

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

**TIME:** 6:00 p.m, Thursday, April 29, 2021

**PLACE:** Barnwell School High School Media Center, 474 Jackson Street, Barnwell, SC 29182

**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; Holly Hutto, CFO; Tina Smith; Administrative Assistant, John Moody; IT Director

**Other:** Jonathan Vickery- Barnwell People-Sentinel, those being recognized were R. Martin, T. Brabham, R. Abstance, Coach Sturkie and their families.

The agenda for the meeting was as follows:

### I. OPENING BUSINESS

- A. Rosey Anderson, Chair, called the meeting to order. SGM Abraham Sexton, Clerk, delivered the Reflection. Dr. Rhett Richardson, member, 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.
- B. The board unanimously approved the agenda. Motion was made by Dr. Rhett Richardson and seconded by SGM Abraham Sexton.
- C. Rosey Anderson performed the swearing in of newly elected board member, SGM Abraham Sexton.
- D. Election of Board Members by Chairperson
- E. The Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda. Motion was made by Felicia Devore and seconded by SGM Abraham Sexton.
- F. There was no hearing of the public.

### II. ACCOUNTABILITY

#### A. Recognition

1. Superintendent Stapleton introduced Franklin McCormack, BHS Principal for recognition of the Barnwell High School Sporting Clays Team and accomplishments. Coach Sturkie and Coach Martin spoke as well as Senior Sporting Clays team members.
  - A. Dr. Rhett Richardson expressed being a board member and the initial apprehension and uneasiness of a sporting clay team, but he is proud of the board for allowing it to happen and very appreciative for everyone's hard work.
  - B. Becky Huggins expressed being very proud of the team and looks forward to seeing them in action. There are life lessons in hard work and dedication.
  - C. SGM Abraham Sexton stated that the team had to learn a lot of safety and responsibility. He was hesitant at first, but he came to the conclusion that team deserved a chance. He expressed being very proud of each member and how they have represented the school well.
  - D. Felicia Devore congratulated the players, coaches and parents. She thanked everyone for all they do and said she was very proud of the Sports Clay Team's teamwork and dedication and your representation of Barnwell Schools.
  - E. Rosey Anderson stated that she was hesitant at first about having the team, but she was very glad that the district was able to do it. She congratulated them on the hard work and said to and take your hard work, persistence, and dedication with you in life. Good luck to you in the future.

#### B. Information

1. District Updates  
Superintendent Stapleton presented a follow-up on capital improvement updates which included the installation of the baseball bleachers at the end of March. The newest project is the installation of new bleachers in the BHS gymnasium.
2. Update on step increase is the finance department is in the process of determining the lump sum that will be paid to employees by June 15<sup>th</sup> for the step that had previously been frozen. The CFO is including the 20-21 step that was just reinstated and the step for the 21-22 in the new budget.

3. The Barnwell County Recreation Commission met to review drawings of the proposed YMCA swimming pool. Superintendent Stapleton shared that if the YMCA had a community pool, Barnwell School District 45 would love to have the opportunity for our students to participate in swim teams.
4. The allocation of ESSER II Funding is \$3,769,295. The funds will be used for facility upgrades related to student health, such as window and door replacements, HVAC replacements, and roof repairs. Also, academic recovery efforts would include 2 BPS Interventionists and summer programs at BPS, BES, and GBMS.
5. Graduation will be June 4, 2021 at W.W. Carter Field at 7:30pm. The high school is working to maximize the number of tickets we can provide each member of the senior class. Other events will be Baccalaureate at W.W. Carter Field on May 23, 2021 at 7:30 pm and Senior Awards Night at W.W. Carter Field on May 25, 2021 at 6:00 pm.
6. The 2021 STEM signing day celebrates high school seniors from across the country who choose to pursue STEM education at technical programs, two-and-four-year colleges. BHS students, James "Latham" Boone and MaKayla Smoak, were Barnwell County's recipients.
7. Barnwell School District 45 Teachers of the Year are: Aerial Baxley- BPS, Jenny Raines-BES, Heather Peters-GBMS, and Betsy Antley-BHS. Congratulations to our Teachers of the Year!

### III. ADVOCACY

#### IV. BASIC STRUCTURE

- A. Rosey Anderson motioned for the approval of the Bond Resolution. Superintendent Stapleton: the district would adopt a do not exceed amount. The not to exceed amount will be \$1,250,000.00 This is the same bond issue that we have discussed each year to make various repairs to the buildings. The board adopts a not to exceed amount. The final amount will be determined by the available 8% capacity and by the consultation with the County Auditor and Treasurer to obtain the balance in the debt service sinking fund account from 19-20 tax collections, as well as the assessed value of the district. Payments are made, and we maintain the current debt service millage unless there is a need to increase millage to maintain the debt payment. Motion: I make a motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of a not to exceed \$1,250,000.00 general obligation bond. All were in favor and passed it unanimously. The motion was made by Felicia Devore and seconded by SGM Abraham Sexton.
- B. Rosey Anderson motioned for the approval of the modification to the substitute pay scale. Superintendent Stapleton: as a reminder about the substitute pay scale that we discussed in March, the recommendation for the work session was to eliminate the years of experience and pay a flat rate (like others we looked at). We also discussed the following rate changes. High School/Associate's degree changes to \$70 per day. Bachelor's degree changes to \$75 per day. These changes positively impact any sub we have on the list with little impact to the overall budget. Motion: I recommend we approve the changes to the substitute pay scale effective for the 2021-2022 school year and future years. High School/Associate's degree will change o \$70 per day. Bachelor's degree will change to \$75 per day. The motion was made by Becky Huggins and seconded by SGM Abraham Sexton.
- C. Dr. Rachel Wall discussed Title I and Title II updates and approvals. Rosey Anderson asked for a motion for the approval of the Title I and Title II updates and approvals. The motion was made by SGM Abraham Sexton and seconded by Felicia Devore.

#### V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Dr. Rhett Richardson congratulated the Sporting Clay Team and thanked the families and Mr. McCormack for their hard work and dedication. Congratulations to the teachers of the year and happy that they work at Barnwell School District 45.
- B. Becky Huggins congratulated to the Sporting Clay Team and all the teams in the district. This is an exciting time. Congratulations to the teachers of the year and everyone for a successful year.
- C. SGM Abraham Sexton congratulated the Sporting Clay Team and the district teachers of the year. Also thank you to Mr. McCormack, Mrs. Stapleton and her team, Tina Smith for all you do, and to the employees in the district for your dedication.
- D. Felicia Devore congratulated the Sporting Clay team and was pleased that there was a female on the team and possibly future females. Congratulations to the teachers of the year and the district sporting teams for making the playoffs and thanks to the district office for what you've done and continue to do.
- E. Rosey Anderson congratulated the Sporting Clay Team and their ability to express life lessons. Shout out to the

teachers of the year for being nominated and voted on by your peers. District Office and IT department, thanks for all you do.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board unanimously approved a motion to enter into Executive Session at 6:44 p.m. The motion was made by Becky Huggins and seconded by Felicia Devore.

The Board unanimously approved a motion to exit Executive Session at 7:51 p.m.  
Rosey Anderson announced that there was no action taken.

The Board unanimously approved the adjournment of the meeting. The motion was made by Dr. Rhett Richardson and seconded by SGM Abraham Sexton at 7:52 p.m. All in favor.

Chair Rosey Anderson

Clerk Abraham Sexton