

Minutes of Barnwell County School District Board of Trustees
Work Session
December 13, 2024
(770 Hagood Avenue, Barnwell, South Carolina 29812)

Board Members Present: Becky Huggins, Felicia Devore, Rosey Anderson, Catrena Hughes-Parker, John Melton

I. Opening Business

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

Chair Becky Huggins called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. Mrs. Rosey Anderson led the Reflection, and Chair Huggins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Huggins confirmed with Dr. Stapleton the media was notified.

B. Approval of Agenda – Chair Huggins

A motion was made by Mrs. Felicia Devore to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Catrena Hughes-Parker. Hearing no objections, the agenda was unanimously approved.

II. Information Items

A. Review of Consolidation Plan and Facility Plan for New Board Members

Dr. Stapleton provided information regarding the plans that were adopted by the previous appointed Board of Trustees, and the board members discussed the following:

- Information regarding the district’s current career center programs and student enrollment
- Photos from visits to career centers throughout South Carolina
- More information regarding the arena and farm plans for the new facility
- An overview of the facility plan that was adopted
- More details about option one, to build a new high school/career center on a neutral site, as well as discussion of the proposed land
- An overview of the current funding for the facility plan, as well as an overview of the current fund balance and capital reserve summaries
- Explanation of the process for property acquisition through the state’s Office of School Facilities

- Discussion of next steps within the plan
- Information regarding the resolution passed by the appointed Board of Trustees in October 2024
- Details and an overview of the FEMA grant to build the safe house and gymnasium
 - Discussion of material choices for the new FEMA gymnasium

B. Discussion of District Updates


Dr. Stapleton presented Information regarding the following district updates.

- Discussion of the meeting date for future board meetings. It was decided that a first reading of revisions to the policy would be made in January. This would include changing the policy to state that meetings would occur the third Tuesday of each month, except July and December. Exceptions to this were discussed, such as the upcoming January meeting, winter break, and spring break.
- Discussion of graduation dates for each high school
- Discussion of whether the board would like to revisit the policy regarding compensation, which was previously set based on the consolidation bill. At this time, there will be no changes to that policy.
- Discussion of two upcoming trips, one for the band and one sponsored by Mr. David Edwards. The blessing of the board was given for both to move forward.

III. Adjournment

A. Meeting Adjournment

Mrs. Rosey Anderson made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Felicia Devore. There were no objections to adjourning.

Chair 

Clerk 