

The District Five Board of Trustees met Monday, October 23, 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:** 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 September 18, 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 recognized students who achieved maximum scores on at least one subject on the 2023 SC Ready Assessment. See attached for complete list of names.

Following Special Recognition, Chairman Boland called for a brief recess and then called

the meeting back to order.

5. Action:

- 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 2023 SCSBA Legislative Advocacy Meeting being held December 2, 2023 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.

Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion to accept the nomination of the board chair, Mr. Jeff Boland, as Spartanburg Five's delegate at the SCSBA's South Carolina Legislative Conference and the vice chair, Mr. Mark Cleveland, as the alternate, and Mr. Derek Watchorn as the second alternate. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kevin Goode and approved unanimously 9-0.

- b) **Consideration of Field Trip to Germany:** Ms. Bethany Poppe presented details to the board requesting approval for a field trip to Europe in July 2024 for students taking German. Ms. Poppe provided details about the travel partner they were using, places to be visited during the 15 day trip, and what is included in the itinerary.

Following the report, Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion to approve the field trip to Germany as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kevin Goode. Following questions pertaining to who was eligible, cost and scholarship information, and how many students were planning to attend, the motion passed unanimously 9-0.

- c) **Consideration of Approval of Board Policy Revisions:** Mrs. Meredith Gergley presented the second reading of policy revisions that were presented at the policy committee meeting held on October 20, 2023. The following policies were reviewed:

- GDQD: Discipline, Administrative Leave and Dismissal of Support Staff
- AR GCC-R3: Professional Staff Paid Parental Leave
- AR GDC-R3: Support Staff Paid Parental Leave
- GBEBE/JICFB: Gavin's Law
- AR JICDA-R: Code of Conduct
- ECAF and AR ECAF-R: Surveillance on District Property Regulations *
- JKA: Restraint, Seclusion, and Intentional Physical Contact
- AR IKF-R: Graduation Requirements

Mrs. Gergley, as chair of the Policy Committee, made a motion to accept the recommendations of the Policy Committee and adopt the following policies and

revisions as presented:

- GDQD: Discipline, Administrative Leave and Dismissal of Support Staff
- AR GCC-R3: Professional Staff Paid Parental Leave
- AR GDC-R3: Support Staff Paid Parental Leave
- GBEBE/JICFB: Gavin's Law
- AR JICDA-R: Code of Conduct
- ECAF and AR ECAF-R: Surveillance on District Property Regulations *
- JKA: Restraint, Seclusion, and Intentional Physical Contact
- AR IKF-R: Graduation Requirements

The motion, not requiring a second, was approved unanimously 9-0.

* Due to a duplicate coding correction, the code for policy and rule EBCB and AR EBCB-R, Surveillance on District Property Regulations, was changed to ECAF and AR ECAF-R.

6. Reports:

- a) **Quarterly Financial Report:** Ms. Penny Dininny, Chief Financial Officer, presented the quarterly financial report through September 30, 2023. 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 by \$8,774,189, which is typical for this time of year. Revenue will increase in the quarter ending March 2024, as taxes are received in January and February.

- b) **Facilities 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 reports were updates on the following: Byrnes Phase 2; Beech Springs Intermediate; Tyger River Elementary; Abner Creek Middle; and the new Wellford Academy.

Dr. Wood also provided the estimated completion date for the projects.

- c) **AVID Update:** Dr. Jeff Rogers, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, introduced Mrs. Jean Brewington, Director of Instructional Services. Mrs. Brewington provided a detailed presentation about the AVID program, and how it is being utilized in the classroom.

The report contained details about the differences in Secondary vs. Elementary, the four Domains of AVID, training summaries, AVID electives, AVID tutorials, goal setting, and the WICOR framework.

Following Mrs. Brewington's report, Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion at 7:48 pm to enter into executive session for the discussion of employment matters in reference to new hires, promotions, resignations, and leave; and the discussion of the Superintendent's Evaluation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mark Cleveland and passed unanimously 9-0.

7. Executive Session:

- a) Discussion of Employment Matters in Reference to New Hires, Promotions, Resignations, and Leave
- b) Discussion of Superintendent's Evaluation

8. Return to Public Session:

A motion was made by Mrs. Meredith Gergley to leave Executive Session and return to Public Session at 9:47 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scott Clement and approved unanimously 9-0.

a) **Action on Items Discussed in Executive Session:**

Mrs. Gergley 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. Mark Cleveland and approved unanimously 9-0.

Mrs. Gergley also made a motion to approve the extended leave of Employees B and C as presented and discussed in executive session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Sherri Taunton and approved unanimously 9-0.

There being no further business, Mrs. Gergley then made a motion to adjourn the October board meeting at 9:51 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