SPARTANBURG DISTRICT Five
EVERY CHILD, EVERY DAY.

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The District Five Board of Trustees met Monday, June 15, 2026 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. Amy Faulkner
Mrs. Meredith Gergley
Dr. Millie Malone
Mr. Derek Watchorn

1. **Call to Order and Notice to Media:** Dr. Millie Malone, Board Chair, 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 May 15, 2026 and May 18, 2026 meetings were approved as presented.

4. **Special Recognition:** Dr. Millie Malone introduced Dr. Russ Howard for the Special Recognition portion of the meeting. Dr. Howard recognized the softball team and individual players for several outstanding accomplishments, as well as recognized one student for being named an Academic All-American for boys lacrosse.

Following student recognition, Dr. Malone presented an award from the school board to Dr. Glenda Bigby, honoring her 52 years of service to District Five Schools.

Following the recognition, Dr. Malone called for a brief recess. Following the recess, she called the meeting back to order.

5. **Action Items:**

   a) **Consider Approval of the District Five Schools 2026-2027 General Fund and Debt Service Budgets:** Ms. Penny Dininny, Chief Financial Officer, presented the proposed General Fund and Debt Service budgets for the 2026-2027 school year. Key budget highlights include salary increases for all eligible employees, the addition of 51 new positions to support enrollment growth, funding for an additional School Resource Officer at Byrnes High School, and operational funding for the new Middle Tyger Education Center.

      The proposed General Fund budget totals $168,909,559, which is an increase of $11,117,461 over the prior year with local revenue projected to increase by approximately $6 million and state revenue by approximately $5 million.

      The Debt Service budget totals $29,585,797, which is an increase of $2,437,541 over the prior year. Millage rates for both operating and debt service funds are proposed to remain unchanged.

      Ms. Dininny, on behalf of the administration, requested approval of the 2026–2027 Operating and Debt Service Budget as presented.

      Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion, on behalf of the Finance Committee, to approve the 2026-2027 General Fund and Debt Service Budgets, as presented by the administration. The motion, not requiring a second, was approved unanimously 7-0.

   b) **Consider Approval of the Spartanburg County Alternative School Budget:** Ms. Dininny presented the proposed 2026-2027 Spartanburg County Alternative School budget. Ms. Dininny reported that it was the recommendation of the administration to approve the $7,600,000 Spartanburg County Alternative School budget as presented.

      Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 Spartanburg County Alternative School budget as presented by the administration. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jeff Boland and approved unanimously 7-0.

   c) **Consider Approval of the McCarthy-Teszler School Budget:** Ms. Dininny presented the proposed 2026-2027 McCarthy-Teszler School budget. Ms. Dininny highlighted several key points of the $29,250,000 budget and recommended approval of the McCarthy-Teszler School budget as presented.

Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 McCarthy-Teszler School budget as presented by the administration. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scott Clement and approved unanimously 7-0.

d) **Consider Approval of the R.D. Anderson Technology Center Budget:** Ms. Dininny then presented the proposed 2026-2027 R.D. Anderson Applied Technology Center budget of $9,522,604, as well as the Master Skills Center budget of $1,412,073. Ms. Dininny reported that it was the recommendation of the administration to approve the budget as presented.

Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 R.D. Anderson Applied Technology Center budget as presented by the administration. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mark Cleveland and approved unanimously 7-0.

6. **Reports**:

a) **Facilities Update:** Mr. Ryan Cloonan, Chief of Operations, provided the facilities and construction update on several ongoing projects. Mr. Cloonan's report included progress on the Byrnes Phase III construction project, with final finishes underway in academic, cafeteria, and fine arts areas, completion of major storm drainage infrastructure, continued work on the front drive and bus loop improvements, and the removal of eight of ten portable classrooms from campus.

The Board also received an update on the Byrnes High School roofing replacement project, which is currently underway, and the South Transportation Center project, which remains on schedule for completion by the end of November. In addition, administration reported progress on summer maintenance projects, including painting, carpet replacement, and wallpaper removal at multiple schools across the district. Overall, projects continue to advance despite weather-related delays, with several major milestones completed and final inspections scheduled throughout the summer.

7. **Executive Session:** A motion was made by Mrs. Meredith Gergley at 7:00 pm to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of employment matters in reference to new hires, promotions, and resignations.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Derek Watchorn and approved unanimously 7-0.

8. **Return to Public Session:**

A motion was made by Mrs. Meredith Gergley to end Executive Session and return to Public Session at 8:29 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mark Cleveland and approved unanimously 7-0.

a) **Action on Items Discussed in Executive Session:**

Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion to approve the recommendation of the administration and approve the new hires, promotions, and resignations as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Derek Watchorn and approved unanimously 7-0.

Mrs. Meredith Gergley made an additional motion to accept Dr. Randall Gary's retirement from employment and grant his request to be released from his contract with Spartanburg School District Five effective December 31, 2026.

The motion was seconded by all board members present and approved unanimously 7-0.

There being no further business, Mrs. Gergley then made a motion to adjourn the June board meeting at 8:31 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jeff Boland and approved unanimously 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith B Gergley

Mrs. Meredith Gergley
Board Member

Submitted by: Mrs. April Peel