

Minutes of Barnwell County School District Board of Trustees

Work Session

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

(770 Hagood Avenue, Barnwell, SC 29812)

Board Members Present: Becky Huggins, Felicia Devore, Rosey Anderson, John Melton, Catrena Hughes-Parker (was not present at the start of the meeting but joined during Executive Session, following a medical appointment)

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 8:09am. Chair Huggins led the Reflection and the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Becky Huggins confirmed the FOI Notice went out as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

B. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Rosey Anderson to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by John Melton. Hearing no objections, the agenda was unanimously approved.

II. Information Items

A. Information shared regarding United Way of Allendale, Barnwell, and Bamberg Counties

United Way of Allendale, Barnwell, and Bamberg Counties' Chief Philanthropy Officer and Executive Director, Ferlicia Cuthbertson, shared information regarding United Way's past initiatives, resources for the community, and future projects.

B. Discussion of Updates regarding Facility Plan

Dr. Stapleton shared updates on the FEMA Safe Room project and the new high school project.

C. Discussion of 2026-2027 BCSD Budget

CFO Holly Hutto shared information about the 2026-2027 BCSD General Fund Budget. This included, but was not limited to, the collaborative budgeting process, budget highlights, millage rate information, overview of expected state revenues, overview of requested expenditures, and information from the General Assembly.

D. Discussion of District Updates

Dr. Stapleton shared district updates including, but not limited to, the following topics:

- Barnwell County School District Fiscal Year 2024-25 Subrecipient Risk Assessment

- Locally Board Approved Courses
- Electric Buses through State Department of Education
- Important End of the Year Dates
- Baccalaureate Service
- Upcoming Employee Celebration Events
- Field Experience Request

III. **Executive Session**

A motion was made to enter Executive Session at 9:04am for the purposes outlined on the agenda following a short break. The motion was made by Felicia Devore and seconded by John Melton. There was no discussion, and the motion as approved unanimously.

The Board entered Executive Session at 9:04am for the purpose of:

As needed during the work session to discuss any contractual agreements currently in place for the district or discussion of negotiations incident to contractual arrangements in regard to agenda items or employee matters related to agenda items.

At 12:44pm, Rosey Anderson made a motion to come out of Executive Session, and Felicia Devore seconded the motion. There was no discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.

IV. **Adjournment**

A. Meeting Adjournment Catrena-Hughes Parker

At 12:44pm, Felicia Devore made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Catrena Hughes-Parker. There were no objections to adjourning. The meeting adjourned at 12:44pm.

Please Note:

During the meeting as referenced, the board members visited the FEMA gymnasium.

Lunch was served during Executive Session and the Board continued meeting through lunch.

Chair Beth W. Higgins

Clerk Rosey Anderson