

Minutes of Barnwell County School District Board of Trustees
Work Session

Friday, May 2, 2025 – 9am

(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 9:10am. Chair Huggins led the Reflection and the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Chair Huggins confirmed the media was notified.

B. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Mrs. Rosey Anderson 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. Focus Group with SSOE

Representatives from SSOE presented the preliminary design plans for the new high school facility. The purpose of the presentation was to inform the Board of the current progress and to gather feedback on key design elements.

The presentation included:

- An overview of the process used to establish the project's core values, goals, and mission statement
- A site analysis identifying key features
- The schematic design site plan detailing the proposed layout of the new facility on the site
- A conceptual diagram illustrating the project's overarching vision or "big idea"
- Schematic design floor plans, providing a preliminary look at room layouts and functional spaces
- Schematic design elevations and renderings, offering visual representations of the building's exterior and key areas

SSOE also reviewed the next steps in the design process, reviewed the updated timeline, and invited input from Board members to help shape the ongoing development of the facility.

B. Discussion of Budgetary Information for Preparation of 2025-2026 BCSD General Fund Budget

CFO Holly Hutto and Superintendent Stapleton provided the board with an overview of the current concerns being expressed regarding funding at the state-level. This included an overview of the funding formula for school districts, state-level appropriations according to Proviso 1.3, a summary of the impact of changes in FY25 minimum teacher salary schedule, local level allocations according to Proviso 1.3, an overview of the state's weighting system for funding, and an overview of new State Aid to the Classroom funding.

The group also discussed funding for 25-26, including projected tax revenues, one-time funds ending for ESSER and Consolidation allocations, and an overview of FILOT, Homestead Exemption funds, and DOE funds.

CFO Holly Hutto then gave updates on general budgetary information in regard to the finalizing of the 2025-2026 BCSD General Budget. This included, but was not limited to, house projections, state revenues and other revenue sources, millage rates, budget considerations from the General Assembly, and proposed general fund budget information.

C. Discussion of District Updates

Dr. Stapleton provided updates, and the board members discussed the following:

- Approval of Trips for the BHS Golf Team and the BHHS FBLA Convention
- Update on Mascot Committees for the District
- Update on Facility Committee

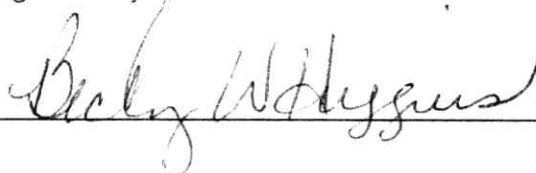
III. Adjournment

A. Meeting Adjournment

Mrs. Rosey Anderson made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. John Melton. There were no objections to adjourning. The meeting adjourned at 12:31pm.

Please Note: Mrs. Devore had to leave the meeting during the Budget portion. The group did take two breaks during the work session – one at 10:08am and one at 11:52am. Lunch was served and the group continued meeting until adjournment.

Chair



Clerk

