

**Bamberg County School District
Board of Trustees Meeting
Bamberg County School District Office
July 6, 2026
6:00 p.m.**

Members present: Board Chair David Corder (Via Zoom), Vice Chair Naomi Eckels, Secretary Cynthia F. Hurst, Trustee Gwendolyn D. Bamberg, Trustee Adrienne C. Blume, Trustee Jeni Bunch, Trustee Harriet H. Coker (Via Zoom), Trustee Tonya A. Sanders-Govan, and Trustee Cathy Ayer Griffin.

Absent: None

1. **Call meeting to order:** Board Chair David Corder called the meeting to order.

Notice to Media: In accordance with the S. C. Code of Laws of 1976, as amended, Section 30-4-80(E), The Times and Democrat Newspaper, The Bamberg County Leader, WIIZ 97.9 FM, WBSC-LP 102.3 FM, and the Bamberg County School District website have been notified of the time, date, place, and agenda of this meeting.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was observed.

3. **Approval of Agenda**

Secretary Cynthia Hurst moved, and Trustee Adrienne Blume seconded, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed 9-0.

4. **Approval of Minutes for June 1, 2026 and June 10, 2026.**

Trustee Cathy Griffin moved, and Secretary Cynthia Hurst seconded, to accept the June 1, 2026 and June 10, 2026 meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed 9-0.

5. **Update of Denmark-Olar Middle School's Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP)/Turn Around Plan**

Interim Superintendent Ulmer provided a brief update on Denmark-Olar Middle School's Continuous Improvement Plan. He advised that the South Carolina Department of Education must approve the plan by August 31, 2026, and reminded the Board that the plan spans a three-year improvement cycle.

Mr. Ulmer explained that the funding allocation consists of both federal and state funds and is designated specifically to support students in grades 6 through 8. He further advised that an additional \$105,000.00 has been added to the allocation.

6. **Student/Staff Recognition and Superintendent's Report**

Interim Superintendent Ulmer noted the following:

- a) Mr. Ulmer announced that Bamberg County School District's Sick Leave Bank open enrollment began on July 1, 2026, and will remain open through August 10, 2026. He noted that although the Sick Leave Bank was implemented during the previous school year and there was little interest in participation because it was introduced mid-year.

Mr. Ulmer expressed confidence that participation will increase during this year's open enrollment period.

- b) Mr. Ulmer advised that Charlotte Schlamp applied for and was awarded the South Carolina Department of Education's Instructional Leadership Accelerator Pilot Fund. He explained that the grant provides \$256,000.00 to support the development of instructional leadership within the district. Mr. Ulmer further advised that a mandatory meeting with the South Carolina Department of Education was scheduled for July 21, 2026, to discuss the program and implementation requirements in greater detail.
- c) Mr. Ulmer reported that the district's e-learning status for the 2026–2027 school year has been renewed. He expressed his appreciation to Mr. Ricky Padgett for his efforts in successfully completing the renewal process.

7. **District High School Textbook Selection (Action Needed)**

Mr. Ulmer presented two new high school textbook selections recommended by the Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School administrative staff:

- a. Precalculus – Miller Precalculus (McGraw Hill)
- b. Anatomy and Physiology – Essentials of Human Anatomy and Physiology, 13th Edition (Savvas Learning Company LLC)

Following the presentation and review of the recommended textbook selections, **Vice Chair Naomi Eckels moved to approve the recommendations as presented. Secretary Cynthia Hurst seconded the motion.** The motion carried unanimously, 9-0.

8. **Elective Course Approval:**

- a. **Workplace Skills (379921CW)**
- b. **College & Career Preparation I (379985CH)**
- c. **Work Experience (379925CH)**
- d. **Action Based Learning – Grade: Pre-Kindergarten (17992504)**
- e. **Action Based Learning – Grade: Kindergarten (17992500)**
- f. **Action Based Learning – Grade: 1st (17992501)**

Interim Superintendent Ulmer introduced the following courses as electives for Bamberg County School District: Workplace Skills, College & Career Preparation I, Work Experience, Action Based Learning – Grade: Pre-Kindergarten, Action Based Learning – Grade: Kindergarten, and Action Based Learning – Grade: 1st.

Following the proposal, **Vice Chair Naomi Eckels moved, and Trustee Harriet Coker seconded, the motion to approve the following courses as electives for Bamberg County School District: Workplace Skills (3779921CW), College & Career Preparation I (379985CH), Work Experience (379925CH), Action Based Learning – Grade: Pre-Kindergarten (17992504), Action Based Learning – Grade (17992500): Kindergarten, and Action Based Learning – Grade: 1st (17992501).** The motion passed 9-0.

9. **First Reading – BCSD Policy – Section A – District Wellness:**

a. **ADF – District Wellness**

Mr. Ulmer presented policy ADF for first reading.

Vice Chair Naomi Eckels moved, and Trustee Harriet Coker seconded, to accept the first reading of Policy ADF – District Wellness, as presented, with a few minor changes noted. The motion passed 9-0.

10. **First Reading – BCSD Policies – Section J – Students:**

a. **JFAB – Admission of Nonresident Students (Interdistrict Transfer)**

b. **JFAB-R – Admission of Nonresident Students (Interdistrict Transfer)**

Mr. Ulmer presented policies JFAB and JFAB-R for first reading.

Secretary Cynthia Hurst moved, and Trustee Adrienne Blume seconded, to accept the first reading of Policies JFAB – Admission of Nonresident Students (Interdistrict Transfer) and JFAB-R – Admission of Nonresident Students (Interdistrict Transfer), as presented, with a few minor changes noted. The motion passed 9-0.

11. **Visitors' Comments**

None.

12. **Executive Session**

Board Chair David Corder called for a motion to enter Executive Session. Secretary Cynthia Hurst moved, and Trustee Adrienne Blume seconded, the motion to enter Executive Session. The motion carried 9-0.

Board Chair David Corder noted that the Board would be moving into Executive Session to discuss Personnel – Budget 2026-2027, Employment/Personnel Matters Related to: Personnel Recommendations for Hire, Personnel Recommendations for Resignation, and Matters Related to Release of Students.

Open session: Secretary Cynthia Hurst moved, and Trustee Adrienne Blume seconded, the motion for the board to come out of Executive Session and return to the regular session of the meeting. The motion carried 9-0.

13. **Action on Executive Session Items**

Vice Chair Naomi Eckels moved, and Trustee Cathy Griffin seconded, the motion to accept and approve Agenda Item 12(b)(1) to Discuss Personnel Recommendations for Hire for employees a, b, and c; and Agenda Item 12(c) to Discuss Matters Related to Release of Students for students 1 through 19.

With respect to Agenda Item 12(a) to Discuss Personnel – Budget 2026-2027 and Agenda Item 12(b)(2) to Discuss Personnel Recommendations for Resignation, no action was taken.

15. Adjourn

Trustee Harriet Coker moved, and Trustee Gwendolyn Bamberg seconded, the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 9-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Minutes approved:

David Corder, Board Chair

Cynthia Hurst, Secretary