

The District Five Board of Trustees met Monday, November 24, 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:** Dr. Millie Malone led the opening prayer.

3. **Consent Agenda**

- a) **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved as presented.

- b) **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the October 27, 2025 meeting were approved as presented.

- 4. Special Recognition:** Mrs. Melissa Robinette, Public Relations Director, recognized the winner of the Holiday Card Contest, Nolan Copeland, from Tyger River Elementary School. Athletic Directors and Coaches also recognized student athletes from middle and high schools in the areas of football, volleyball, swimming, golf, cheerleading, and tennis.

Chairman Boland then recognized Mr. Alex Perez and Mrs. Sherri Taunton, outgoing board members, for their service to the Board of Trustees and presented them with plaques.

Following the recognitions, 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) Consideration of Local Board Approved Courses:** Dr. Rogers presented the annual list of local board-approved courses, noting that the only change was reclassifying Creative Writing from a state course to a local course to allow students to take it for one full semester. All other courses remain unchanged from last year's approvals. Dr. Rogers, on behalf of the administration, recommended that the board approve the courses as presented.

Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion to approve the Local Board Approved Courses, as presented by the administration.

The motion was seconded by Mrs. Sherri Taunton and approved unanimously 9-0.

- b) Consideration of a Resolution Declaring the Bond Referendum Results:** Ms. Penny Dininny, Chief Financial Officer, presented a resolution to officially certify the results of the November bond referendum, in which voters approved the issuance of \$200 million in general obligation bonds. The funding will support major District Five projects, including a new middle school, new Duncan Elementary, a new Byrnes Freshman Academy, land purchases, and various facility renovations. The referendum passed with 3,795 "yes" votes and 963 "no" votes (79.8%). The resolution formally records these certified results into the public record. Ms. Dininny, on behalf of the administration, made a recommendation that the board approve the resolution declaring the results.

Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a recommendation to approve the Resolution declaring the 2025 Bond Referendum results, as presented by the administration. The motion was seconded by Mr. Derek Watchorn and approved unanimously 9-0.

- c) **Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Bonds Related to the Referendum Approved by the Voters:** Ms. Dininny also presented a resolution authorizing the issuance of the voter-approved general obligation bonds, representing the next legal step toward issuing up to \$200 million for the district's planned projects. The administration recommended approval of the resolution to issue the general obligation bonds.

Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion to approve the Resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds related to the Referendum approved by the voters, as presented by the administration. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kevin Goode and approved unanimously (9-0).

6. Reports:

- a) **Facilities Update:** Mr. Ryan Cloonan, Chief of Operations, provided updates on the progress for Byrnes Phase 3, reporting that that construction remains on schedule and on budget, with major progress including roofing, window installation, ceiling grids, and brickwork. He also noted that the Beech Springs and Danzler Road widening project has received final power-pole design approval, clearing the way for work to begin and for the site contractor to resume activity once the poles have been set.

Following the report, Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion at 7:26 pm to enter into executive session for the discussion of the Superintendent's evaluation and contract. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scott Clement and passed unanimously 9-0.

7. Executive Session

- a) Discussion of Superintendent's Evaluation and Contract

8. Return to Public Session:

A motion was made by Mrs. Meredith Gergley to leave Executive Session and return to Public Session at 7:39 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mark Cleveland and approved unanimously 9-0.

- a) **Action on Items Discussed in Executive Session:** A motion was made by Mrs. Meredith Gergley to approve the amendment to the superintendent's contract as discussed in executive session. 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 November board meeting at 7:47 pm. The motion was seconded by Dr. Millie Malone and approved unanimously 9-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Meredith Gergley
Secretary

Submitted by: Mrs. April Peel