

The District Five Board of Trustees met Monday, October 28, 2024 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
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:** Mrs. Sherri Taunton 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 23, 2024 meeting were approved as presented.

4. **Special Recognition:** Chairman Boland introduced Mrs. Melissa Robinette, Director of Public Relations, for the Special Recognition portion of the meeting. Mrs. Robinette recognized Sydney Kurtycz, teacher at Reidville Elementary School, and Sunshine Furner, teacher at Florence Chapel Middle School for receiving the 2024-2025 Spartanburg County Distinguished Literacy Teacher award.

Following the presentation, Chairman Boland congratulated the teachers on their accomplishments and what they do for our students.

5. Action Items:

- a) **Election of Delegates to SCSBA Legislative Advocacy Conference:** Chairman Jeff Boland informed the board of the need to elect voting delegates and alternates for the 2024 SCSBA Legislative Advocacy Meeting being held December 7, 2024 in Charleston. After a brief explanation of the purpose of the SCSBA business meeting, Mr. Boland nominated himself, as the School Board Chair, to be the voting delegate, Mr. Mark Cleveland, School Board Vice Chair, to be the alternate, and Mr. Derek Watchorn as the second alternate.

Mr. Mark Cleveland made a motion to accept the nomination of Mr. Jeff Boland as Spartanburg Five's delegate at the SCSBA's South Carolina Legislative Conference and Mr. Mark Cleveland and Mr. Derek Watchorn as the alternates. The motion was seconded by Mr. Derek Watchorn and approved unanimously 8-0.

b) **Consideration of Approval of Board Policy Revisions:**

- AR-EFE-R: Competitive Food Sales/Vending Machines
- GCC: Professional Staff Leaves and Absences
- AR GDBC-R: Support Staff Supplementary Pay/Overtime
- GDC: Support Staff Leaves and Absences
- IJ: Instructional Resources and Materials
- IJK: Supplementary Materials Selection and Adoption
- IJL: Library and Instructional Materials Selection and Adoption
- JICJ: Prohibition of Personal Electronic Devices During the School Day
- KBE: Relations with Parent Organizations
- KEC; AR KEC-R; KEC-E: Public Concerns and Complaints about Instructional Resources

Mrs. Sherri Taunton presented the second reading of the policy revisions that were presented at the policy committee meeting held on October 18, 2024. Mrs. Taunton reported that all board members were in attendance at the first reading on October 18.

After reviewing the policies, Mrs. Taunton, as a member of the Policy Committee, made a motion to adopt the following policies, revisions, additions and deletions as presented:

- AR-EFE-R: Competitive Food Sales/Vending Machines
- GCC: Professional Staff Leaves and Absences
- AR GDBC-R: Support Staff Supplementary Pay/Overtime
- GDC: Support Staff Leaves and Absences

- IJ: Instructional Resources and Materials
- IJK: Supplementary Materials Selection and Adoption
- IJL: Library and Instructional Materials Selection and Adoption
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The motion, not requiring a second, was approved unanimously 8-0.

6. Reports:

- a) Quarterly Financial Report:** Ms. Penny Dininny, Chief Financial Officer, presented the quarterly financial report through September 30, 2024. Ms. Dininny reviewed the current revenues and expenditures, stating the district is on track with projections.

Ms. Dininny also stated that expenditures are currently exceeding revenue, which is typical for this time of year. Revenue will increase in the quarter ending March 2025, as taxes are received in January and February.

- b) Facilities Update:** Mr. Ryan Cloonan, Chief of Operations, provided the monthly facilities update. His presentation included details about Byrnes High School Phase 3, Byrnes Stadium updates, and Hurricane Helene repairs.

Following Mr. Cloonan's report, board members inquired about how the budget looked with regard to the rock allowance.

- c) College and Career Readiness:** Dr. Heather Gordon, Director of Secondary Education and Mrs. Erin Greenway, Principal of Byrnes High School, presented information pertaining to College and Career Readiness and Graduation Rate at Byrnes High School.

Dr. Gordon outlined the ways students are able to meet the College and Career Readiness goals, and Mrs. Greenway reviewed the increase in scores for the 2023-2024 school year at Byrnes High School. Mrs. Greenway also celebrated the success of the Excellent Graduation Rate the school received of 91.1%.

Dr. Gary thanked Mrs. Greenway and her school administration, as well as Dr. Jeff Rogers and his team for the hard work and doing an amazing job with accountability.

Mr. Mark Cleveland then made a motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of employment matters in reference to new hires, promotions, and resignations and the Superintendent's Evaluation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scott Clement and approved unanimously 8-0.

7. Executive Session

- a) **Discussion of Employment Matters in Reference to New Hires, Promotions, and Resignations:**
- b) **Discussion Regarding Security Personnel and/or Devices:**

8. Return to Public Session:

A motion was made by Mr. Mark Cleveland to leave Executive Session and return to Public Session at 9:13 pm. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Sherri Taunton and approved unanimously 8-0.

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

The motion was seconded by Mr. Kevin Goode and approved unanimously 8-0.

Mr. Mark Cleveland also made a motion to report the breach of contract of Employee A to the State Department of Education as presented and discussed in executive session.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Kevin Goode and approved unanimously 8-0.

There being no further business, Mr. Mark Cleveland made a motion to adjourn from the October board meeting at 9:19 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kevin Goode and approved unanimously 8-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Meredith Gergley
Secretary

Submitted by: Mrs. April Peel