



Bear Grass Charter School Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

August 21, 2023

Opening:

The Bear Grass Charter School Board met on August 21, 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

Guests:

● ~~Patricia Speller~~—Bear Grass Charter School Principal
● Danny Perry—Bear Grass Charter School Assistant Principal
● ~~Mary Beth Bonds~~—Bear Grass Charter School Senior Administrator
● Donna Moore—Bear Grass Charter School Administrative Consultant

The minutes from the July 17, 2023, meeting were approved.

Motion: Charlotte, Second: Georgia. Motion passed.

Special Recognition:

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

Middle School: Haleigh Brickhouse
High School: Maverick Meekins

Public Comment:

No discussion or updates took place.

Safety:

Chad Terry, BGCS SRO, was present at the meeting and addressed the board with a brief overview of his background. He stated some of his ideas for the campus. One of his ideas is additional road signage to make traffic aware of school hours and vehicle speed.

A **motion** was made to request additional advisory signage for the school from the NCDOT.

Motion: Phil, Second: Charlotte. Motion passed.

Student Enrollment:

A handout was provided with the current enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year.

Grade	Enrollment	
6 th	77	
7 th	61 (plus two pending)	
8 th	60	
9 th	59	
10 th	68	
11 th	55	
12 th	61	

Total enrollment is 441 (443—two pending). Principal Speller and Ms. Moore discussed pulling seven waitlist students from the lowest co-horts.

Epicenter Update:

Principal Speller finally received her log in for Epicenter today. Principal Speller and Ms. Moore worked on items that were due in June. Ms. Moore sent an email explaining the transition between principals and so forth. All items were submitted today. There are about eighty-six artifact items that need uploaded into Epicenter and Ms. Prettyman is going to make an electronic version and a hard copy version for Principal Speller to have for next year.

Board/School Policy:

A discussion took place regarding the SIT Proposal Mission/Vision statement. Board member Griffin suggested to rewrite the mission to include local community colleges and universities. Board Member suggested to change the title to include SIT. Discussion concluded that the mission should be the same as BGCS mission.

NC Prayer Certification and Single Set of Assurances ^{were} ~~was~~ tabled for the September meeting. A brief discussion took place regarding the 100 Series of the Board Policies.

A **motion** was made to approve the 100 Series of the Board Policies.

Motion: Charlotte, Second: Constance. Motion passed.

Curriculum/Staff Development:

Ms. Prettyman is currently tracking staff CEU and licensures. October 9th is a mandatory staff workday, and a schoolwide Mental Health First Aid Staff Development will be held.

EC and Federal Programs Update:

A handout was provided for the board that detailed the ESSER III and Consolidated Budget FY 2024. Further discussion will take place during the finance component of the meeting.

Buildings and Grounds:

Jackie Harrison, Maintenance Supervisor, updated the board on buildings and grounds. Storage building behind the gym should be completed this week. Glass enclosure still has an issue with water seeping in. The structure is not the issue, but the grade of the pavement is. He has requested a quote for an awning for the new front entrance. The awnings on the modulars will be replaced. New hardware/locks are needed for the media center. Mr. Harrison has received a quote to waterproof epoxy the floor for the glass enclosure. A decision was made to hold off on the epoxy floor until the end of the year. Quotes were discussed for new back stops for the baseball and softball fields. The chain link fence will be replaced with a thirty-two-inch brick skirt with poled netting from dug out to dug out. The softball field is slightly higher in cost since the dug outs are farther apart. The practice gym was brought up as a priority on the wish list. Board member Hodges updated the board on the land situation. The land that is being pursued has been declared not a wet land and the state has confirmed that a facility can be built on the property. The next step will be to have the land appraised.

A **motion** was made to approve the upgrade ^{of} the baseball backstop.

Motion: Charlotte, Second: Frank. Motion passed.

Technology:

Ms. Moore updated the board on technology. Access Control, doorbell cameras, and new bell systems have been installed.

Public Relations:

No updates or discussion took place.

Student Services:

Mrs. Bonds has stepped in for Mrs. Foell during her absence.

Child Nutrition:

Principal Speller will discuss at the next meeting the new requirement for schools that have vending machines in their cafeterias. If a juice is offered, it has to be muscadine grape juice.

Transportation:

Bus routes are going well.

Athletics:

Board member Beck addressed the board with a couple of issues. One being a requirement for band students ^{who} ~~that~~ also play a sport to participate in a graded band requirement during a sports event. He feels that it should not be a graded event. The other issue is schedule conflicts between sports and other club events. A suggestion was made to have a planning team at the beginning of the year to work on the overall calendar together.

Athletic Pledge and 24-hour rule was tabled to September meeting.

Other Discussion:

Board member Griffin discussed the BGCS website not being updated. Ms. Moore is aware of this and has discussed it with Mr. Hale.

Finance:

Ms. Moore discussed parental leave with the board. NCDPI has not approved but is discussing an eight week leave for maternity leave. She wanted to make the board aware that this is in review. Ms. Moore made the board aware of an issue with Martin County Schools. They will not release a former staff member's sick and vacation time balance to BGCS. NCDPI has been asked to advise BGCS with possible solutions. Ms. Moore discussed noncertified salaried employees utilizing a time sheet. This is listed in the 200 Series of the Board Policies. Currently, the maintenance manager does not turn in a time sheet. A decision was made to require a time sheet from the maintenance manager. Bonus pay was discussed. Some funding is available in PRC 181 allocation.

A **motion** was made to give bonuses as state directive tentative on further information.

Motion: Frank, Second: Charlotte. Motion passed.

Review of the June and July 2023 budget took place.

Bereavement time was discussed. A suggestion was made to allow a three-day paid leave for an employee. Further exploration will take place for an employee manual from NCDPI.

Human Resources:

No updates or discussions took place.

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 7:27 PM, the board entered closed session.

The board came out of closed session at 7:32 PM. **Motion:** Charlotte, Second: Constance.

The following motion was required after the board came out of closed session.

A **motion** was made to approve and seal the July 17, 2023 closed session meeting minutes.

Motion: Charlotte, Second: Phil. Motion passed.

The next scheduled board meeting will be on September 18, 2023, at 6:00 PM.

Adjournment:

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

The meeting was adjourned by Delmas Cumbee, Chairman at 7:33 PM.

Minutes submitted by:

Pam Gibbs

Pam Gibbs, Secretary

Approved by:

Delmas Cumbee

Delmas Cumbee, Board Chairman