



## **Bear Grass Charter School Board Meeting**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**November 17, 2025**

#### **Opening:**

The Bear Grass Charter School Board met on November 17, 2025, at the BGCS media center. Delmas Cumbee, Board Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

#### **Present:**

● Delmas Cumbee ● Phil Hodges ● Keith Wynne ● Amy Rogerson  
● Pam Gibbs ● Charlotte Griffin ● ~~Georgia Smallwood~~ ● Leigh Ann Long

#### **Guests:**

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

Board member P. Hodges opened the meeting with a prayer invocation.

The minutes from the October 20, 2025, meeting were approved.

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

#### **Special Recognition:**

The following students were recognized as students of the month:

Middle School: Ava Maready

5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Luke McCombs

#### **Public Comment:**

Community member Jerry Rogerson voiced his concerns over relying on community coaching. He feels that staff should be coaching sports instead. New hires should be asked if they are willing to coach a team. He also questioned playground equipment that has been purchased and about plans for grade expansion. He didn't realize that this has been approved.

#### **Safety:**

No discussion or updates took place.

**Student Enrollment:**

Principal Speller provided the headcount by grade for the 2025-2026 academic year.

|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| <b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>  | <b>65</b>  |
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>  | <b>65</b>  |
| <b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>  | <b>62</b>  |
| <b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>  | <b>74</b>  |
| <b>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>  | <b>70</b>  |
| <b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</b> | <b>65</b>  |
| <b>11<sup>th</sup> Grade</b> | <b>56</b>  |
| <b>12<sup>th</sup> Grade</b> | <b>66</b>  |
| <b>Total Enrollment</b>      | <b>523</b> |

Monies are funded on five hundred twenty-five students. Lottery applications for 2026-2027 academic year will open January 1, 2026. The ad has been drafted and will run for one month beginning December 1, 2025.

**Epicenter Update:**

GOV 5-Criminal History and Reporting Requirements due by November 30, 2025. Principal Speller will upload prior to Thanksgiving.

**Board/School Policy:**

A handout of BGCS Criminal History and Reporting Requirements policy was provided for the board members and a brief discussion took place.

A motion was made to accept the Criminal History and Reporting Requirements as presented.

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

Principal Speller added further expansion to the agenda for discussion. At the moment, there is no plans for further expansion. A brief discussion took place regarding our current fifth grade. Principal Speller reported that all is going well.

**Curriculum/Staff Development:**

Principal Speller informed the board that as she is going through observations for the school year, she is making sure staff is caught up on their CEU's.

**Federal Programs Update:**

IDEA funds dropped a couple of weeks ago.

**Buildings and Grounds:**

Jackie Harrison, Maintenance Supervisor, updated the board on buildings and grounds via an email earlier today.

- Sidewalk is being repaired; whole sidewalk is being replaced
- New classrooms are on schedule; painters coming tomorrow and ceiling grid staff are set for next week.

**Technology:**

Tony Hale, IT Manager, updated the board on technology. Nothing new going on at the moment. Cables to be pulled anytime between now and next week. Board member C. Griffin inquired about a camera being installed behind the baseball concession stand. Mr. Hale stated that he could make this happen.

**Public Relations:**

Principal Speller stated that articles are being given to The Enterprise however they are not printing the articles. Board member C. Griffin suggested she reach out to Deborah Griffin.

**Student Services:**

Schedule changes are being accepted by Mrs. Foell. Pre ACT scores have been received by the tenth graders. Folders and test booklets were handed out today so that students can see what their weaknesses are. Principal Speller stated that they would facilitate a review with the students.

**Child Nutrition:**

A meeting took place with My Hot Lunch Box rep on areas that need improvement. Main thing was hot food.

**Transportation:**

Buses are good at the moment.

**Athletics:**

Football team is currently participating in the playoffs. Middle school basketball has begun. Board member P. Gibbs asked about recognizing winning teams/coaches. Principal Speller will look into this with Mr. Blend.

**Other Discussion:**

No discussion or updates took place.

**Finance:**

Review of the October 2025 budget took place.

A handout of PRC 071 (036) supplement monies was provided for the board. Discussion took place among the members as to which option would be the best.

A **motion** was made to utilize option 1 to disburse the supplement monies.

**Motion:** Phil, Second: Keith. Motion passed.

Audit has been received and BGCS obtained an unqualified clean opinion. Changes are being made to how future audits are processed. A bid has to be placed for audits. A very brief discussion took place.

**Human Resources:**

Principal Speller informed the board that the two job postings (EC and school nurse) are still on the webpage. There is some interest in the school nurse posting.

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 6:48 PM, the board entered closed session.

The board came out of closed session at 7:09 PM. **Motion:** Charlotte, Second: Pam.

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

A **motion** was made to approve and seal the October 20, 2025 closed session meeting minutes.

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

The next scheduled board meeting will be on January 26, 2026, at 6:00 PM.

**Adjournment:**

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

The meeting was adjourned by Delmas Cumbee, Chairman at 7:10 PM.

Minutes submitted by:

Pam Gibbs

Pam Gibbs, Secretary

Approved by:

Delmas Cumbee

Delmas Cumbee, Board Chairman