

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
**Denmark-Olar Board Room**  
**Bamberg County, South Carolina**  
**September 9, 2019 – 5:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Beverly Bonaparte, Chairman  
Blossom Thompson, Vice Chairman  
Loretta P. Goodman, Secretary  
Tonie Holman  
Larry Bias

**Also Present:** Thelma Sojourner, Superintendent

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Bonaparte called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. In accordance with the SC Code of Laws, 1976, section 30-4-80(e) as amended, the following had been notified of the time, date, place and agenda of the meeting: WIIZ Radio Station, Barnwell; *The Advertiser-Herald*, Bamberg; 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**

The meeting agenda was unanimously approved as written without objection.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the regular meeting held August 5, 2019 were unanimously approved as written and signed by all members present.

The minutes of the special called meeting held August 22, 2019 were unanimously approved as written and signed by all members present.

**STUDENT SERVICES**

Certificates and plaques were prepared for the following Students of the Month:

- Shawnae' Murray - ES
- Jada Hammond - MS
- Kamaurion Brown - HS

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Teacher of the Month**

A certificate and award was presented for Ms. Kristina Faust, representing the high school. Ms. Faust was not present at the meeting and Dr. Simmons accepted the awards on her behalf.

**Welcome Back to School Photo**

Board members were photographed with a poster welcoming students and staff for the 2019-2020 school year.

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SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 – 5:00 P.M.**

**Construction Update**

James Hall of Thompson Turner Construction requested the board's approval of the maintenance building construction at a cost of \$320,000. Mrs. Goodman moved that the request be granted. Mrs. Thompson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Board members stated that they were pleased with the recently completed stadium, noting, however, that there was no ticket booth and handicapped seating. Mr. Hall responded that, according to current codes, a ramp and space for wheelchairs are included in the construction; however, the stadium seating does not have backs.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No one signed to address the board during Public Participation.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business for discussion.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business for discussion.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

No report was provided.

**SECTION 1 - FINANCE**

- **Finance Report**

Mr. Anderson provided the finance report which was received as information.

**SECTION 2 - CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

- Dr. Johnson provided information regarding the following:

- MAP testing being held the week of September 9
- Elementary school will be hosting a state-wide ELA learning opportunity this year
- Middle school will be hosting a state-wide Social Studies training next year
- New funding source for classroom interventionist for the elementary and middle schools
- Elementary school is one of 18 schools chosen to receive laptops for Pre-K students' home use to provide ELA and math enrichment.

The report was received as information.

**SECTION 3 - ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION**

- **Attorney Fees**

Mrs. Goodman moved that the attorney invoice from Boykin and Davis for August 2019 totaling \$5,092.82 be paid. Bishop Holman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

- **Legislative Update**

Dr. Sojourner reminded the board that the legislature still was not in session but that the SCSBA Risky Business conference is scheduled for October 16-18, and that the district would be participating in the Stopit Solutions training for the anonymous reporting of bullying.

The report was received as information.

- **Second Reading of Proposed Policy Revision-IKA-R– Grading Assessment**

Mrs. Goodman moved that the policy revision be given second reading approval. Bishop Holman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

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Mrs. Goodman moved that the option highlighted on page four of the proposed policy IKA-R be omitted. Bishop Holman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**SECTION 4 - SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Sojourner provided information on the following:

- Request for juniors and seniors to attend College Night, September 12, 2019 in Augusta, GA. The students will leave the school at 1:45 p.m. and return by 8:30 p.m. Forty students and four adults will participate. Mrs. Goodman moved that the request be granted. Mr. Bias seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
  - Recent weather related school closing on September 5, necessitating revision of the 2019-2020 school calendar and requested the board's approval to use December 3, a built-in make-up day, for the closing. The board agreed by consensus.
  - Stadium ribbon cutting held August 30
  - Player of the week, Malik Palmer
  - Donation of 100 desks from Bakari Sellers
  - Elizabeth Gressette's request to speak to board members regarding construction project
  - Palmetto Teachers Association contest for a week of respite for a teacher.
- The report was received as information.

**SECTION 5 - EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mrs. Goodman moved that the board enter Executive Session to discuss the following:

- Employment/Personnel Recommendations/Matters
- Student Personnel Matters
- Contractual Matters
- Legal Matters/Counsel

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

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

The board voted unanimously to return to Open Session.

**ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS**

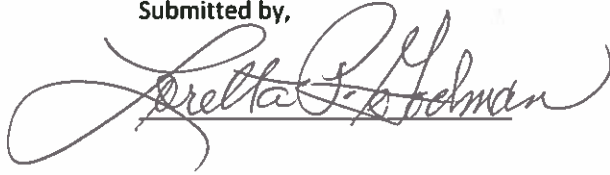
- **Employment/Personnel Recommendations/Matters**  
Mrs. Goodman moved that substitute teachers and substitute cafeteria workers be approved as recommended. Mrs. Thompson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- **Student Personnel Matters**  
Mrs. Goodman moved that the board ratify the request to allow student ND to return to school for the 2019-2020 school year. Mrs. Thompson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- **Contractual Matters**  
No action was taken.
- **Legal Matters/Counsel**  
No action was taken.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned without objection at 6:23 p.m.

Submitted by,



Loretta J. Gelman

Approved:

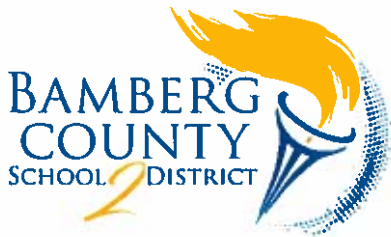
Loretta Gelman

Bruce P. Bonaparte

Gloss Thompson

Jerry Elias

Prepared by  
Deborah Anderson



**Board of Trustees Meeting  
District Office Board Room**

**SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 - 5:00 P.M.**

**AGENDA**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDUM (Action)**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Action)**

- Regular Meeting Held August 5, 2019
- Special Called Meeting Held August 22, 2019

**STUDENT SERVICES**

- Students of the Month

**PRESENTATIONS (Action if Needed)**

- Back to School - Welcome to Students and Staff
- Construction Update

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Action if Needed)**

**NEW BUSINESS (Action if Needed)**

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (Action if Needed)**

**SECTION 1 - FINANCE (Action if Needed)**

- Finance Report ..... Rodney Anderson

**SECTION 2 - CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION ..... Dr. Ruby J. Johnson**

**SECTION 3 - ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION (Action if Needed)**

- Attorney Fees
- Legislative Update
- Second Reading of Proposed Policy Revision-UGP - Uniform Grading Policy

**SECTION 4 - SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (Action if Needed) ..... Dr. Thelma Sojourner**

**SECTION 5 - EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- Employment/Personnel Recommendations/Matters
- Student Personnel Matters
- Contractual Matters
- Legal Matters/Counsel

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

**ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS**

- Employment/Personnel Recommendations/Matters
- Student Personnel Matters
- Contractual Matters
- Legal Matters/Counsel

**ADJOURNMENT**