SPARTANBURG DISTRICT Five
EVERY CHILD, EVERY DAY.

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The District Five Board of Trustees met Monday, October 27, 2025 at Duncan Elementary School at 100 S. Danzler Road, Duncan, SC at 6:30 p.m.

The following members were present:

Mr. Jeff Boland
Mr. Scott Clement
Mr. Mark Cleveland
Mrs. Meredith Gergley
Mr. Kevin Goode
Dr. Millie Malone
Mr. Alex Perez
Mrs. Sherri Taunton
Mr. Derek Watchorn

1. **Call to Order and Notice to Media:** Mr. Jeff Boland, Chairman, called the meeting to order and read the Notice to Media:

   Spartanburg County School District Five has complied with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act in notification of the media and other interested parties and organizations and posting of the agenda.

2. **Open Meeting with Prayer:** Mr. Derek Watchorn led the opening prayer.

3. **Consent Agenda**
   a) **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved as presented.
   b) **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the September 22, 2025 meeting were approved as presented.

4. **Special Recognition:** Mrs. Melissa Robinette, Public Relations Director, recognized students in grades three through eight who received maximum scores on the SC Ready Assessment. The students were each presented with a certificate for their accomplishment.

   Following recognition, Chairman Boland congratulated the students on their hard work and called for a brief recess. Following the recess, Chairman Boland called the meeting back to order.

5. **Action Items:**

   a) **Election of Delegates to SCSBA Legislative Advocacy Conference:** Mr. Boland informed the board of the upcoming conference and the need to elect a delegate. He asked for a motion to nominate Jeff Boland as the voting delegate at the conference.

      Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion to elect Jeff Boland as the delegate for the SCSBA Legislative Advocacy Conference in December.

      The motion was seconded by Mr. Derek Watchorn and approved unanimously 9-0.

   b) **Consideration of Approval of Board Policy Revisions:**
      - BE: Board Meetings
      - BEA: Livestreaming of Board Meetings
      - GCB Professional Staff Contracts and Compensation
      - GCCAAA, AR GCCAAA-R, GCCAAA-E(1)(2) and (3): Sick Leave Bank
      - GCG; AR GCG-R: Part Time and Substitute Professional Staff Employment
      - GCK: Professional Staff Assignments and Transfers
      - GCLE; AR GCLE-R: Unencumbered Time
      - IC: School Year
      - JH; AR JH-R: Student Absences and Excuses

      Mrs. Meredith Gergley, Chairman of the Policy Committee, reviewed the amendments to the board policies listed above. She reported that the board had previously reviewed the changes at the Policy Committee meeting held on October 20. After review Mrs. Gergley, on behalf of the Policy Committee, made a motion that the board approve the revisions to the policies as presented. No second was required as it was presented from the Policy Committee, and the motion was approved 9-0.

   c) **Consideration of 2026–2027 School Year Calendar**: Dr. Jeff Rogers, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, presented the proposed 2026–2027 school year calendar, developed collaboratively by all Spartanburg County districts to maintain consistency for shared programs. The new calendar begins on August 6, 2026, and includes fall and winter breaks, two early release days, and four potential makeup days. Following the presentation, Dr. Rogers reported that it was the recommendation of the administration to approve the 2026-2027 calendar as presented.

Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 school year calendar as presented by the administration. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kevin Goode. After discussion regarding testing schedules, staggered starts, and instructional balance, the board unanimously approved (9–0) the calendar as presented.

d) **Consideration of Letter of Support for Real Estate Acquisition for SCC**: Ms. Penny Dininny, Chief Financial Officer, presented Spartanburg Community College's proposal to acquire the property located at 191 Parkway West in Duncan. She noted that this acquisition is connected to the ZF Chassis Systems expansion within District Five. Ms. Dininny further explained that any potential revenue loss resulting from the property purchase would likely be offset, and potentially exceeded, by the increased revenues anticipated from the ZF expansion.

Mrs. Gergley made a motion to approve the Letter of Support for the real estate acquisition for Spartanburg Community College as presented by the administration. The motion was seconded by Mrs.Sherri Taunton and approved unanimously 9-0.

6. **Reports**:

a) **Quarterly Financial Report:** Ms. Dininny provided the financial report for the quarter ending September 30, 2025. The district has collected approximately 10% of budgeted revenue and spent 18.7% of budgeted expenditures, consistent with prior years. Revenues are expected to increase later in the fiscal year as local tax collections occur. The report emphasized the importance of maintaining a strong fund balance to cover payroll and operations during low-revenue months.

b) **Construction Selection Process:** Mrs. Kacey Austin, Procurement Officer, reported on the procurement and selection process for general contractors related to several major construction projects, including the new middle school, replacement of Duncan Elementary, replacement of Byrnes Freshman Academy, and a new Transportation Depot. After reviewing 12 proposals and interviewing four firms, the selection committee recommended awarding projects to Thompson-Turner Construction (Duncan Elementary, Byrnes Freshman Academy, and Transportation Depot projects) and Contract Construction (new middle school).

c) **Facilities Update:** Mr. Ryan Cloonan, Chief of Operations, provided an update on Byrnes High School Phase 3, reporting that roofing is nearing completion; interior work remains underway; and the project continues on schedule and within budget.

Following the report, Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion at 7:48 pm to enter into executive session for the discussion of employment matters in reference to new hires, promotions, resignations and leave; contractual matters in reference to potential property purchase; and the Superintendent's evaluation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mark Cleveland and passed unanimously 9-0.

7. **Executive Session**

a) Discussion of Employment Matters in Reference to New Hires, Promotions, and Resignations
b) Discussion of Contractual Matter in Reference to Potential Property Purchase
c) Discussion of Superintendent's Contract

8. **Return to Public Session:**

A motion was made by Mrs. Meredith Gergley to leave Executive Session and return to Public Session at 10:09 pm. The motion was seconded by Dr. Millie Malone and approved unanimously 9-0.

a) **Action on Items Discussed in Executive Session:** A motion was made by Mrs. Meredith Gergley to accept the recommendation of the administration and approve the new hires, promotions, and resignations as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mark Cleveland and approved unanimously 9-0.

There being no further business, Mrs. Gergley made a motion to adjourn from the October board meeting at 10:13 pm. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Sherri Taunton and approved unanimously 9-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Meredith B Gergley
Mrs. Meredith Gergley
Secretary

Submitted by: Mrs. April Peel