

The District Five Board of Trustees met Monday, September 23, 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
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:** Mr. Alex Perez led the opening prayer.
3. **Consent Agenda**
 - a) **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved as presented.
 - b) **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the August 26, 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 students who received the maximum score in math and/or ELA on the 2023-2024 SC Ready Assessment. Each student was presented with a certificate from the district as well as a congratulatory letter from State Superintendent Ellen Weaver. See

attachment for list of names.

Following the presentation, Chairman Boland congratulated the students on their accomplishments and then called for a short recess. Chairman Boland called the meeting back to order after the recess.

5. Action Items:

- a) **PAL Trails Project Consideration:** Mr. Ryan Cloonan, Chief of Operations, introduced Mr. Leith McLeod, who provided a recap of the PAL Trails Project Extension that was presented to the board at the August meeting.

Mr. McLeod outlined the 13 mile loop and provided details of where the trail would be expanded on Groce and Danzler Roads, should they receive the Federal Grant approval. Mr. McLeod asked the board for approval to support the project, which may include possibly providing an easement that would be held by Spartanburg County Parks and Recreation Department. Following the update, Mr. Cloonan reported that it was the recommendation of the administration to approve the PAL Trails Project as presented.

A motion was made by Mrs. Meredith Gergley to approve the PAL Trails Project as presented by the administration. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Sherri Taunton.

Board members inquired about how the easements would affect any future needs or projects that we may have for those properties, asking to ensure that we reserve rights for future use; as well as how confident PAL was that they would be awarded the federal grant.

Following questions, the motion was approved unanimously 9-0.

6. Reports:

- a) **R.D. Anderson Technology Center Updates:** Mr. Ty Dawkins, Executive Director of R.D. Anderson, presented the latest updates on the R.D. Anderson Technology Center. Mr. Dawkins' report included data of future job market predictions, current student enrollment at R.D. Anderson, programs with the highest demand, and information on CTE Completers. Mr. Dawkins explained that there are at least 200 students from Byrnes who were unable to attend R.D. Anderson due to capacity issues, not including the number of students from Districts Four and Six.

Dr. Gary informed the board that due to being out of space in the current building, the R.D. Anderson administration and board members have been talking about options to address the growth, and what the next steps should be. He also explained that District Six is the fiscal agent. However, District Five would be responsible for 30% of the funding costs when the time comes to fund the expansion.

Following the presentation, board members inquired about what grades the students

were in who were turned away, what Honors and Dual Enrollment classes are offered at the Center, how many total students were turned away due to space, and if District Five could have more than 30% of the enrollment at the center.

Chairman Boland thanked Mark Cleveland and Scott Clement for serving on the R.D. Anderson Board.

- b) **Facilities Update:** Mr. Ryan Cloonan provided the monthly facilities update. His presentation provided details about DOT Improvements and Athletic Field updates at Beech Springs Middle School, Byrnes High School Phases 2 and 3, and Byrnes Stadium updates.

Board members inquired about the status of the three fields at Beech Springs Middle School, and asked for an update on the Beech Springs Middle School sign.

Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of employment matters in reference to new hires, promotions, and resignations and security personnel and/or devices. The motion was seconded by Dr. Millie Malone and approved unanimously 9-0.

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 Mrs. Meredith Gergley to leave Executive Session and return to Public Session at 9:15 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scott Clement and approved unanimously 9-0.

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

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 September board meeting at 9:21 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