

MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Denmark-Olar Board Room
Bamberg County, South Carolina
May 11, 2020 – 5:00 p.m.

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

Also Present: Thelma Sojourner, Superintendent
Charles Boykin, Attorney

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 without objection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the special meeting held April 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. were unanimously approved as written without objection and signed by all members present.

The minutes of the regular meeting held April 6, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. were unanimously approved as written without objection and signed by all members present.

PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Sojourner presented to Kayla Carter, District Teacher of the Year, a gift of artwork from the SC Association of Black School Educators.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business for discussion.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

On behalf of the board, Mrs. Bonaparte congratulated the graduating kindergarten class, fifth grade class, eighth grade class and the high school Class of 2020.

MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MAY 11, 2020 – 5:00 P.M.

SECTION 1 - FINANCE

- **Finance Report**

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

SECTION 2 - CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

- Dr. Johnson provided end of year procedures including an accountability log as evidence of continued instruction during the COVID19 closure and procedures for issuance of final student grades. The report was received as information.

SECTION 3 - ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

- **Attorney Fees**

Mrs. Bonaparte stated that she needed clarification on the last invoice received from Boykin and Davis. Mr. Boykin requested that she make notations on the invoice and have it sent to his office for review.

Mrs. Goodman moved that \$100 on the April 30, 2020 invoice be approved for payment. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Thompson and passed unanimously.

Mrs. Goodman moved that \$355.60 on the April 30, 2020 invoice be approved for payment. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Thompson and passed unanimously.

Mrs. Goodman moved that \$1,067.50 on the April 30, 2020 invoice be approved for payment. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Thompson and passed unanimously.

- **Legislative Update**

Dr. Sojourner stated the legislators were discussing funding to assist with the COVID19 pandemic which could be utilized in the maintenance of schools, mental health assistance, internet access for students and summer school. They were also addressing the necessity of a continuing resolution to continue operations at the current level until the legislature has established a budget for 2020-2021. The report was received as information.

- **First Reading of Proposed 2020-2021 School Year Calendar**

Mrs. Goodman stated that a local news channel had announced that the district had confirmed that it would be closed for the Masters Golf Tournament rescheduled for November 2020. Dr. Sojourner stated that she did not issue the statement because the Masters Tournament does not affect our district and that the report was in error. She stated that she had not heard the announcement but she would contact the news outlet to clarify the district's position.

Mrs. Goodman moved that the proposed 2020-2021 school year calendar be given first reading approval. Bishop Holman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

- **First Reading-Families First Coronavirus Response Act Administrative Rule-GCC-R(2) for Professional Staff**
- **First Reading-Families First Coronavirus Response Act Administrative Rule-GDC-R(2) for Support Staff**

Mrs. Goodman stated that SCSBA had reviewed the leave requirements under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) and developed administrative rules to accompany the district's current leave policies. Administrative rules were used because of the temporary nature of the FFCRA leave, and so districts could easily remove the rules after the leave period has expired.

Mrs. Goodman moved that policy administrative rules GCC-R(2) and GDC-R(2) be given first reading approval. Bishop Holman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MAY 11, 2020 – 5:00 P.M.

SECTION 4 - SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Sojourner provided information on the following:

- Graduation 2020 signs to be delivered by SCSBA for board members to display in their yards
 - End of school year dates and events
 - Students' assignments completed
 - Concerns regarding slow response to census reporting in the area which affects federal funding
 - Burllette Carter who has traditionally provided ten laptops for the top ten sophomores provided that, in light of the pandemic, the laptops will be presented to the students in August
 - High school graduation parade sponsored by a community group scheduled for May 22
- 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 the report from human resources be accepted as given. Bishop Holman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Bishop Holman moved that, in reference to the salary of DSJ, the superintendent share the state requirements with her. Mrs. Thompson seconded the motion which passed by majority vote. (Vote: In favor of the motion: Holman, Thompson, Bonaparte, Bias; Recused: Goodman)

Mrs. Goodman moved that the board hold a special meeting on May 19, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. to meet with WS. Bishop Holman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

- **Student Personnel Matters**

Mrs. Goodman moved that the 2020 high school graduation be held at the high school stadium on May 29, 2020 at 9:00 a.m., with three tickets issued per graduate, following COVID19 regulations. Inclement weather days were established for May 30 or June 1 at 9:00 a.m. Bishop Holman seconded the motion which passed unanimously. The event is to be livestreamed.

Mrs. Goodman moved that the request for the release of student JTS to attend school in another district be granted. Bishop Holman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

- **Contractual Matters**

No action was taken.

- **Legal Matters/Counsel**

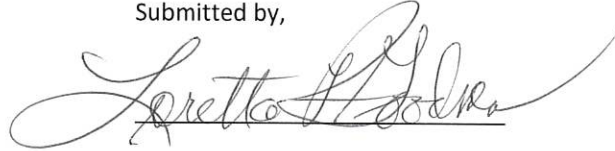
Mrs. Goodman moved that the district execute a settlement agreement in the amount of \$1,619.00 with the Wilson Law Group and JC. Mrs. Thompson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MAY 11, 2020 – 5:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

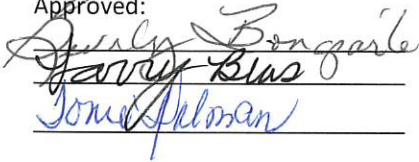
The meeting was adjourned without objection at 7:25 p.m.

Submitted by,



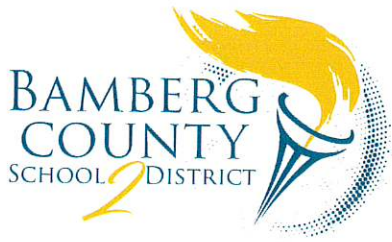
Loretta J. Dolna

Approved:



Gary Bongarte
Harry Bus
Tom Felman

Prepared by
Deborah Anderson



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

MAY 11, 2020 - 5:00 P.M.

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

MOMENT OF SILENCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDUM *(Action)*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES *(Action)*

- Special Meeting Held April 6, 2020 - 7:00 p.m.
- Regular Meeting Held April 6, 2020 - 7:30 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS

- Teacher of the Year (Presentation of Gift from SCABSE)

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
- First Reading of Proposed 2020-2021 School Year Calendar
- First Reading - Families First Coronavirus Response Act Administrative Rule - GCC-R(2) for Professional Staff
- First Reading - Families First Coronavirus Response Act Administrative Rule - GDC-R(2) for Support Staff

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