

Bamberg School District One
Minutes of Regular Meeting of Board of Trustees
Richard Carroll Elementary School
August 18, 2014
6:30 P. M.

Members present: Chairperson Rita M. Sease, Vice Chair Kedra H. Rivers, Secretary Tony E. Duncan, Trustee Chris Wallace and Trustee John L. Hiers.

Absent: None

1. **Call meeting to order:** Chairperson Rita M. Sease called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of silence – remembering Bailey Walling’s (Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School rising senior) family during their bereavement.
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 Tony Duncan **moved and Trustee Chris Walling seconded to approve the August 18, 2014, agenda as written.** The motion passed 5-0.
4. **Approval of Minutes**
Trustee Chris Wallace **moved and Trustee John Hiers seconded to approve the minutes of July 21, 2014, as written.** The motion passed 5-0.
5. **School Reports**
School reports were given as follows:

Stacey Walter, principal of Richard Carroll Elementary School, reported: great start; students and teachers were excited; attendance was approximately 658 with approximately 95 4K and 5k students expecting to report – expecting 765 students to be enrolled; The Leader in Me team is expecting to take it a step forward by bringing in more data analysis and academics; custodial schedule has been revamped to help meet the needs of the school; and faculty meetings will be more of professional development opportunities.

Troy Phillips, principal of Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School, reported: very smooth school opening; two new faculty members: Rose Craft, 8th grade social studies teacher and Ross Nettles, 8th grade science teacher; student enrollment 215 (7th grade – 100 students / 8th grade – 115 students); and expecting 3 more students.

Randy Maxwell, principal of Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School, reported: smooth opening but sad due to the death of Bailey Walling, a rising senior; breakfast was prepared for seniors at the football field by the Student Council; students spent 45 minutes in their homeroom classes reviewing rules and policies; students attended the Cope Career Center on the first day of school; Enrollment: 422 students – 58 faculty and staff; Edgenuity is being implemented this year; and the football season begins Friday night, August 22, 2014 at home with Williston-Elko. The game will be televised on Channel 6.

6. **Community Eligibility Program – Karen Threatt**

Handout: The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

Karen Threatt, director of Food Service for the district, noted that CEP will be implemented at Richard Carroll Elementary School this school year (free breakfast and free lunch). Eligibility for this program requires an identified student percentage of at least 40% prior to implementing CEP and data must be submitted by April 1st of each year. The identified population is anybody who is directly certified through the SDE as receiving SNAP benefits, TANF benefits, migrants, homeless, and foster children. Richard Carroll Elementary School's percentage is 60.6%; however, funding will be at 96.9% -- 97% free. Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School's percentage is 42.5% (low) and Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School's is 35.3% (low). These schools could become eligible if free and reduced lunch applications are returned. Also, Mrs. Threatt noted that special orders will no longer be offered to students due to "smart snacks" that are now offered; however, the menus are adjusted in order to sell food items daily. Based on the populations, Richard Carroll Elementary School served 87% of its students on the first day of school. Last year it was approximately 70%.

7. **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Schwarting reported the following:

- Jessica Lewis, 3rd grade teacher from Richard Carroll Elementary School, attended the 2014 Science P.L.U.S. Institute at the Roper Mountain Science Center in Greenville, South Carolina, on July 21-25, 2014, at no cost to the district. She received science materials; supplies; hands-on science activities to use in the classroom; two hours of non-degree graduate credit through Furman University at a reduced rate; and was able to net-work with other teachers across the state.
- The district is a member of the School Dental Health Prevention Program. According to their data, 396 students were served from this district. Dental work included prophylaxis, sealant, fluoride, NoTXNeeds, TXASAP and some students were referred to their dentist for further extensive work. The district will continue to take advantage of this program again this school year which is at no cost to students or district. [Board Packet Enclosures]
- **Board Packet Enclosures:** 2014 PASS Scores
The district scored higher than most districts in the surrounding area. The 3rd grade test scores were the lowest and the 4th grade scores were the highest. Weak areas of scores will be addressed. Also, the majority of the responses on the district's parents and students survey were in the "Strongly Agree" column.

- **Board Packet Enclosure:** Calendar – Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School
The high school calendar was reviewed by Superintendent Schwarting.
- The football game on August 22, 2014, will be broadcasted on Channel 6. The football field looks good due the Board allowing a company to come in for a minimal fee and treat it with appropriate chemicals at the appropriate time.
- According to the Read to Succeed Legislation, 4K and 5K students will be administered the Language and Literacy Development Assessment during the first 45 days of the school year.
- In the past, grade 3 students have been tested in English Language Arts, math and either science or social studies; however, starting this year, 3rd grade students will only be tested in English Language Arts and math. Students in grades 4th through 8th will be tested in all 4 subject areas (English Language Arts, math, science and social studies).
- Since the Exit Exam has been taken away, 11th grade students will take a Career Readiness Assessment test called WorkKeys. The benefits of taking this test are as follows:
 - Earn a National Career Readiness Certificate
 - Measures “real world” skills that employers believe are critical to job success.
 - By 2018, 56% of the jobs in South Carolina will require a postsecondary degree or industry credentials.
- Superintendent Schwarting reviewed letters from the district’s attorney, Ralph J. Smiley, regarding the second reading of a proposal from the Voices of Bamberg School District One and the Board’s vote on new hires. The following were noted:
 - Proposals regarding policies may originate with a member of the board, the superintendent, a staff member, parent, student consultant, civic group, advisory committee, or any resident of the district. Once submitted to the board, the board has to use a careful and orderly plan to review it and decide if it should be taken further. There is no law that states that just because a proposal is presented that it has to be considered as a motion. Each proposed policy will require two readings at regular meetings of the board.
 - Representatives of the Voices for Bamberg School District One appeared at the Board’s April 21, 2014 and May 20, 2014 meetings to offer a revision to its original proposal. The only action taken by the Board occurred at the May 20, 2014 meetings, when the Board voted to refer the policy proposal at a later time. While the policy proposal by the Voices was discussed at two meetings, it was not presented as consensus from the Board to be voted on at the first and second reading as a policy.
 - As a follow-up to the Board choosing to use the pseudonym “Candidate B” of a newly hired employee, rather than disclosing the employee’s full name at the July 21, 2014, meeting, the Board received support from the district’s attorney. The memo noted that when the Board is contemplating the hire of an individual who, at the time of the Board’s vote, is employed under contract by another school district, it is not always advisable to release the candidate’s name, until the offer has been formally extended, thus giving the candidate notice of his or her selection by the Board. The release of the candidate’s

