

The District Five Board of Trustees met Monday, March 27, 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. Mark Cleveland
Mr. Scott Clement
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. Derek Watchorn led the opening prayer.

3. **Consent Agenda**

- a. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved as presented.
- b. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the February 27, 2023 meeting were approved as presented.

4. **Special Recognition:** Mrs. Melissa Robinette, Director of Public Relations, recognized Palmetto Council Boy Scouts of America representatives and scout members, who presented the Elbert K. Fretwell Award to Mr. Phillip Dean, Principal of Reidville Elementary School.

Mrs. Robinette then recognized Athletic Director, Coach Russ Howard, who recognized coaches and athletes from the middle and high schools for their athletic accomplishments in volleyball, basketball, football, track, and wrestling. See attached list for a complete list of names.

5. **Reports:**

- a. **Mental Health Programs:** Dr. Wendy Hite, Director of Special Education, presented a report on the school based mental health services.

Dr. Hite included information in her report about mental health research statistics nationwide, as compared to District Five. She also included information about the importance of offering services at school, the number of mental health professionals used by District Five, and data from the 2021-2022 school year pertaining to referrals, student and family sessions, threat assessments and crisis assessments.

Following the presentation, board members inquired about how the district compares nationwide, what else can be done to offer more assistance, if services are offered during the summer, and if we are offering appropriate training for staff members.

- b. **Facilities Update:** Dr. Greg Wood provided a facilities update on the construction projects taking place across the district. His report included updates on the following:

- Byrnes High School Phase 2: Basement wall pour complete, 1100 level concrete block began March 2 and 1100 interior wall frames began March 6; Upcoming: admin roof install begins April 4
- Beech Springs: HVAC ductwork complete; upcoming work includes continuation of roof install, brick veneer and gym exterior walls and slab
- Berry Shoals: received verbal Occupancy Certificate for kindergarten wing; Upcoming: interior block walls, roof demo, overhead utility rough-in, exterior restroom slabs
- Tyger River Elementary School: footings and foundations complete; upcoming: drive and loop paving, structural steel, roof construction and slab completion
- Reidville Elementary addition: roof trusses, ice/water shield, new wing roof tie-in and overhead utilities complete; ongoing: new wing brick veneer and kindergarten hall wall framing
- Highway 296 Traffic Signal: Two pole footings concrete poured; revisiting footing design due to rock
- New Wellford Academy: retention ponds and retaining walls complete; upcoming: footing pour and building pad

- Abner Creek Middle School: sixth through eighth grade wings, exterior brick, storefront, sheetrock and ceiling grid complete; upcoming: front entrance heavy timber install, window panels, right of way acquisition

Following Dr. Wood's report, the floor was opened for questions. Board members inquired about whether or not the projects are on schedule for completion and still on budget for costs at this point.

At 7:37 pm, a motion was made by Mrs. Meredith Gergley to enter Executive Session to discuss employment matters in reference to new hires, promotions and resignations, and contractual matters in reference to potential land transfers. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kevin Goode and approved unanimously 9-0.

6. Executive Session

- a) Discussion of Employment Matters in Reference to New Hires, Promotions, and Resignations**
- b) Discussion of Contractual Matters in Reference to Potential Land Transfers**

7. Return to Public Session:

a) Action on Items Discussed in Executive 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 Dr. Millie Malone and approved unanimously 9-0.

In public session, a motion was made by Mrs. Meredith Gergley to accept the recommendation of the administration and offer contracts to the employees as presented in executive session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mark Cleveland and approved unanimously 9-0.

In compliance with Board Policy BCB – Board Member Conflict of Interest, the following board members abstained from voting on the contracts of their family members listed below:

- Kevin Goode: Lori Goode and Wendy Bralley
- Derek Watchorn: Katie Watchorn and Nick Johnson
- Alex Perez: Elaine Ready

Mrs. Gergley then made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:36 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scott Clement and approved unanimously 9-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Meredith Gergley
Secretary

Submitted by:
Mrs. April Peel