

The District Five Board of Trustees met Monday, October 25, 2021 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. Mark Cleveland
Mrs. Dawn Deck
Mr. Rick Eitel
Mrs. Meredith Gergley
Dr. Millie Malone – present for Executive Session and second Public Session
Mrs. Julie McMakin

1. **Call to Order and Notice to Media:** Mrs. Julie McMakin, 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. Dawn Deck 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 27, 2021 meeting were approved as presented.

4. **Special Recognition:** Mrs. Julie McMakin and Mr. Mark Cleveland presented Jeff Proper's family with a memorial plaque, clock, and lantern on behalf of the Board of Trustees, in recognition of Mr. Proper's six years of service on the board. Mrs. McMakin also informed the family that a tree would be planted at the ballfield in his memory.

5. Action:

- a) **Appoint Delegates to SCSBA Legislative Advocacy Conference:** Chairman McMakin informed the board of the need to elect a Delegate and Alternates for the Business Meeting at the SCSBA Legislative Advocacy Meeting in December.

Mr. Jeff Boland, Mrs. Dawn Deck, and Mr. Mark Cleveland will be attending the conference. Mrs. McMakin asked that Mr. Jeff Boland be appointed Delegate, and that Mrs. Dawn Deck and Mr. Mark Cleveland be appointed as Alternates.

A motion was made by Mr. Rick Eitel to appoint Mr. Jeff Boland as the Delegate, and Mrs. Dawn Deck and Mr. Mark Cleveland as the Alternates to the Delegate Assembly. The motion, seconded by Mrs. Meredith Gergley, passed unanimously (6-0).

- b) **Consideration of Establishment of Teacher Equalization Fund for the Purpose of Increasing Teacher Salaries:** Mr. David Hayes, Chief Financial Officer, provided details about the Spartanburg County Teacher Salary Equalization Fund.

If approved, the sole purpose of the formation of this fund would be to increase the teacher salary schedule among all seven Spartanburg Districts, in order to be more competitive with neighboring school districts. Mr. Hayes provided the details of how the equalization fund would be distributed and supervised by the same oversight committee that oversees the Minimum Foundation Program.

Mr. Hayes reminded the board that this was the information that had been discussed at a prior board finance committee meeting. The proposal begins with 2 mills being levied county-wide, and one mill being added each year until the desired level of salary increase is reached. Mr. Hayes clarified that the proposal does not call for a 2 mill increase. Rather, the district would allocate 2 mills for this program. The administration recommends the approval of the establishment of the Teacher Salary Equalization Fund.

A motion was made by Mr. Mark Cleveland to approve the establishment of the Teacher Salary Equalization Fund, as presented by the administration. The motion, seconded by Mr. Rick Eitel, was approved unanimously (6-0).

6. Reports:

- a) **Quarterly Financial Report:** Mr. David Hayes also presented the Quarterly Financial Report through September 30, 2021. Mr. Hayes reported that the district is currently showing a deficit of \$8,670,504, which is typical for the first two quarters. He expects this to turn around in January and February, when the majority of taxes will be received. He also stressed the importance of maintaining a healthy fund balance in order to operate during these deficits. Mr. Hayes reported that he is projecting \$1.2 million dollars more in local revenues than originally budgeted, due to

the increase in assessed values.

- b) **Facilities Update:** Dr. Greg Wood, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, provided a presentation of the new elementary school that will be located on Highway 29 in Lyman. Dr. Wood's presentation included renderings of the floorplan and several outdoor images of the new facility. Dr. Wood reported that he doesn't expect many changes from what was presented, and that capacity is expected to be between 700-900.

Following Dr. Wood's presentation, a motion was made by Mr. Mark Cleveland to move into Executive Session for personnel to discuss new hires, promotions, and resignations and to discuss contractual matters in reference to property search. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jeff Boland and approved unanimously (6-0).

7. Executive Session

- a) **Discussion of Employment Matters in Reference to New Hires, Promotions, and Resignations:**
- b) **Discussion of Contractual Matters in reference to Property Search:**

8. Return to Public Session:

- a) **Action on Items Discussed in Executive Session:** In open session, a motion was made by Mr. Mark Cleveland, seconded by Mr. Rick Eitel, and approved unanimously (7-0) to accept the recommendation of the administration and approve the teacher contracts and resignations as presented. Dr. Millie Malone joined the meeting at the conclusion of open session.

Additionally, a motion was made by Mr. Mark Cleveland, seconded by Mrs. Dawn Deck, and approved unanimously (7-0) to report Employees A, B, and C to the State Department of Education for Breach of Contract.

There being no further business, Mr. Mark Cleveland made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Dawn Deck and approved unanimously (7-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Cleveland
Secretary

Submitted by:
Mrs. April Peel