

The District Five Board of Trustees met Monday, April 24, 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. Mark Cleveland led the opening prayer.
3. **Consent Agenda**
  - a. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved as presented.

- b. Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the March 27, 2023 meeting were approved as presented.
- 4. Special Recognition:** Mrs. Melissa Robinette, Director of Public Relations, recognized students who received Terrific Kids honors at each elementary and intermediate school.

Mrs. Robinette also recognized Beech Springs student, Ru McMakin, who participated in the Roger C. Peace Rolling Tigers Wheelchair Basketball League and won the National Championship.

Mr. Matthew Wofford, Director of Fine Arts, recognized several students who were also honored in the areas of Winterguard, All State Band, Clinic All State Band, Junior All State Band, SCMEA All State Orchestra, All State Orchestra, Elementary Honor Choir, Focus on Youth Juried Art Show, Youth Art Month, and Emerging Young Artist Juried Art Show. See attached list for a complete list of names.

Following recognition, Chairman Boland congratulated the students for their honors, and called a brief recess for photos.

**5. Action Items:**

- a. Consideration of Guaranteed Maximum Price for Carpool Loop Extension at Reidville Elementary:** Dr. Greg Wood introduced Mr. Michael Chewing, with McMillan Pazdan Smith, and Mr. Daniel Heacox and Mr. David Wise, with Harper Construction, who presented the GMP for the carloop extension at Reidville Elementary School. Dr. Wood reminded the board that the carloop extension was not part of the original GMP for the Reidville Elementary School addition when approved in September.

Mr. Chewing provided details about the scope of work and specifics of the drive extension, as required by SCDOT, to accommodate the new capacity.

Mr. Heacox then presented the Guaranteed Maximum Price for the carloop extension at \$584,989.37, which changes the new total contract sum for Reidville Elementary additions to \$10,693,492.37.

Dr. Wood, on behalf of the district administration, made a recommendation that the board approve the carpool loop extension for a price not to exceed \$584,989.37.

Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion to approve the Guaranteed Maximum Price for the Carpool Loop Extension at Reidville Elementary, not to exceed \$584,989.37. The motion was seconded by Dr. Millie Malone.

Board members inquired about: the traffic pattern, geothermal fields, the cost breakdown of the project, curb and gutter requirements by SCDOT, safety concerns

with the adjacent housing development and crosswalks, whether sod would be used in greenspaces, and concerns over the cost estimate.

Following questions, Chairman Boland called for a vote, with the motion passing 7-2. Mr. Scott Clement and Mr. Derek Watchorn were opposed.

- b. Consideration of Strategic Plan Updates:** Dr. Scott Smith, Director of Accountability, Research, and STEM, presented the annual Strategic Plan updates as required by the State Department of Education.

Dr. Smith reviewed the performance goals and action steps for Student Achievement, Gifted and Talented, Teacher Quality, and School Climate.

Dr. Smith, on behalf of the administration, made a recommendation that the board approve the Strategic Plan updates for the 2023-2024 school year.

Mrs. Meredith Gergley made a motion to approve the Strategic Plan updates as presented by the administration. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kevin Goode.

Board members asked questions pertaining to whether or not the goals were attainable, the results of the safety survey, and what can be done to help with teacher retention. Following questions, the motion passed unanimously 9-0.

- c. Consideration of Board Policy Revisions:**
  - i. GCLE and GCLE-R - Unencumbered Time
  - ii. IJL - Library/Media Center Materials Selection and Adoption
  - iii. JICJ - Possession/Use of Electronic Communication Devices in School
  - iv. KEC and KEC-R - Public Concerns and Complaints About Instructional Resources

Mrs. Gergley, Chairman of the Board Policy Committee, presented changes to the policies listed above and reported that the board had reviewed and discussed the revisions in the Policy Committee Meeting held on April 17.

After reviewing the changes to the policies, Mrs. Gergley made a motion on behalf of the policy committee to approve the policies as presented. With no second required, the board unanimously voted 9-0 to approve the policies as presented.

## **6. Reports:**

- a. Quarterly Financial Report:** Ms. Penny Dininny, Chief Financial Officer, presented the quarterly financial report of the district through March 31, 2023. Ms. Dininny reported that 86% of the annual budget has been received. Ms. Dininny also reported that revenue is projected to be \$10 million more than budgeted.

Ms. Dininny included an update on expenditures, reporting that the Instructional

budget is on target, Professional Development is lower than budgeted, and Transportation is higher than originally budgeted, mainly due to paying bus drivers overtime because of the bus driver shortage.

Overall, the Year to Date revenue is projected to exceed expenditures by over \$21 million.

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

- Gym Floor refinishing at Byrnes, D.R. Hill, and Florence Chapel
- Byrnes High School Phase 2: Stairwell and 1100/1200 interior/exterior framing complete
- Beech Springs: Existing admin demolition complete; science and admin in the dry; ongoing paint and ceiling grid; Upcoming gym walls, truss and window installation
- Berry Shoals: storefront and courtyard concrete, truss and roof connections complete; overhead mechanical and ceiling grid upcoming
- Tyger River Elementary School: complete: adjoining neighborhood paving, Hwy. 29 ROW began 4/14/23, Hwy. 29 turn lanes, parking lot at 75% complete; Cooling tower set for 5/9/23
- Reidville Elementary addition: Complete: Kindergarten, first and second grade hall and new wing brick, kindergarten roof truss, ice and water shield; Upcoming: first and second grade hall and new wing roof and window installation begins 4/25/23
- Highway 296 Traffic Signal: Schedule provided. Projected competition date is 5/29/23 - 6/2/23
- New Wellford Academy: Ongoing: footings and foundation, underground electrical and plumbing, dirt importation to end 4/28/23
- Abner Creek Middle School: heavy timbers in place; Upcoming: final site grading/sidewalks ongoing, ROW acquisition ends 6/1/23 and HVAC starts up week of May 1. Will be bringing the Right of Way GMP soon, as it was not included in the original GMP.

**c. 2024 Attendance Line Proposal:** Mr. Ryan Cothran, Director of Safety and Emergency Services, presented the 2024 Attendance Line Proposal. Mr. Cothran reviewed the goals, obstacles, and challenges of creating the new plan. He also reviewed the enrollment numbers, as of January 10, 2023, for elementary and middle schools. Mr. Cothran's presentation included proposed attendance lines maps for district elementary schools, as well as existing elementary, intermediate, and middle school attendance zone geocoding. Mr. Cothran also provided details about grandfathering for the 24-25 school year for rising 5th and 8th graders. A new routing software link was also demonstrated to help assist with address searches, and will be available on the district's website.

Following Mr. Cothran's presentation, a motion was made at 8:09 pm by Mrs.

Meredith Gergley to enter Executive Session to discuss employment matters in reference to new hires, promotions and resignations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mark Cleveland and approved unanimously 9-0.

**7. Executive Session**

**a) Discussion of Employment Matters in Reference to New Hires, Promotions, and Resignations**

**8. 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 9:02 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scott Clement 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 and discussed in executive session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Sherri Taunton and approved unanimously 9-0.

Mrs. Gergley then made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mark Cleveland and approved unanimously 9-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Meredith Gergley  
Secretary

Submitted by:  
Mrs. April Peel