

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Barnwell School District 45 Board of Trustees

TIME: 6:00 p.m., Thursday, April 28, 2022

PLACE: Barnwell Schools Administration Building, 770 Hagood Avenue, Barnwell, SC 29812 for Board Members;
virtual for the public

PRESENT:

Board of Trustees: Rosey Anderson, Chair; Felicia Devore, Vice-chair; SGM Abraham Sexton, Clerk; Dr. Rhett Richardson, Member; Becky Huggins, Member (not in attendance).

District Office: Crissie Stapleton, Superintendent; Rachel Wall, Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum Director; Tina Smith, Administrative Assistant; Kelley Shealy, Curriculum Support Coach; Holly Hutto, CFO

Other: Jonathan Vickery, The People-Sentinel

The agenda for the meeting was as follows:

OPENING BUSINESS

1. Rosey Anderson, Chair, called the meeting to order. SGM Abraham Sexton, Clerk, delivered the reflection. Felicia Devore led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Superintendent Stapleton announced that local media had received notice of the meeting as required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. Superintendent Stapleton performed the swearing in of continuing school board members Rosey Anderson and Dr. Rhett Richardson.
3. Superintendent Stapleton asked that the Board approve moving the election of officers to the May school board meeting due to the unexpected absence of a board member. The Board unanimously approved the change to the agenda. Motion was made by Felicia Devore and seconded by Dr. Rhett Richardson.
4. The Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda Items. Motion was made by Felicia Devore and seconded by Dr. Rhett Richardson.
5. There was no hearing of the public.

ACCOUNTABILITY

A. Information

1. Superintendent Stapleton presented the following district updates:
 - a. Barnwell School District 45 announced their newest Teachers of the Year. Each school annually identifies, recognizes, and celebrates an exceptional teacher and his or her effective work in and outside the classroom. Congratulations to the following honorees:
 - Barnwell Primary School- Mrs. Deanna Grubbs
 - Barnwell Elementary School- Mrs. Jennifer Bodiford
 - Guinyard Butler Middle School- Ms. Elizabeth Thomas
 - Barnwell High School- Mr. Todd Teems

These four teachers will now complete an essay application and meet with a team of internal and external stakeholders to share their thoughts about education and express what makes teaching important to them. The team will utilize the essays and the interviews to determine who will represent Barnwell School District 45 in the statewide Teacher of the Year Program for the 2022-2023 school year.

- b. Barnwell School District 45 has designated May as Staff Appreciation Month. Throughout the month of May, we will be honoring staff members across our schools and giving various surprises to staff members each week. This week we delivered an early surprise- a new BSD45 t-shirt. Staff will wear their new t-shirts next week to show their Warhorse Pride.
- c. Barnwell School District 45 has been awarded a Summer Reading Camp Community Partnership grant. The goals of the camp is to increase student mastery of third grade reading skills, promote attendance of students, and provide strategies for parents to support young readers at home. The district will receive \$13,000. The grant will allow for an extended literacy block and support our partnerships with the YMCA, county library, and other community based organizations.
- d. To comply with §§ 200.331 (b), the SCDE conducted the annual risk assessment of, and assigned a risk

score to each of its subrecipients based upon overall financial and programmatic performance. Barnwell County School District 45's overall risk score is "9" which is considered low risk. Superintendent Stapleton thanked Holly Hutto and her team for their hard work.

- e. Facility projects are still going on continuously across the district. We are still awaiting approval from OSF to begin the following ESSER II projects-replacing windows/doors, installing HVAC systems at BPS and GBMS gyms, and a new fire alarm at BHS.
- f. Star Academy initial install of furniture and equipment began over spring break. We will plan a tour for the board members closer to opening and we are also planning an open house. The second phase of install is planned for the second week of May.
- g. We have secured two new Thomas C2 Activity Buses for the 2022-2023 school year. The expected date of delivery is October or November 2022. We will be preparing plans to sell three activity buses that are currently out of commission.
- h. During the month of February, we had an audit of our Title I, II, III, IV, and V Programs. The state has begun using a consolidated oversight and monitoring system in regard to federal programs. The purpose of the review was to assess the district's progress in meeting the requirements and provisions of ESSA and the administration of all of the Title programs for the 2021-2022 year. There were no issues of noncompliance. Superintendent Stapleton thanked Dr. Wall for her dedication and hard work for overseeing all federal projects. She also said the State Department reached out to express how much they appreciated Dr. Wall's thorough and timely responses. She was a pleasure to work with and "demonstrated that Barnwell 45's programs are robust and implemented with fidelity."

2. Superintendent Stapleton presented COVID-19 Updates:

- a. We had another vaccination clinic with the help of Mr. DeWayne Eubanks. We will continue to advertise information on vaccination and booster shots.
- b. We have not had any positive cases since the end of February 2022.
- c. We will be reevaluating the COVID-19 plan at the end of the year.

ADVOCACY

BASIC STRUCTURE

A. Actions

1. Approval for Swim Team and Competitive Cheer Team
Motion made by Dr. Rhett Richardson and seconded by Felicia Devore. The motion was approved unanimously.
2. Approval for BPS, BES, GBMS, and BHS 2022-2023 School Renewal Plans
Motion made by Felicia Devore and seconded by Dr. Rhett Richardson. The motion was approved unanimously.
3. Approval of the First Reading of Revisions to Policy ADF- District Wellness, Policy EFE- Competitive Food Sales, Policy IHAE- Physical Education, and Policy IHAM- Health Education.
Motion made by SGM Abraham Sexton and seconded by Dr. Rhett Richardson. The motion was approved unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Richardson- Thank you to everyone for your hard work. The school year is winding down so let's finish strong. Thank you Dr. Wall and Holly Hutto for all you do.

Sexton- I would like to echo what Dr. Richardson said. Thank you to all the staff from the bus drivers, custodians, cafeteria staff, and anyone that I may have forgotten. Thank you to Dr. Wall and again to all the staff, we appreciate you.

Devore- Congratulations to all the Teachers of the Year, Ms. Grubbs, Ms. Bodiford, Ms. Thomas, and Mr. Teems on an outstanding year and being nominated by your peers. Congratulation to the BHS baseball team on your win.

Anderson- I agree with everything that was said. Staff appreciation is not just for the month of May, we appreciate the staff all year long.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Chair Rosey Anderson to go into Executive Session at 6:43 p.m. to discuss employee matters and contractual matters.

Out of Executive Session at 6:54 p.m. Motion made by Felicia Devore and seconded by Dr. Rhett Richardson. No action was taken.

Board unanimously approved the adjournment of the meeting. The motion was made by Dr. Rhett Richardson and seconded by Felicia Devore at 6:59 p.m.

Chair Rosey Anderson

Clerk Abraham Peyton