

The District Five Board of Trustees met Monday, May 18, 2020 at 6:30 PM. The meeting was live-streamed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The following members were present virtually via Zoom:

Mr. Jeff Boland  
Mr. Steve Brockman  
Mr. Mark Cleveland  
Mrs. Dawn Deck  
Mr. Rick Eitel  
Mrs. Meredith Gergley  
Mr. Phil McIntyre  
Mrs. Julie McMakin  
Mr. Jeff Proper

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 April 27, 2020 meeting were approved as presented.

4. **Action Items:**

- a) **Consider Approval of Local Board Approved Courses:** Dr. Scott Smith, Director of Accountability, Assessment, and Research, presented the District's Local Board Approved Courses, which allow more opportunities to create elective courses beyond those mandated by the state. Dr. Smith provided a description of the course being requested, and reported that if approved, the VEX Robotics Engineering course will be

offered at the middle schools.

Mr. Cleveland made a motion to accept the recommendation of the administration and approve the Local Board Approved Courses. The motion, seconded by Mr. Eitel, was approved unanimously (9-0).

## 5. Reports:

- a) **Facility Construction Update:** Dr. Greg Wood, Assistant Superintendent, provided an update on several construction projects taking place throughout the district. His presentation included an update of the Abner Creek Academy expansion. Dr. Wood reported that one of the Office of School Facilities inspections has already taken place, with the second one scheduled for May 26. Dr. Wood also provided updates on the progress at the Byrnes Baseball Field, as well as signs, relocation of the historical marker, and lighting and sidewalks on Main Street Reidville near the new school. Dr. Wood reported that the Byrnes Parking Lot project is scheduled to begin on May 29, and the increased parking is expected be ready when school begins on August 17.
- b) **COVID 19 Update:** Dr. Greg Wood and Dr. Jeff Rogers presented the District's COVID 19 Update. Dr. Wood provided information on measures the district has taken during the pandemic pertaining to schools/offices opening by appointment only, staff members working remotely, Zoom meetings, and social distancing being maintained. His report also included details about Maintenance and Cleaning staff during this time. Dr. Wood provided an update on the meal deliveries, reporting that 170,211 meals have been provided to date, and provided information about summer feeding programs. Dr. Wood outlined the next steps for summer deep cleaning of schools and adjusting transportation to meet requirements for the fall semester. The reports also included details about the ongoing challenges faced during the pandemic with possible solutions.

Dr. Jeff Rogers also provided details pertaining to Technology Support, the different platforms used to assist in distance learning, and the number of students and parents accessing the systems during this time. Dr. Rogers informed the board of the dates scheduled for students to return devices and materials for the end of the year. His report also included current instructional challenges faced during distance learning, as well as tentative plans for summer reading camps and extra help for students who were not as engaged during the school year. Dr. Rogers ended the presentation reporting that the district is working to identify questions and assess the current situation in order to come up with the best solution for the upcoming school year.

- c) **Byrnes High School Graduation:** Dr. Randall Gary briefed the board on Byrnes High School graduation plans and protocols that will be followed. Graduation is scheduled for Thursday, May 28 at 7:30 PM at Nixon Field. Dr. Gary reported that the graduates each received two tickets, and will be required to adhere to social distancing restrictions. The ceremony will be livestreamed for family and friends not able to attend.

A motion was made by Mr. Cleveland to move into Executive Session. The motion, seconded by Mr. Eitel, was approved (9-0).

**6. Executive Session**

- a) Discussion of Contractual Matters Related to Growth Plan
- b) Discussion of Employment Matters in Reference to New Hires, Promotions, and Resignations
- c) Discussion of Superintendent's Evaluation

**7. Return to Public Session:** A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously (9-0) to move from Executive Session to Open Session.

- a. **Contractual Matters Related to Growth Plan:** In open session, a motion was made by Mr. Cleveland to authorize the superintendent to enter into a contract to purchase property as discussed in Executive Session . The motion was seconded by Mr. Eitel, and passed (8-1) with Mr. Eitel voting no.
- b. **Employment Matters in Reference to New Hires, Promotions, and Resignations:** In open session, a motion was made by Mr. Cleveland to accept the administration's recommendations for employment as presented and discussed. The motion, seconded by Mrs. Deck, was approved unanimously (9-0).

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Cleveland to adjourn the meeting at 9:43 p.m. The motion, seconded by Mrs. Deck, and was approved (9-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Cleveland  
Secretary