



Bear Grass Charter School Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2026

Opening:

The Bear Grass Charter School Board met on September 21, 2026, at the BGCS media center. Delmas Cumbee, Board Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Present:

● Delmas Cumbee ● Keith Wynne ● Julie White ● Amy Rogerson
● Pam Gibbs ● Charlotte Griffin ● Jerry Rogerson ● Leigh Ann Long

Guests:

● Patricia Speller— Bear Grass Charter School Principal
● Ashley Buck—Bear Grass Charter School Assistant Principal

Board member C. Griffin opened the meeting with a prayer invocation.

The minutes from the August 17, 2026, meeting were approved.

Motion: Charlotte, Second: Leigh Ann. Motion passed.

Special Recognition:

The following students were recognized as students of the month:

Bella Copeland—nominated by Mrs. Foell
Mallory Leggett—nominated by Mrs. Hassell

Angela Godard—HS Science, class received acknowledgment from NCDOT for 10 years of service for Adopt a Highway road-side clean up

Danny Webb—Girls softball coach, received District I Co-Coach of the Year

Public Comment:

No discussions or updates took place.

Safety:

SRO grant has been approved in the amount of \$40,000 plus an additional \$1,500 for training. Board member A. Rogerson questioned if a gun had been placed in the SRO gun safe yet. Principal Speller stated that one has not.

Student Enrollment:

Principal Speller provided the headcount by grade for the 2026-2027 academic year.

5th Grade	58
6th Grade	72
7th Grade	69
8th Grade	61
9th Grade	73
10th Grade	64
11th Grade	61
12th Grade	55
Total Enrollment	513

First PMR reported was 515. Second PMR will be reported on day 40.

Epicenter Update:

OP-5 Parent's Bill of Rights and OP-6 School Mental Health Report have been posted on school webpage and submitted in Epicenter.

Board/School Policy:

AP Buck informed the board that a few minor revisions have been made to the Beginning Teacher Support Plan. The BTSP is required by the state and must be submitted every year.

A **motion** was made to accept Beginning Teacher Support Plan as discussed.

Motion: Jerry, Second: Leigh Ann. Motion passed.

A Civility Policy was provided for the board members. A brief discussion took place and a few revisions were recommended. Principal Speller will make the revisions as discussed, follow up with the school attorney and the policy will be discussed at the October board meeting.

Curriculum/Staff Development:

AP Buck made the board aware that Mrs. Pierce has applied for a Super Need Grant from Inventionland Education Innovation. This is a supplement grant program that helps to offset the costs of building STEM maker spaces, purchasing curriculum and training staff.

A few take aways:

- Grant covers 25% of overall cost
- Makes space more conducive to learning
- Can be core class or integrated into core
- Stack on components
- More modernized than Paxton Patterson
- Can stack with other grants

AP Buck will have more concrete information at the October meeting.

5th grade staff member, Lynn Rogerson, received a \$1,400 grant for an aquarium field trip.

Federal Programs Update:

Title I has been submitted and approved.

Staff member, Karen Coltrain, discussed the brick fundraiser with the board. The monies raised will help fund the Lila Grace Watson Scholarship. She would like to make a sidewalk around the bear on the front lawn with the purchased bricks. Mr. Beirne's class will install the brick pavers. She was given approval to move ahead with the fundraiser.

Buildings and Grounds:

Jackie Harrison, Maintenance Supervisor, updated the board on buildings and grounds.

- Playground equipment has been installed; additional mulch has to be added and waiting on sign "BGCS not responsible for injury after hours"
- Michael Bryant completed his building inspections and capacity amount is coming for the gym and café
- Baseball light poles discussion took place; DOM may be able to do the install during the summer
- Waste water report—July good, August not good, September looking good
- Water line cutoff has been installed
- Tap installed at baseball field; waiting for water line to be installed
- Tasked with portable press box quotes

Technology:

Tony Hale, IT Manager, updated the board on technology.

- Plenty of new computers; start to phase them in as problems arise
- Terra Ceia has inquired about purchasing old computers; he is still working on this
- Regular maintenance
- Sound system on the ball field was discussed

Public Relations:

BGCS was nominated for the Daily Reflector's "Best of" awards. Gold, Silver, and Bronze will be awarded. The banquet will be held this Wednesday. See You at The Pole takes place this Wednesday on the football field. September is Grandparents Month and each senior has been given the opportunity to tell how their grandparents have influenced their lives. These are shared on the BGCS Facebook page.

Student Services:

2025-2026 Accountability Data was provided for the board members. A brief overall discussion took place. School wide PDP reading goal in place for teachers. Literacy is dependent on the rigor and stamina of the students.

Child Nutrition:

An option of a salad or boxed lunch by My Hot Lunch Box has been offered for our low purchase days, Subway and HuckleBurger.

Transportation:

Mr. Harrison has spoken with Taylor Sales and National Bus Sales regarding a yellow used bus. He will continue to search for a bus.

Athletics:

AD Chris Jones made the board aware that he is inquiring about having transport on site during games. First responders are on site currently. He feels that transport needs to be on site as well.

Other Discussion:

ISS position will be discussed in closed session.

Finance:

Review of the August 2026 budget took place. Budget is in good shape; will be back on the plus side in September. FY 2026-2027 Employee Bonus handout was provided for board members. Monies coming from state and handout explains how it will be distributed.

Human Resources:

No discussion or updates 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 Pam, and passed unanimously, for the board to go into closed session for discussions. At 7:15 PM, the board entered closed session.

The board came out of closed session at 8:06 PM. **Motion:** Charlotte, Second: Keith.

The following motions were required after the board came out of closed session.

A **motion** was made to approve and seal the August 17, 2026 closed session meeting minutes.

Motion: Charlotte, Second: Amy. Motion passed.

A **motion** was made to approve Daniel Price and Maren Modlin as presented for new board members.

Motion: Charlotte, Second: Jerry. Motion passed.

The next scheduled board meeting will be on October 19, 2026, at 6:00 PM.

Adjournment:

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

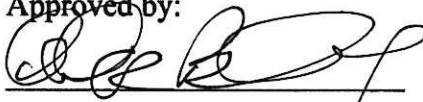
The meeting was adjourned by Delmas Cumbee, Chairman at 8:07 PM.

Minutes submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pam Gibbs", written over a horizontal line.

Pam Gibbs, Secretary

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Delmas Cumbee", written over a horizontal line.

Delmas Cumbee, Board Chairman