

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

**TIME:** 6:00 p.m., Thursday, February 10, 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; Becky Huggins, Member;  
Dr. Rhett Richardson, Member

**District Office:** Crissie Stapleton, Superintendent; Rachel Wall, Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum Director; Tina Smith,  
Administrative Assistant; Kelley Shealy, Curriculum Support Coach; George McIntosh, Lead Psychologist;  
Sammy O'Neal, IT Tech

**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. Becky Huggins 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. The Board unanimously approved the agenda. Motion was made by Dr. Rhett Richardson and seconded by Felicia Devore.
3. The Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda. Motion was made by Becky Huggins and seconded by Felicia Devore.
4. There was no hearing of the public.

### ACCOUNTABILITY

#### A. Information

1. Superintendent Stapleton presented the following district updates:
  - a. Barnwell High School's Charlie Zorn was chosen as News Channel 6 Scholar Athlete. Charlie is a starter for the Warhorse Varsity Soccer Team. Charlie is very active within his community as well. Off the field, Charlie has accomplished many honors academically. He is currently ranked first in his senior class. When asked by News Channel 6, Zorn says his parents are the main contributors to his success in maintaining a busy schedule. Charlie plans to attend Clemson University to study fish and wildlife management, in hopes to one day become a fisheries scientist.
  - b. Congratulations to the BHS Majorettes. Our majorettes attended an all day event in West Columbia. The Winter Wonderland Twirling competition was held on January 29<sup>th</sup> and had competitors from all over the country. This was the first competition of the season, and Riley Ridgeway said they are looking forward to competing in several more around the state this spring.
  - c. The ABii expansion includes K, 5<sup>th</sup> Grades, and Special Education classes. Training will take place February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1pm at BES. Barnwell School District 45 has been named a Lighthouse District by Van Robotics. We are one of three districts they have designated for our strong efforts in STEM education. We will have a press release and more information about this coming soon.
  - d. Based on the Board's decision and our analysis of the lawn care costs in Fall 2021, we have now transitioned to completing our lawn care services within the district. Jon Burdge has officially transitioned fully to the position of Maintenance Supervisor of Grounds, Athletic Facilities, and Additional Properties.
    - Jon Burdge- Lawn Care and Grounds, District Office, Athletic Fields and Facilities, and Other Properties
    - Terry Whitehead- specifically focus on BES and BHS
    - Toby Singletary- specifically focus on BPS and GBMS
    - Mike Beasley- oversees all facility projects and ESSER facility projects (i.e. HVAC installation, bathroom renovations, window/door replacements, working with the design professional for SCDE and OSF approval and facility projects)

The lawn care equipment the district purchased has almost all arrived, and we expect the last items in the next week. Additionally, the new lawn care maintenance position will also manage safety and security programs for the district while overseeing emergency response procedures.

- e. The floorplans for Star Academy have been created and approved. District leadership met with the curricular associates for the Star Academy Program. They finished building the curriculum for our new customized program.
- f. George McIntosh, Lead School Psychologist, was awarded a Mental Health Practitioner Grant from the Children’s Fund of School Psychology, Inc. for Barnwell Elementary School. He is using the grant funding to purchase counseling materials to work with students at BES.
- g. The *Be Pro Be Proud SC* truck visited BHS on February 10<sup>th</sup> as part of the *Be Pro Be Proud SC* tour. They feel by changing how South Carolinians think about job opportunities provided by skilled professions, they can inspire today’s youth and lead them, and our state, down the path to prosperity.
- h. The American School Bus Council has designated February as “Love the Bus” month. In keeping with the the Love the Bus month theme for 2022, the South Carolina Department of Education encourages districts to observe Bus Driver Appreciation Week from February 14 to February 18. Barnwell School District 45 joins these celebrations of our outstanding school bus drivers and monitors.

