

The District Five Board of Trustees met Monday, May 18, 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
Dr. Caroline Ford
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. Jeff Boland led the opening prayer.

3. **Consent Agenda**

- a. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved as presented.
- b. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the April 24, 2026 and April 27, 2026 meetings were approved as presented.

4. **Special Recognition:** Dr. Malone, Board Chair, introduced Mrs. Melissa Robinette, Director of Public Relations, for the Special Recognition portion of the meeting. Mrs. Robinette recognized students from across the district as recipients of the Superintendent's Citizenship Award for the 2025–2026 school year. Students were honored for their positive attitudes, strong character, responsibility, and community involvement.

Mrs. Robinette then introduced Dr. Russ Howard, Athletic Director. Dr. Howard recognized student-athletes and coaches for accomplishments in the following spring sports: lacrosse, tennis, track and field, baseball, boys' soccer, and girls' soccer.

Following the recognition, Dr. Malone congratulated the students on their achievements. She called for a brief recess, following which she called the meeting back to order.

5. Action Items:

- a. **Consider Name of New Elementary School: Reports:** Mrs. Melissa Robinette presented the second reading of the proposed name for the new elementary school scheduled to open in the 2028–2029 school year. Following input from a committee of administrators, teachers, parents, and community members, the administration recommended the name Lightwood Crossing Elementary School, in accordance with board policy regarding school naming procedures.

Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion to accept the recommendation of the administration and name our newest elementary school Lightwood Crossing Elementary School.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Mark Cleveland and approved unanimously 8-0.

- b. **Consider Name of New Middle School:** Mrs. Robinette then presented the second reading of the proposed name for the new middle school scheduled to open in the 2028–2029 school year. Following input from a committee of administrators, teachers, parents, and community members, the administration recommended the name Sharon Grove Middle School, in accordance with board policy regarding school naming procedures.

Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion to accept the recommendation of the administration and name our newest middle school Sharon Grove Middle School. The motion was seconded by Mr. Derek Watchorn and approved unanimously 8-0.

6. Reports:

- a. **Facilities Update:** Mr. Ryan Cloonan, Chief of Operations, provided the monthly facilities update for construction projects taking place across the district. His report included updates on Byrnes High School Phase III construction, the new South Transportation Center, and upcoming roofing projects. Construction at Byrnes High School continues on schedule and within budget, with progress reported on demolition, classroom and gym completion, cafeteria additions, science labs, amphitheater construction, HVAC installation, and interior finishes. An update was also provided on the South Transportation Center project, including site preparation, grading, and upcoming foundation work. Additionally, administration reported that summer roofing projects at the high school will begin after the conclusion of the school year.

Following Mr. Cloonan's report, Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion at 7:09 pm to go 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. Jeff Boland and passed unanimously 8-0.

7. Executive Session:

- a. Discussion of Employment Matters in Reference to New Hires, Promotions, and Resignations**

8. Return to Public Session:

A motion was made by Mrs. Meredith Gergley to leave Executive Session and return to Public Session at 7:54 pm. The motion was seconded by Dr. Caroline Ford and approved unanimously 8-0.

- a. Action on Items Discussed in Executive Session:** Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion to accept the recommendation of the administration and approve the new hires, promotions, and resignations as presented by the administration. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jeff Boland and approved unanimously 8-0.

There being no further business, Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion to adjourn from the May board meeting at 7:55 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mark Cleveland and approved unanimously 8-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Meredith Gergley
Board Member

Submitted by: Mrs. April Peel