BGCS
BEAR GRASS CHARTER SCHOOL

Bear Grass Charter School Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

August 17, 2026

Opening:

The Bear Grass Charter School Board met on August 17, 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 July 20, 2026, meeting were approved.

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

Special Recognition:
Two staff members were recognized for their contributions to the start of the new school year.
Mrs. Lynsey Pierce—organized a Community Open House
Mrs. Madeline Wynn—organized a Back to School Candy Gram

Public Comment:
Terry Oliver, BGCS guardian, spoke to the board regarding a past incident which caused her to be banned from BGCS campus. She is currently guardian of a sixth grader and wanted to voice her concern about her role for the student. Wanda Mobley, friend of Mrs. Oliver, spoke to her character and wanted to show her support for her. Mrs. Oliver was informed that a protocol is being worked on with her allowances on campus.

Safety:
SRO grant is being processed and is due August 24, 2026. Speed limit sign was installed a couple weeks ago. Hopefully, this will slow down traffic during arrival and dismissal of school.

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

5th Grade	**59**
6th Grade	**76**
7th Grade	**70**
8th Grade	**62**
9th Grade	**72**
10th Grade	**63**
11th Grade	**62**
12th Grade	**55**
Total Enrollment	**519**

Brief discussion took place regarding reasons students are leaving. Home schooling, early college and moving were given. With regard to her allowances x amount of students are going to early college, could we buffer grades to accommodate exiting students.

Epicenter Update:
EDDIE (Educational Directory and Demographical Information Exchange) has been completed and updated to Epicenter.

Board/School Policy:
SIT team is discussing a proposed Educational Absence Project. This project would be required to have a student's absence excused due to family trip/outing. This process is still in discussion. Mock podcast or slide show are being looked at. There would be separate requirements for grades 5-8 and grades 9-12.

Curriculum/Staff Development:
Two speakers have visited in the first week of school. One addressed Literacy which is a school-wide initiative and the other addressed teacher burn-out.

Federal Programs Update:
AP Buck discussed a proposed revision of Title I & II spending. A portion of Title I funding goes toward McKinney Vento. McKinney Vento supports students that may experience homeless. There is a student that qualifies for such support. Staff are working with Ms. Gay, a McKinney Vento liaison, to make sure adequate funding and supporting documentation is accurate. Title II funding has carry-over monies from last year. She would like to pay the mentor teachers a stipend for this year.

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

- New tap installed for baseball field
- Noticed a water leak second day of school; hairline crack from Bldg. 100 to Bldg. 400
- Cut-off valve installed in Bldg. 400
- Baseball field pole replacements have been moved to next summer due to timing
- Fire incident in a classroom; no smoke detectors in any classrooms; wall refinished; tile needs to be replaced
- Michael Bryant wants to review our fire drills and add capacity limit to gym and café
- Overflow of trophies; open to suggestions on what to do with them; Mr. Rogerson may take them

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

- Yearly fire inspection coming up in September
- Computers are out/assigned
- Promethean Board fine in fire room

Public Relations:
Student involved in TikTok accounts turned themselves in.

Student Services:
All schedule changes have been completed. MCC classes started today. Sean Smith, MCC liaison, has been on campus assisting students.

Child Nutrition:
All's well with child nutrition so far.

Transportation:
Mr. Harrison has a concern that we have four bus routes which means no spare bus. We need to consider an additional yellow bus. Discussion took place—cost of a used yellow bus, leasing a bus from Crossroads Christian Chapel and are we required to provide transportation. Mr. Harrison will obtain a quote for a used yellow bus.

Athletics:
MS football practice started today. HS sports have started. Field management will be completed by Ethan Gurganus. He will treat the field four times a year.

Other Discussion:
No discussion or updates took place.

Finance:
Review of the July 2026 budget took place.

Human Resources:
To be discussed in closed session.

Pursuant to General Statutes 143-318.11(a)(5) and 143-318.11(a)(6), a **motion** was made by Charlotte and seconded by Jerry, and passed unanimously, for the board to go into closed session for discussions. At 6:56 PM, the board entered closed session.

The board came out of closed session at 7:56 PM. **Motion:** Charlotte, Second: Leigh Ann.

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

A **motion** was made to approve and seal the July 20, 2026 closed session meeting minutes.

> **Motion:** Charlotte, Second: Amy. Motion passed.

A **motion** was made to approve Chris Jones as AD as discussed.

> **Motion:** Charlotte, Second: Jerry. Motion passed.

The next scheduled board meeting will be on September 21, 2026, at 6:00 PM.

Adjournment:

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

The meeting was adjourned by Delmas Cumbee, Chairman at 7:58 PM.

Minutes submitted by:	Approved by:
Pam J Gibbs	
Pam Gibbs, Secretary	Delmas Cumbee, Board Chairman