

The District Five Board of Trustees met Monday, August 28, 2023 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.

Chairman Boland then asked for prayers for the Bohmer and Wright families, and called for

a moment of silence in their memory.

3. Consent Agenda

- a) **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved as presented.
- b) **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the June 26, 2023 meeting were approved as presented.

4. Special Recognition: Chairman Jeff Boland introduced Mrs. Melissa Robinette, Director of Public Relations, for the Special Recognition portion of the meeting. Mrs. Robinette then recognized Cody Abbott and Mitchell Robinson, Byrnes High School students who recently won the National Bassmaster High School Championship.

Mrs. Robinette then recognized board members who advanced levels in the SCSBA Boardmanship Institute. Mr. Kevin Goode and Mrs. Sherri Taunton were presented certificates for achieving Level 1, and Mrs. Meredith Gergley and Mr. Derek Watchorn were presented certificates and pins for achieving Level 2.

Mrs. Robinette also presented Five Year Service pins to Mrs. Meredith Gergley and Mr. Mark Cleveland, for their service on the Board.

Following Special Recognition, Chairman Boland called for a brief recess and then called the meeting back to order.

5. Action Items:

- a) **Consideration of Adoption of New CTE Textbooks:** Dr. Jeff Rogers, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, and Mr. Matt Wofford, Director of Fine Arts, presented information on new CTE textbooks that are being recommended for adoption.

Mr. Wofford reviewed the procedures that had taken place in selecting the books being presented. Following the presentation, Dr. Rogers reported that it was the recommendation of the administration to adopt the Computer Applications 6-8, Image Editing, and Digital Media Marketing textbooks as presented.

A motion was made by Mrs. Meredith Gergley to accept the recommendation of the administration and adopt the CTE textbooks as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kevin Goode and approved unanimously 9-0.

- b) **Consideration of Approval of Minority Business Enterprise Plan:** Ms. Penny Dininny, Chief Financial Officer, presented the annual Minority Business Enterprise Plan, as required by the district's Procurement Code. Ms. Dininny's report provided the policy statement, definition, and goals of the Minority Business Enterprise Plan, and reported that it was the recommendation of the administration that the board approve the Minority Enterprise Business Plan for fiscal year 2024 as presented.

A motion was made by Mrs. Meredith Gergley to accept the recommendation of the administration and approve the Minority Business Enterprise Plan as presented by the administration. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kevin Goode and approved unanimously 9-0.

6. Reports:

- a) Back to School Update:** Mrs. Melissa Robinette presented the 2023-2024 Back to School update. Included in her presentation was information pertaining to student enrollment numbers, staff member totals, transportation enrollment details, food service totals, as well as first week successes and challenges.
- b) 2022-2023 Procurement Report:** Ms. Penny Dininny also provided the 2022-2023 Procurement Report, as required per the district's Procurement Code. Ms. Dininny's report provided details on the district's Sole Source and Emergency Procurements, and the Minority Business Enterprise Plan. The goal of the Minority Business Enterprise plan is to spend at least 10% of the district's controllable procurements with minority-owned firms. The district surpassed that goal in 22-23 with 13% of controllable procurements spent with minority owned businesses.

Ms. Dininny also provided the board members with a copy of the Annual Procurement Audit for July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023, and reported that there were no findings in the audit.

- c) Construction Update:** Dr. Greg Wood, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, provided an update on current construction and facility projects taking place throughout the district.

Included in Dr. Wood's report were updates on the following: Byrnes Phase 2; Beech Springs Intermediate; Berry Shoals Intermediate; Tyger River Elementary; Reidville Elementary addition; Highway 296 traffic signal; Abner Creek Middle; Gin House Road Traffic Signal; and the new Wellford Academy.

Dr. Wood also updated the board on concerns with HVAC at several locations, and fire alarms at Byrnes High School during the first week of school. These issues have been corrected.

Board members asked questions pertaining to A/C at River Ridge and Reidville, if mud/dust concerns have been corrected at Wellford, and how many portables the district has in use.

Following the report, Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion at 7:30 pm to enter into executive session for the purpose of receiving legal advice regarding pending litigation and discussion of employment matters in reference to new hires, promotions, and resignations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scott Clement and

passed unanimously 9-0.

7. Executive Session

- a) **Receipt of Legal Advice Regarding Pending Litigation**
- b) **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 9:33 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, seconded by Mr. Mark Cleveland, and approved unanimously (9-0) to accept the recommendation of the administration and offer contracts to the employees as presented and discussed in executive session.

There being no further business, Mrs. Gergley made a motion to adjourn from the August board meeting at 9:37 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kevin Goode and approved unanimously 9-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Meredith Gergley
Secretary

Submitted by: Mrs. April Peel