



Bear Grass Charter School Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

August 15, 2022

Opening:

The Bear Grass Charter School Board met on August 15, 2022, at the BGCS media center. Delmas Cumbee, Board Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Present:

- Delmas Cumbee ● Frank Beck ● Phil Hodges ● Constance Cumbee
- Pam Gibbs ● Charlotte Griffin ● Georgia Smallwood ● Leigh Ann Long
- Donna Moore

Guests:

- Mary Beth Bonds— Bear Grass Charter School Principal
- Patricia Speller—Bear Grass Charter School Assistant Principal

The minutes from the June 20, 2022, meeting were approved.

Motion: Charlotte, Second: Frank. Motion passed.

Special Recognition:

Sarah Lawrence, Ag Instructor, along with several FFA Officers gave a PowerPoint presentation of their accomplishments over the summer. Livestock judging, State Leadership Conference, State Convention and BGCS FFA Retreat were some of the topics they covered.

Public Comment:

No discussions took place.

Student Enrollment:

Student headcount for the 2022-2023 academic year is 438. All students were offered enrollment from the wait list. 24 out of the 28 accepted the offer.

Curriculum/Staff Development:

AP Speller has spoken with Ms. Long regarding Battle of the Books and what needs to take place to start this program back up. Staff member Hollie Hines will be leading this program. Principal

Bonds informed the board that Mr. Beirne attended the Drone program over the summer, and he is currently completing his certification. She would like to expand this program in a way that BGCS can offer students the ability to receive their Commercial Drone Operator license. Cost will be \$175 per student. The offer will be contingent on instructor recommendation. The drones that are in the Paxton Patterson Lab are indoor drones. Principal Bonds would like to purchase kits for outdoor drones. Mr. Beirne is networking with Elizabeth City State to further this program and will be attending a Fall Conference as well. Board Member Griffin spoke on Martin County Schools Innovation Center. They have 16 programs that they are offering. Upon completion of the selected programs, a student can receive a certification, diploma, or build on a degree. She stressed that BGCS needs to step up their STEM programs to compete. After a brief discussion, a **motion** was made to move forward with expanding the Drone Program.

Motion: Frank, Second: Charlotte. Motion passed.

EC and Federal Programs Update:

ESSER Funding— Principal Bonds discussed PRC 171 carryover funds of \$3,872.30. These funds will be utilized toward ProCare Therapy Services—Teletherapy services for our students. PRC 181 has carryover funds of \$93,891.88. These will be used as follows--\$35,000 for updated access points, \$30,000 for ProCare Therapy Services and \$28,891.88 towards educational software for Tier I, II, III student supports (AimsWeb Plus, iReady, IWL, and USA Testprep).

EC Update—AP Speller informed that she does not have an accurate count of our EC population due to records still coming in from previous students' school and PowerSchool has not updated yet. She believes there may be around 40 EC students. Contracts have been secured with some of the related services that BGCS utilizes however they are still negotiating with Speech Therapy. They have requested a travel reimbursement in addition to their hourly rate.

Buildings and Grounds:

Jackie Harrison, Maintenance Supervisor, updated the board on buildings and grounds. The auditorium should be completed by the end of September. Painting has started and to be completed is HVAC, ceiling tiles and flooring installation. A wall has been removed in the media center to create a larger office. Windows on the high school hall will be installed on September 16 and will be completed that weekend. The weight room has new A/C, ceiling tiles, and the windows have been covered up. Ceiling and floor tile has been replaced in the gym hallway. Tennis courts are being pressure washed, cracks filled in and painted as well as the fence being painted. Board Member Beck requested a quote for a new press box for the ball field. Jackie was instructed to get quotes for the new dug outs as well and share these with the Sports Club.

Technology:

Mr. Hale discussed the new upgrade intercom and camera system that will be acquired for the BGCS campus. The previous quote has increased \$10,000-\$15,000. Clean-up of hanging cables on the campus will take place. All Chrome Books have been issued to the students.

Public Relations:

No updates or discussion took place.

Accountability (Academic):

Principal Bonds informed the board the test scores are still in prelim mode.

Student Services:

No updates or discussion took place.

Child Nutrition:

King Chicken has been added as a vendor.

Transportation:

The new yellow bus should be here October 25th. New inspector started in July for bus maintenance.

Athletics:

Coach salary discussion tabled until September meeting. Playoff supplement was discussed for State Championship coach Webb. Principal Bonds will propose an amount later. Dragon Fly and Final Forms are being utilized. She wants to extend final forms to all other school forms.

Other Discussion:

Covid Protocols—Principal Bonds updated the board with the 5-day quarantine and 5-day wearing a mask upon returning to school. She discussed if a child is kept home due to Covid exposure should they be counted absence. The board agreed that an absence should occur.

Safety—Buildings are closed during class and this process is going well.

Additional Board Meeting—Principal Bonds suggested adding July 17, 2023, as a board meeting. She feels that this meeting is needed to discuss items prior to the new school year starting.

Charter Renewal Handout—the board was provided with a copy of the BGCS Charter Renewal. Chairman Cumbee stated that the charter that he signed in April 2022 was different from the original charter. He requested that Principal Bonds compare both charters and list any pertinent changes for review.

PTSA/Title I—will be held August 23, 2022. She is trying to revamp the PTSA and get more interest in this club.

Finance:

Brief discussion regarding the budget for the 2022-2023 school year took place. Principal Bonds informed the board that the state ADM per student increased \$456.82 and for children with disabilities increased \$683.33.

Human Resources:

Carrie Jones has been offered the Health Science Career position. Her start date will be September 1, 2022. Amber Knead will be coming second semester as the additional Ag instructor. She will have a student teacher with her as well.

Pursuant to General Statutes 143-318.11(a)(5) and 143-318.11(a)(6), a **motion** was made by Frank and seconded by Charlotte, and passed unanimously, for the board to go into closed session. At 7:05 PM, the board entered closed session.

The board came out of closed session at 7:10 PM. **Motion:** Charlotte, Second: Frank.

No discussions took place that required motions.

The next scheduled board meeting will be on September 19, 2022, at 6:00 PM.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn: Delmas, Second: Charlotte. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned by Delmas Cumbee, Chairman at 7:15 PM.

Minutes submitted by:

Pam Gibbs

Pam Gibbs, Secretary

Approved by:

Delmas Cumbee

Delmas Cumbee, Board Chairman