## 2. Superintendent Stapleton presented COVID-19 Updates:

- a. After closely analyzing data trends, the decision has been made at this time to adhere to the shortened quarantine and isolation periods as identified in the DHEC Guidance for Schools. As DHEC previously shared with us, “All efforts should be made to provide the shortened 5-day option to reduce student and staff absences” when trends improve. The Superintendent explained the most recent updates in the DHEC guidance, which is also posted on the website.
- b. The COVID-19 Dashboard will continue to be updated weekly. The data reported each week includes the required DHEC reporting criteria which was modified in September 2021.
- c. Superintendent Stapleton expressed how happy we are to see positive trends in the data. She explained this is still a challenging time, and leadership is extremely grateful to everyone for all they have done, and continue to do, to provide for our students. She reiterated that the district will continue to say “Thank you!” across the district to all of our staff members.

## **BASIC STRUCTURE**

### A. Actions

1. Approval of School-Based Student Support Position with ESSER Funding (new position)
  - a. Superintendent Stapleton presented wording from the ESSER III Plan:
    - Provide a Behavioral Coach for two years (2022-2023 and 2023-2024) to support the district’s MTSS initiative to ensure individual student needs are being met to increase student achievement and positively impact students’ social-emotional well-being.
    - The salary is estimated at \$60,000 and benefits at \$20,000 annually. This is based on the certified teacher salary schedule.
    - The coach will serve students at Barnwell Primary, Barnwell Elementary, Guinyard-Butler Middle and Barnwell High School. This was approved as part of the ESSER III Plan, so the request at the meeting is to approve this new position in the schools to support students.
  - b. Motion for the approval of the Behavioral Coach was made by Becky Huggins and seconded by Dr. Rhett Richardson.
2. Approval of the First Reading of Revisions to Policy JRA- Student Records was made by Felicia Devore and seconded by Dr. Rhett Richardson.
3. Approval of the First Reading of Revisions to Policy ECA- Security was made by Becky Huggins and seconded by Felicia Devore.
4. Approval for the First Reading of Library and Media Center Material Policy was made by Becky Huggins and Seconded by Dr. Rhett Richardson.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Richardson-** Congratulations to Charlie Zorn. Thank you to Riley Ridgeway for your support with the Majorettes. They are so exciting to watch during the games. Thanks to Van Robotics and thanks to Mr. McIntosh for writing the grant. We appreciate you.

**Huggins-** I agree with Superintendent Stapleton that I didn't think we would still be here dealing with COVID. Thank you to George McIntosh and Jonathan Vickery for all you do. Congratulations to all the students being recognized and on how you are positively representing the district and schools. Congratulations to the soccer teams and the Majorettes. Thanks and appreciation to all the bus drivers.

**Sexton-** Thanks to everyone for all you're doing. Mr. McIntosh and all the staff, thank you. Appreciation to all the bus drivers. They are the first the children see in the morning and the last in the afternoons. Congratulations to Charlie Zorn for the outstanding job. Seeing the young students doing something exciting makes us all happy. Thanks to the School Board for your support as well.

**Devore-** Congratulations to Charlie Zorn and the Majorettes for all your hard work. Mr. McIntosh thank you for your hard work putting the grant together. Thanks to everyone that filled in and substituted when the district was short staffed. I appreciate all you do to keep us going.

**Anderson-** Congratulations to Charlie Zorn, who is also this year's Valedictorian. His parents were also graduates of Barnwell High School. Thank you to all of the district office staff and others that stepped in to help out. It is exciting to be a part of such a wonderful district. Dr. Wall, thank you for subbing. Bus drivers, thank you for all you do. I appreciate everything, because I realize that it's not an easy job.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Chair Rosey Anderson to go into Executive Session at 6:40 p.m.

Out of Executive Session at 7:06 p.m. Motion made by Dr. Rhett Richardson and seconded by Felicia Devore. No action was taken.

Board unanimously approved the adjournment of the meeting. The motion was made by Felicia Devore and seconded by Dr. Rhett Richardson at 7:07 p.m.

Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk \_\_\_\_\_