



Bear Grass Charter School Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

January 23, 2023

Opening:

The Bear Grass Charter School Board met on January 23, 2023, 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 November 21, 2022 meeting were approved.

Motion: Charlotte, Second: Georgia. Motion passed.

Special Recognition:

The following students were recognized for the October Character Ed trait of:

November-Responsibility and Hard Work
Middle School: Leah Williams
High School: Haylie Williams

December—Gratitude and Team Spirit
Middle School: Eason Taylor
High School: Madeline Chandler

Principal Bonds announced that on February 2nd @6:00pm the A & A/B Honor Roll recognition will be held at the PTO meeting.

Public Comment:

Community member Jerry Rogerson voiced the need for a practice gym and additional land for the sports programs. Parents are expressing their concerns over late night practices to him.

Safety:

Chief Deputy Drew Robinson briefed the board on the goals and duties of a School Resource Officer, misconceptions regarding SRO's and the financial responsibilities of BGCS. After his presentation board members had an opportunity to question Deputy Robinson. A brief discussion took place among the board and a decision was made to further discuss at the February meeting.

Student Enrollment:

Student headcount for the 2022-2023 academic year is 430.

Epicenter Update:

Principal Bonds informed the board that the Conflict of Interest Policy has been signed off by our Board Chairman. No changes have been made to the policy. Each board member had to sign an acknowledgement form that we had received a copy of the Conflict of Interest Policy.

CSADM (Charter School Average Daily Attendance):

Phase I which states that BGCS is not increasing total enrollment size over the standard 20% has been submitted.

Curriculum/Staff Development:

Staff members Davenport and Foell were in attendance to discuss restructuring the Senior Graduation Project into a Career Project. Prior to the project presentation, Mrs. Foell addressed the board on possibility of changing the last week of school in May to early release days. She stated that the majority of the students that would be on campus are those that would be taking EOG, CTE or EOC exams. More than likely, most of those students will be signing out of school after they complete their exams.

A **motion** was made to change May 11, 12, 15 & 16, 2023 to early release days.

Motion: Phil, Second: Charlotte. Motion passed.

Mrs. Davenport reviewed the current Senior Graduation Project and possible solutions to move the project into a more digital world. The Career Project would count as 10% of the student's English IV average and would consist of two components—one for each grading period. For component one, students would be required to research at least two different careers they are interested in learning more about. Google slide presentation is required in component one. For component two, students will be required to choose a research topic and develop a thesis that relates to one of the careers. This process will remain that same as current day. Discussion took place about the need to restructure the project to current day processes. If BGCS does not follow the NCDPI guidelines on senior projects then students will no longer receive the one hour credit. An amendment has to be made to our charter. A decision was made to table any approvals until the February meeting.

EC and Federal Programs Update:

VP Speller informed the board that the EC Headcount for December 1st was 39.

Buildings and Grounds:

Jackie Harrison, Maintenance Supervisor, updated the board on buildings and grounds. Three of the four new classrooms are currently being utilized. Over the Christmas holidays, 38 new floor joists and 8 new pillars were installed in the middle school building. The new bus has finally arrived however cameras need to be installed. He discussed summer projects that he would like to move forward with.

1. Add a storage building onto the back of the gym
2. Replace café windows
3. Reseal and repaint entire parking lot
4. Add on to little building at football field
5. New lawn mower for campus
6. New ceiling tiles in office

Technology:

Principal Bonds updated the board on technology. Mr. Hale has installed an intercom box in the new classroom section. Camera parts that are needed to update our current ones are about three weeks out.

Public Relations:

No updates or discussion took place.

Student Services:

The safety grant \$35,000 that VP Speller applied for will cover all door swipes. She has applied for Round Two of the same safety grant in the amount of \$10,000 which can be used to upgrade some of the safety sensors on campus.

Child Nutrition:

No updates or discussion took place.

Transportation:

Mr. Harrison discussed this in his building and grounds section.

Athletics:

Principal Bonds discussed a contract that AD Blend brought to her. The contract is with Eastern Turf Maintenance for both fields for four rounds of treatment.

A **motion** was made to accept to proposed contract.

Motion: Frank, Second: Phil. Motion passed.

Other Discussion:

- a. Prom March 17 at Yankee Hall; invite will be sent out
- b. Band Field Trip to NY 3/30-4/2; this has already been approved
- c. Graduation May 25
- d. Mr. Harrison addressed the board on the school calendar and 12 month employees. December 26th was not a holiday for 12 month employees. Christmas fell on a Sunday for 2022. He wanted to bring this to the board's attention for future calendars.
- e. Mr. Harrison discussed the need for the cafeteria to be inspected. A foods class is in the works and he feels that someone needs to at least do a walk through. He will reach out and see what areas may need to be inspected and where to start. Mrs. Riffle has applied for a Golden Leaf Grant to assist with kitchen upgrades.
- f. Mr. Harrison discussed janitorial staff being stretched thin. He voiced his concern about acquiring additional staff at some point.

Finance:

Review and discussion of the 2022-2023 BGCS budget took place.

Human Resources:

Principal Bonds reminded the board of upcoming resignations. Debbie Vaughan, Tammy Riffle and Judy Prettyman. She has three applicants to interview for the business office position.

Pursuant to General Statutes 143-318.11(a)(5) and 143-318.11(a)(6), a **motion** was made by Charlotte and seconded by Constance, and passed unanimously, for the board to go into closed session for discussions. At 7:33 PM, the board entered closed session.

The board came out of closed session at 7:52 PM. **Motion:** Charlotte, Second: Leigh Ann.


The next scheduled board meeting will be on February 20, 2023, at 6:00 PM.

Adjournment:

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


The meeting was adjourned by Delmas Cumbee, Chairman at 7:53 PM.

Minutes submitted by:



Pam Gibbs, Secretary

Approved by:



Delmas Cumbee, Board Chairman