

**Bamberg School District One**  
**Minutes of Regular Meeting of Board of Trustees**  
**Richard Carroll Elementary School**  
**October 16, 2017**  
**6:30 p.m.**

**Members present:** Board Chair Chris Wallace, Vice Chair Janeth Walker, Secretary Tony E. Duncan, Trustee John L. Hiers, and Trustee Julia “Kim” Berry.

**Absent:** None

1. **Call meeting to order:** Board Chair Chris Wallace called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of silence to be observed.
2. **Notice to Media:** In accordance with the S. C. Code of Laws of 1976, as amended, Section, Section 30-4-80(E), 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**  
**Vice Chair Janeth Walker moved and Trustee John Hiers seconded to approve the agenda as written.** The motion passed 5-0.
4. **Approval of Minutes**  
**Trustee John Hiers moved and Trustee Kim Berry seconded to approve the Minutes of September 18, 2017, as presented.** The motion passed 5-0.
5. **School Reports: Stacey Walter, Denise Miller, and Dennis Ulmer**  
 Hand-outs: School Reports (Reviewed by Principals):
  - Richard Carroll Elementary School – Principal Stacey Walter
  - Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle School – Principal Denise Miller
  - Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School – Principal Dennis Ulmer

6. **Athletic Updates**  
 Principal Dennis Ulmer reviewed the results of the following athletic events held in the district. [Handouts]

	JV Football Edisto 09/21/17	Varsity Football Calhoun County 10/06/17	Varsity Football Silver Bluff 09/29/17
Gross Gate	1,255.00	3,139.00 (-\$18)	3,442.00
Gate Keeper		50.00	50.00
Scoreboard Keeper	10.00	25.00	
Chain Crew	30.00		
Officials	439.40	528.10	603.70
Security	80.55	562.55	525.19
Net Gate	\$695.05	\$1,955.00	\$2,263.71 (+.60)

7. **Student/Staff Recognition and Superintendent’s Report**  
 Superintendent Schwarting reported the following:
  - The 2017 Boardmanship Institute Calendar of Events sponsored by SCSBA was reviewed. [Board Packet Enclosure]

- Student enrollment as of October 1, 2017: Richard Carroll Elementary – 745; Bamberg-Ehrhardt Middle – 208; Bamberg-Ehrhardt High – 419; and total enrollment – 1,372. [Board Packet Enclosure]
  - The October 2017 district lunch menu was reviewed. [Board Packet Enclosure]
  - Following a review of a request form from the State Department of Education for parents to complete in the event someone wishes to challenge some of the words that are in books in any of the three school libraries by Becky Proctor, media specialist, **Trustee John Hiers moved and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded to approve the “Request for Reconsideration Form for Challenged Library Resources”**. The motion passed 5-0. [Board Packet Enclosure]
  - SCSBA Legal Services reviewed the Board minutes of February 21, 2017 through June 26, 2017. Two comments were noted as follows: corrections on personnel matter and a decision made that would reflect the FOIA. Overall, it was noted that the Board minutes were compliant with applicable laws and district policies and serves as an exemplar for other districts in our state. Also, noted was that a “Schedule of Fees for Public Records” should be posted on the district’s website. [Board Packet Enclosure]
  - Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School paid a \$500.00 fine to the South Carolina High School League for permitting an ineligible student to participate in three football games. Tracy Fleming, athletic director, reported the player to the SCHSL and the parent of the student paid the fine. Principal Dennis Ulmer submitted a letter to Orangeburg Wilkinson High School and C.E. Murray High School notifying them that an ineligible player had participated in their games. Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School had to forfeit these two games. [Board Packet Enclosures]
- a. Request for Locally Board Approved Course at Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School**  
Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School requested the approval for a Career Planning and Development (379901 CH – General Electives) course. The course will be taught as a general elective through Edgenuity and counted as a ½ credit. It will provide the knowledge and insight necessary to compete in today’s challenging job market. [Board Packet Enclosure]

Vice Chair Janeth Walker **moved and Trustee John Hiers seconded to approve the request of the addition of a Career Planning and Development course (1/2 elective credit) to be taught at Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School**. The motion passed 5-0.

