packet Enclosures]
- Gooding and Gooding Law Firm from Allendale, South Carolina, notified the administration in a letter dated July 8, 2015, that they would no longer represent the client who filed a claim against the District because they did not feel that it was a justified case. The claimant alleged that a school bus driver of the District hit her vehicle on May 7, 2015. [Board Packet Enclosure]
- The District's attorney (Boykin & Davis, LLC) has informed the administration that it is possible that Gideon Bibles that are normally distributed to students in grade 5 and flyers regarding Vacation Bible School at the Baptist Church will have to be discontinued. Members of Gideon International believe they are within legal rights to distribute Bibles in schools because their Bibles do not have the plan of salvation in them which makes it appropriate for them to be distributed. Nevertheless, the administration has decided not to put the District in any jeopardy over these issues. [Board Packet Enclosures]
- Congratulations were extended and each of the following Board members received a pin and certificate for having reached a new level in Leadership Training through SCSBA (South Carolina School Boards Association) for the Fiscal Year 2014-15. John Hiers – Level 2; Kedra Hill-Rivers – Level 3; Michael Wallace – Level 3. Board Member Rita M. Sease (Expired 01/22/15) achieved Level 6 which is the highest level one can achieve while serving on the Board. [Board Packet Enclosure]
- The Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) has requested to install telemedicine equipment in Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School and Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School this year. Richard Carroll Elementary School is currently using this equipment. This is a pilot program that has the support of our local physicians.

- The administration decided to use some Bond money to do a three-year lease purchase agreement with Apple to purchase 290 Apple iPads and carts to keep them charged at a cost of approximate \$64,000 a year. Protective cases will be provided to protect the iPads. At the end of the three-year period, the district will be able to purchase all 290 computers for \$1. As a start, computers will be issued in grades 3 or 5. Leigh Ann Hewitt and Lee Ashe, teachers from Richard Carroll Elementary School, will be the lead teachers to share training with the teachers who will be involved. Also, Ricky Albertson, Ricky Padgett and Randy Johnson, IT personnel, are certified to help. Details on students taking iPads home will be worked out and brought back to the next Board meeting.
- The district received “All Clear” from the Office of Special Education on the “Desk Audit” of the District’s finances. Devon Furr, finance director, was congratulated for having done an excellent job in maintaining the District’s finances.
- Handout: Student and Parents Responses  
The results of a survey taken from students and parents from Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School and Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School regarding the school settings were reviewed. Board members were asked to review the responses and bring back any questions they may have to the next Board meeting.
- The Board reviewed a card of thanks from a Special Needs employee (Food Service Operator) of the District.

7. **Visitors’ Comments**

None

8. **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 4-0.

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 John Hiers seconded for the Board to come out of Executive Session and return to the regular session of the meeting**. The motion passed 4-0.

**A. Student Transfer Requests**

Trustee Tony Duncan **moved and Vice Chair Chris Wallace seconded to accept the transfer requests of student #1, #2, and #3 for the 2015-2016 school year as presented by Superintendent Schwarting**. The motion carried 4-0.

**B. Employment Recommendation**

Trustee John Hiers **moved and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded to accept the retirement of employee #1 effective June 22, 2015 and the employment of #2 and #3 for the 2015-2016 school year as presented by Superintendent Schwarting**. The motion carried 4-0.

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Page 4 of 4

July 20, 2015

Vice Chair Chris Wallace **moved and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded to adjourn the meeting.** The motion passed 4-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Minutes approved:

---

Kedra H. Rivers, Board Chair

---

Tony E. Duncan, Secretary