name in open session has led to candidates' employers learning of the action in the next morning's newspaper. Thus the Board has the potential to undermine a candidate's employment contract with their current district and frustrate a candidate's working relationship with their existing employer. Because some hires are contingent upon the candidate's release from their current contract, it is important to provide the new hire every opportunity for the quick and amicable release from their home district.

- **Board Packet Enclosure: Beneficiary Designation Insurance (SCSBA)**
Board members were requested to review their insurance beneficiaries that are listed at South Carolina School Boards Association. If there are changes, complete a new form and return the completed, signed form to Jannette Stokes at the District Office.
- Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School has four more students who have met the criteria for receiving a high school diploma with the exception of having passed all the sections of the HSAP bringing the total to 13.

Vice Chair Kedra Rivers **moved and Trustee Chris Wallace seconded to accept students A, B, C, and D for Superintendent Schwarting to send their information to the State Department of Education to further the process of them getting a high school diploma.** The motion passed 5-0.

- Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School requested approval to offer English I, US History, and Teacher Assistant Seminar courses. The courses are designed to help students who have a need to carry these courses forward. Parents are informed that these are elective courses.

Trustee John Hiers **moved and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded to approve the curriculum at Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School to add English I, U. S. History, and Teacher Assistant Seminar courses at Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School.** The motion passed 5-0.

- The portrait of Mr. Richard Carroll which hangs at Richard Carroll Elementary School will be restored and matted by a professional.
- A make-up Substitute Teacher's Workshop is schedule for September 3, 2014, in the District Office from 9:00 a. m. – 12:00 noon.
- Richard Carroll Elementary School had three leaks; however, they were repaired by the construction company who constructed the building.

8. **Approval: Second Reading**

Policy JICH and JICH-R– Drug And Alcohol Use By Students

Policy EEAEC and EEAEC-R Administrative Rule – Student Conduct on Buses

[Board Packet Enclosures]

Following a discussion on Policy JICH and JICH-R – Drug And Alcohol Use By Students, the Board agreed to have Attorney Ralph Smiley review the policy and make the language clearer so parents would be able to understand it better and bring it back next month (September 2014).

Following a discussion on Policy EEAEC and EEAEC-R Student Conduct on Buses, Vice Chair Kedra Rivers **moved and Trustee Chris Wallace seconded to approve Policy EEAEC and EEAEC-R Administrative Rule – Student Conduct on Buses with the change of the wording “and or” on pages 3 and 4 in the First Offense and make sure the administration has what the policy states implemented.** The motion passed 5-0.

9. **Monthly Financial Report**

Finance Director Devon Furr presented the Finance Report for July 2014. [Board Packet Enclosure]

Finance Director Furr noted that a revised budget will be presented at the September 2014, Board meeting due to some unexpected financial problems that occurred in the district. A server crashed and approximately 2 days of work was lost – causing the purchase of a new device for a new server. Otherwise, everything is good – no overspent categories.

On behalf of the Board, Trustee John Hiers complimented Finance Director Furr for having done a good job in getting the payroll done in a timely manner after the server crashed.

At the request of Finance Director Furr, Board members who wish to make corrections to any line items in the budget, send them via email to her as soon as possible.

10. **Visitors' Comments**

Mrs. Jasie M. Kinard noted that she wanted to remind the administration again to stay on top of the teachers this year with the grading of students' class assignments. Last school term research papers were not checked and returned to students in a timely manner. Some parents were not very pleased about this.

11. **Executive Session**

Chairperson Rita M. Sease called for a **motion to enter Executive Session.** Trustee Tony Duncan **moved and Trustee John Hiers seconded to enter Executive Session.** The motion carried 5-0.

The purpose for entering executive session was to discuss:

- a. Student Transfer Requests
- b. Employment Recommendations
- c. Personnel

Open session: Trustee Chris Wallace **moved and Trustee Tony Duncan 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. Student Transfer Requests

Vice Chair Kedra Rivers **moved and Trustee Chris Wallace seconded to accept 7 transferred students (A, B, C, D, E, F, & G) to attend school in Bamberg School District One during the 2014-2015 school year.** The motion passed 5-0.

Vice Chair Kedra Rivers **moved and Trustee Chris Wallace seconded to accept the transfer request of 1 student (H) from Bamberg School District One to attend school at Branchville Lockett School (Orangeburg Consolidated School District 4) during the 2014-2015 school year.** The motion passed 5-0

B. Employment Recommendations

No action was taken on Employment Recommendations in Executive Session.

C. Personnel

No action was taken on Personnel in Executive Session.

The Board agreed to change the next Board meeting from Monday, September 15, 2014, to Thursday, September 18, 2014.

Trustee John Hiers **moved and Trustee Chris Wallace seconded to adjourn the meeting until Thursday, September 18, 2014.** The motion passed 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p. m.

Minutes approved:

Rita M. Sease, Chairperson

Tony E. Duncan, Secretary