

**Minutes of Barnwell County School District Board of Trustees**  
**Work Session**  
**Tuesday, December 18, 2023**  
**(770 Hagood Avenue, Barnwell, South Carolina 29812)**

Board Members Present: Chairperson Terry Richardson, Ronnie Brown, Becky Huggins, SGM Abraham Sexton, Dr. Andy Sandifer (not in attendance)

**I. Opening Business**

A. Call to Order, Reflection, Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, FOI Notice

Chair Richardson called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. SGM Abraham Sexton led the Reflection and the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Chair Richardson confirmed the media was notified.

B. Approval of Agenda – Chair Terry Richardson

A motion was made by SGM Abraham Sexton to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Becky Huggins. Hearing no objections, the agenda was unanimously approved.

**II. Information Items**

A. Discussion of 2024-2025 School Calendar- Dr. Stapleton

Dr. Stapleton led discussion of the proposed 2024-2025 school calendar, explaining in detail how a team of people from around the county came together to look at different options for next year's calendar. She shared calendar priorities the team discussed, as well as specifically highlighting important parts of the calendar that will be proposed at the January board meeting.

Chair Richardson asked if the board's approval is needed for the calendar. Dr. Stapleton stated that the calendar has to be approved by the board, but that vote would take place in the January board meeting.

Following the calendar discussion, David Corder, BCCSD Interim Superintendent, presented an out of district travel request for BCCSD. Following discussion, Dr. Stapleton explained that there could not be an official vote today, but, with the board's blessing, the registration could take place before the deadline. There would be an official vote at the January meeting.

B. Facility Study Report – M.B. Kahn and SSOE Group

Dr. Stapleton recognized Mr. Chuck Saylor from M.B. Khan, who then introduced

the engineers and architects there to present additional information requested by the board members from the previous work session. The architects also presented updates to the defined and in-depth programs that had been developed based on recommendations regarding both career center and high school programming needs. The team presented updated and broken-down costs associated with any new construction and/or renovation of current facilities throughout the county. Board members had the opportunity to ask questions. Following discussion, the superintendent and board members discussed next steps.

*Dr. Stapleton announced that there will be a break for lunch at 11:23 a.m.*

C. District Updates regarding Consolidation Process

Dr. Stapleton provided brief updates regarding the consolidation plan. This included planning meetings that had taken place with different departments or areas. She also shared information requested by board members regarding School of Choice for the new district, as well as countywide enrollment data from 2016 to the current date, also highlighting changes in population.

**Adjournment**

A. Meeting Adjournment

Ronald Brown made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by SGM Abraham Sexton. There were no objections to adjourning. The meeting adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

Chair



Clerk



- Policy BJ - Board Legislative Program - This policy establishes and clarifies the advocacy role of the board. Includes language that empowers the superintendent to address legislative issues and role of board in advocating for public education.
- Policy BK - Board Membership in Professional Associations - This policy establishes the basic structure for board membership in associations. (Optional Policy)

The board decided unanimously to exclude policy BK.

- (Action) Motion was made to approve first reading of policies- Category A  
Motion made by Ronnie Brown and seconded by SGM Abraham Sexton. The motion was approved unanimously.
- (Action) Motion Made to approve first reading of policies- Category B excluding Policy BK  
Motion made by Becky Huggins and seconded by Dr. Andy Sandifer. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### V. **Executive Session**

Chairperson Richardson explained that there was a need for Executive Session for the purpose of “Discussion of Employment and Appointment – District Leadership Positions”.

Ronnie Brown made a motion to go into Executive Session after a five minute break at 7:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Dr. Andy Sandifer and approved unanimously.

SGM Abraham Sexton made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:13 p.m. The Motion was seconded by Dr. Andy Sandifer. The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion was made by Becky Huggins to approve the Personnel Plan as presented by Superintendent Stapleton. The motion was seconded by Ronnie Brown. The motion passed unanimously.

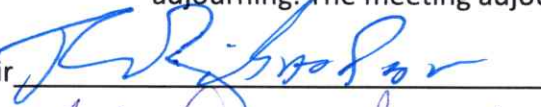
#### **Announcement of Next Meeting**

A. Chair Richardson announced that the next meeting will be a work session held on December 15, 2023 at the Barnwell County Administration Building.

B. Meeting Adjournment

Chair Richardson asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by SGM Abraham Sexton and seconded by Dr. Andy Sandifer. There were no objections to adjourning. The meeting adjourned at 8:14 pm.

Chair



Clerk