**b. Residency Letter and School Affidavit**

The District’s attorney provided a letter and a School Affidavit for parents who may need “tentative approval of residency” in this school district. According to the affidavit, parents may be fined up to \$200.00 for giving false information and their child will automatically be withdrawn from school or parent imprisoned for not more than thirty days and also must be required to pay to the school district an amount equal to the cost to the district for educating the child during the period of enrollment. Repayment does not include funds paid by the state. [Board Packet Enclosure]

**c. Discussion: Policy ADF – School Wellness and ADF-R Administrative Rule**

The administration requested that Board Policy ADF – School Wellness and ADF-R Administrative Rule be revised in order to address issues that might be prohibitive for fundraisers – 30 days per school rather than 30 days for all schools in the district – non-smart snack foods may be sold during the school day as long as they are not sold in or in competition with the cafeteria. [Board Packet Enclosure]

Trustee John Hiers **moved and Vice Chair Janeth Walker seconded to revise Policy ADF – School Wellness and ADF-R – Administrative Rule (30 days per school rather than 30 days for all schools in the district and to allow non-smart snack foods to be sold during the school day as long as they are not in or in competition with the cafeteria).** The motion passed 5-0.

**8. District Test Scores**

Superintendent Schwarting reviewed the test scores (SC Ready English and Math in Grades 3-6, 7 and 8; SCPASS: Science and Social Studies in Grade 4-8; EOCEP: English, Algebra, Biology, History; ACT, and Workkeys) and noted that the scores were not where she would like for them to be but she was prepared for this decrease this year due to the students taking the tests on computer for the first time. Although the state passed a law that said all students would take state testing on a computer, many districts requested (approximately 47 out of more than 80) and received a waiver to use paper and pencil. Many students in this district do not have typing skills, cannot write, type and analyze. The results from the testing indicated that the Math scores were better than ELA scores in all grades. Nevertheless, the data from all grades will be reviewed by the administration and dealt with by utilizing the Reading Coach, Staff Development, STEM group, Engage New York Reading program as a pilot in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, REFLEX Math, teach to the test, TDA (writing prompt), practice test taking on paper, and incorporate a longitudinal study. [Board Packet Enclosures]

At the request of the Board, the Principals will include in their monthly school reports what they are doing to improve test scores.

**9. Request for Approval of Make-up Days Due to Hurricane Irma**

The two days of school that were missed due to Hurricane Irma will be made up as follows: teachers will return to school on January 2, 2018, students will return to school on January 3, 2018; and the staff development day that was scheduled for March 23, has been moved to June 11. It is possible that some of these dates may change due to students from this district who attend school at the Cope Vocational Center (Orangeburg School District Four). Make-up days can only be made on Saturdays when out of school for four to six days.

**10. First Reading – Updated/New Policies (SCSBA)**

- a. Policy IC – School Year
- b. Policy IHBA – Special Education/Programs for Students With Disabilities
- c. Policy KDB – Public’s Right to Know/Freedom of Information
- d. Policy KLGA – School Resource Officers (New)

Superintendent Schwarting reviewed model Policies IHBA – School Year, IHBA – Special Education/Programs for Students with Disabilities, KDB – Public’s Right to Know/Freedom of Information, and KLGA – School Resource Officers (New) from SCSBA. These polices will be brought back to the November 2017, Board meeting.

