

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Barnwell School District 45 Board of Trustees.

TIME: 5:30 p.m., Thursday, November 20, 2014, adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

PLACE: Board Room, 770 Hagood Ave, Barnwell, SC 29182

PRESENT:

Board of Trustees: Teresa Spence, Chair; Rhett Richardson, Vice-Chair; Abraham Sexton, Clerk; Valenda Black, Member; Chad Perry, Member

District Office: J.H. Grissom, Superintendent; Jaci Bearden, Admin Assist; Crissie Stephens, Director of Curriculum; Rachel Wall, 7-12 Curriculum Coordinator; Shirley Kitchings, CFO; Margaret Matheny, Human Services Director; Bill Wingard, Network Administrator;

BPS: Donna Selvey, Principal

BES: Sherry McIver, Principal

GBMS: Craig Hart, Principal

BHS: Jon Burdge, Principal; Kelly Shealy, teacher

Other: The PEOPLE SENTINEL, Connie Jackson, Legal; Ken Childs, Legal

The agenda for the meeting was as follows:

OPENING BUSINESS

1. Ms. Spence, chairman called the meeting to order. Mr. Sexton delivered the Reflection. Mrs. Black led in the Pledge Allegiance to the American Flag. Superintendent Grissom announced that local media had received notice of the meeting as required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. Hearing the Public- none

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mr. Perry and seconded by Mr. Sexton that the Board enter into executive session. The Board entered into executive session at 5:35 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Sexton and seconded by Ms. Black to come out of executive session at 7:25. The Board took the following action. The motion carried unanimously.

The following motion was made by Mr. Perry and Seconded by Mr. Sexton. Madame Chairperson, I move that based on Mr. Grissom's very good performance evaluation for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board authorizes you to execute an amendment to the superintendent's employment agreement with the district to extend his employment for an additional 2 years or through June 30, 2019; and a 10% increase in his compensation. Further, I move that you be authorized to issue a public statement regarding this year's evaluation process and results on behalf of the Board. The motion carried unanimously.

The following motion was made by Ms. Black and seconded by Mr. Perry. Madame Chairperson, I move that we accept the Superintendent's recommendation for the immediate termination of an Annual Contract teacher, Employee A. pursuant to SC Code Ann. Section 59-26-40. The motion carried unanimously.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Recognition

Information

1. Mr. David M. Enzastiga, CPA delivered the 2013-2014 audit report for Barnwell School District 45. The auditor gave the district an unqualified opinion and mentioned several times how wonderful Ms. Kitchings and her staff are to work with.
2. Ms. Stephens gave an overview of the Report Card, explaining how the ESEA Flexibility Waiver Grades came about and how they are arrived at as well as the state report card ratings. She plans to go into more detail at the December 2, 2014 Board Work Session.

ADVOCACY

BASIC STRUCTURE

Action

1. The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 23, 2014. (Black, Sexton)
2. The Board unanimously approved the August Financial Report. (Sexton, Richardson)
3. The Board unanimously approved the Personnel Report. (Richardson, Sexton)
4. The Board had the 2nd reading and unanimously approved policies GBEB, GDF, IHAA, IHAB, and IHBH. (Black, Sexton)
5. 1st Reading of Policy IKF-R Graduation Requirements (major change is discontinuation of HSAP testing)
6. 1st Reading of Policy GBC Staff Compensation (major change- district may negotiate salaries for non-TERI retired teachers)
7. 1st Reading of Policy GCB Professional Staff Contracts and Compensation (major change- districts will decide date on which they extend contracts)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Spence- Wishes everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. She expressed her appreciation for all the hard work done by all in the district. She feels that great things are happening in the district. She thanked Mr. Grissom for coming to Barnwell. She realizes it was a sacrifice to leave his son in North Carolina.

Mr. Richardson- Thanks David and Ms. Kitchings and her staff for all their hard work. They do an excellent job of taking care of the money we have to run the district. He also thanks the Principals, Assistant-principals and their staffs for the hard work which is evident on the report cards. He thanks Mr. Grissom for his hard work.

Mr. Sexton- He thanks all the staff and teachers for their hard work, especially Ms. Kitchings since she holds the purse strings. He is very pleased and proud of the improvement at the schools and he wants the principals to let the schools know. He also thanks Mr. Grissom for his work with the district. He also thanked everyone for their support during the loss of Anita Wiggins, his and Suzie's niece.

Mr. Perry- Appreciates all the hard work it took to bring up the scores. He wants us to remember to continue to always strive to do better, never give up. The greater danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we hit it. – *Michelangelo Buonarroti, Renaissance artist* He also thanked Mr. Grissom for his vision.

Ms. Black- Is very proud of the districts improvement. She wants the schools to know that the board is standing behind them to support their efforts to improve. She thanked BPS for the excellent Veterans Day Program. The Equity Suit is good news. It will be interesting to see what will come from it. She hopes everyone will have a wonderful thanksgiving. Thanks to Mr. Grissom for his hard work.

Chair

Clerk