



Bear Grass Charter School Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2022

Opening:

The Bear Grass Charter School Board met on November 21, 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 October 17, 2022 meeting were approved.

Motion: Charlotte, Second: Frank. Motion passed.

Special Recognition:

The following students were recognized for the October Character Ed trait of Respect and Alertness.

Middle School: Kaylyn Jones
High School: Nate Gurganus

Board Member Long mentioned that the Varsity Cheerleaders placed first at the Triangle Regional Cheerleading Competition. Principal Bonds referenced the A and A/B Honor Roll presentation that took place at the PTO meeting. She stated that approximately 120 students were awarded.

Public Comment:

Several parents voiced their concerns regarding the school not having a SRO on campus. They mentioned vaping, bullying, and the lack of student respect for authority. They really expressed their desire to have a SRO on campus.

Student Enrollment:

Student headcount for the 2022-2023 academic year is 430. Principal Bonds submitted the BGCS ADM for the 2023-2024 school year with a ranking of no need for an increase.

Epicenter Update:

A couple of items have been submitted on Epicenter. Our Annual Charter Audit was completed and the result was a clean opinion. LIEP (Language, Instruction Education Program) has been submitted with a 0 headcount. The LIEP is any student enrolled that has English as their second language. The BGCS Lottery Application has been submitted also. The only upcoming item that has not been submitted is the Board Admissions and Enrollment Policy which will be submitted tomorrow.

Curriculum/Staff Development:

Staff member Foell was unable to attend the meeting tonight to speak with the board regarding the Graduation Project. She created a handout of information for our review and consideration to not have this as a requirement for graduation. This project takes up a lot of curriculum time for staff. BGCS is the only school that follows the state guidelines for this type project. A brief discussion took place among the board and a proposal was made to possibly create some type of requirement that still offers the research and interaction components. Further discussion will take place at the January meeting.

EC and Federal Programs Update:

ESSER Funding—no updates.

EC Update—VP Speller informed the board that the EC headcount transfer was completed on October 25, 2022. A transfer was made for 13 students from their previous LEA.

Buildings and Grounds:

Jackie Harrison, Maintenance Supervisor, updated the board on buildings and grounds. Desks and tables have been ordered for the new classrooms (old auditorium). He stated that there are still issues with some of the floors in building 100. Windows for the new enclosure should be in this week. The tennis courts have been completed. He spoke about replacing the lighting around the courts. Discussion took place on fixing the practice wall. He will get a quote for this. Board Member Beck requested a cement skirt around the field house to aid with messy floors that are created on rainy days.

Technology:

Mr. Hale, IT Manager, updated the board on technology news. Promethean Boards have been mounted. Cameras are installed on the buses. A switch has been installed for the new addition.

Public Relations:

Board Member Long spoke on her quest to get BGCS in the Enterprise. VP Speller suggested a ribbon cutting for the new classrooms. Going off course, Mr. Hale spoke on the issue of vaping and other issues happening in the bathroom. Vape detector will go off and by the time he can get to the bathroom the vape has been passed off and no one will fess up to who it was. Also, there are too many people in the bathroom at once. Cameras can't be installed in the bathrooms. He was questioning his authority. A brief discussion took place regarding different solutions that may aid in this issue. Trial and error avenues will be explored to try to help resolve the issue.

Student Services:

No updates or discussion took place.

Safety:

Principal Bonds provided the board with an overview of the recommendations for an SRO. She has spoken with Drew Robinson from the Martin County Sheriff's Office and he is willing to come to the January board meeting to have a more in-depth discussion with the board members. BGCS received a Safety Grant of \$35,000 which will cover all of the door swipes.

Child Nutrition:

No updates or discussion took place.

Transportation:

New bus should be in the week after Thanksgiving.

Athletics:

Contracts have been signed for coaches for the new sports season. Board Member Moore questioned the MS AD supplement that was discussed in our previous meeting. A brief discussion took place to clarify the supplements.

Other Discussion:

VP Speller informed the board of a repeat offender policy in the Parent-Student Handbook. The policy needs to be clearer and more precise. VP Speller will have feedback for the board at the January meeting.

Finance:

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

Human Resources:

BGCS new hires, 6th grade Social Studies and the additional Ag Instructor will be joining the staff in January 2023. Principal Bonds proposed an increase in BGCS subs hourly rate. She suggested to match the current rate of Martin County subs.

A **motion** was made to accept the proposed increase for subs hourly rate.
Motion: Charlotte, Second: Phil. Motion passed.

Pursuant to General Statutes 143-318.11(a)(5) and 143-318.11(a)(6), a **motion** was made by Charlotte and seconded by Leigh Ann, and passed unanimously, for the board to go into closed session for discussions. At 7:20 PM, the board entered closed session.

The board came out of closed session at 7:28 PM. **Motion:** Charlotte, Second: Georgia.

No discussions took place that required motions.

The next scheduled board meeting will be on January 23, 2023, at 6:00 PM.

Adjournment:

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

The meeting was adjourned by Delmas Cumbee, Chairman at 7:28 PM.

Minutes submitted by:



Pam Gibbs, Secretary

Approved by:



Delmas Cumbee, Board Chairman