11. **David Bishop – Increased Transparency of Out-of-District Tuition Rates**

Mr. David Bishop noted that he and his family reside in Denmark and they have two daughters enrolled in this district. He follows the rules, goes through the process, and he is appreciative to have his children in this district. However, his concerns are with the process that he has to follow each year in order for his children to be released and accepted in this district – needs to be stream-lined – believes he is being held hostage by two different school districts. The cost for his two children to attend school in this district is \$5,010.00 (\$2,505.00 for each child) per year which is not insignificant – lucky to be able to afford it. He finds it hard to pay that much money to a district that is average at best and Barnwell’s County School District which is five more minutes from here charges less than \$500 per child. Mr. Bishop noted further that he doesn’t know how much it cost to educate his children – how much the state reimburse the district – how much comes out of the district’s pocket; however, without transparency it gives the impression that the district is doing something wrong especially when one can go a lot cheaper next door. He doesn’t know if the fee is meant to be a fundraiser or if it’s meant to be a turn for those who can’t afford it -- all are dangerous grounds. He finds it cool to live here but not to write that big check when he could go to Lexington and do the same thing and receive a lot better performance. He believes the long-term liability of this district is going to suffer, based on the demographics, unless something changes and he believes his children are raising the district’s test scores.

**Superintendent Schwarting** responded to Mr. Bishop’s comments by reviewing a report from the state department which illustrates that the district has three schools, the poverty rate is 74.1%, 12.6% of the students are disabled, the money spent per student is \$13,873.00, and the state gives the District \$2,425.00 to educate a student. With these figures and the \$2,505.00 that comes from Mr. Bishop, the district is not getting half of what it cost to educate a child nor is the district getting his tax dollar which is not this district’s fault. This district is not obligated to educate children who don’t live within it. To accommodate out-of-district students is a choice that is made and we are happy to do it; however, if there is anything that Mr. Bishop is dissatisfied with or thinks he can get a better than average school, he is encouraged to do that. It takes a lot of money to educate his children and every other child here, and she doesn’t apologize for the tuition that is charged. The consensus of the Board is that tuition be kept where it is. There are approximately 40 people who pay out-of-district tuition to attend school here.

12. **Election of Delegate/Alternate to 2017 Delegate Assembly (SCSBA)**

Trustee John Hiers moved and Trustee Kim Berry seconded to elect Vice Chair Janeth Walker as the **Delegate for the SCSBA’s annual business meeting on Saturday, December 2, 2017, in Charleston, South Carolina.** The motion passed 5-0.

Trustee Tony Duncan **moved and Vice Chair Janeth Walker seconded to elect Trustee Kim Berry as the Alternate Delegate for the SCSBA's annual business meeting on Saturday, December 2, 2017, in Charleston, South Carolina.** The motion passed 5-0.

13. **Visitors' Comments**

Ms. Amanda Croft noted that she is interested in organizing a FFA Organization at Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School. This is an integral part of agricultural education by helping make classroom instruction come to life through realistic, hands-on-applications. The organization offers many opportunities, memories and networking. It is geared toward students who do not attend college – the ones who stay home. The organization grow leaders, build communities, and strengthen agriculture. Ms. Croft requested to be on the November 2017 board agenda in order to give more insight on the organization. [Board Packet Enclosure]

Vice Chair Janeth Walker thanked the Board members, Superintendent Schwarting, Mrs. Stokes, Mrs. Walter, and Ms. Betty Mack for their prayers, phone calls, and beautiful plant (Board) while recovering from neck surgery. She believes that there were a lot of people praying for her and she appreciates it.

14. **Executive Session**

Board Chair Chris Wallace called for a **motion to enter Executive Session.** Trustee John Hiers **moved and Trustee Kim Berry seconded to enter Executive Session.** The motion carried 5-0.

The purpose for entering executive session was to discuss the following:

- a. Student Transfer Request
- b. Employment Recommendation
- c. Superintendent's Evaluation

**Open session:** Vice Chair Janeth Walker **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 5-0.

15. **Action on Executive Session Items**

**(A) Student Transfer Request and (B) Superintendent's Evaluation**

Trustee John Hiers **moved and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded to accept the student transfer request for "Student A", the "Employment Recommendation for Employee B" and noted that there was no action taken on the Superintendent's Evaluation.**

The motion passed 5-0.

16. **Adjourn**

Trustee Kim Berry **moved and Trustee Tony Duncan seconded to adjourn the meeting.** The motion passed 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p. m.

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Minutes approved:

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Christopher Wallace, Board Chair

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Tony E. Duncan, Secretary