

# Board Briefs

## School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

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1020 Dutch Fork Road • Irmo, South Carolina • 476-8000

*Synopses of meetings of the Board of Trustees of School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties are provided for your information.*

**July 17, 2023**

A livestream video link was provided to the public as a viewing option for the July 17, 2023, board meeting.

Chair Blackburn Hines called the regular meeting to order and gave welcoming remarks.

Cathy Huddle, Board of Trustees, gave the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

During the Superintendent's Report, Dr. Ross presented updates on District FOCUS: Strategic Plan, Review of Administrative Rule IB-R "Academic Freedom" and How Are the Children?; Ms. Maddison Paul, Chief Financial Officer, presented a Monthly Financial Update (May) (Exhibit B); and Mrs. Tina McCaskill, Chief Academics Officer, gave an update on Professional Development.

During the public participation, Sheena Wilson spoke about academic freedom; Cedelle Gates spoke about AP English Class; Patrick Funk spoke about controversial topics/policy; David Jenkins spoke about supporting teachers; Beth Bedenbaugh spoke about concerns following book challenge policy; Kathy Hogan spoke about censorship and academic freedom; Mallory Greene spoke about banned books/procedures; Josh Gray spoke about censorship and support for teachers; Tess Pratt spoke about CRT; Dr. Lauren Gehr spoke about supporting teachers, administration and district leaders; Kristin Devers spoke about supporting teachers; Jennifer Rice spoke about controversial/sensitive issues; and Josh Malkin about books are good.

### **Action Agenda – the following items were presented:**

- Action as Necessary or Appropriate on Matters Discussed in Executive Session
  - a. Selected employment items (Exhibit A) (Action)
  - b. Selected employment items (Information Only)
- Approval of District's Legal Services for FY 2023-2024 (Exhibit C)
- First Reading Approval of Proposed Revisions to Board Policy GCQE "Retirement of Professional Staff" (Exhibit D)
- First Reading Approval of Proposed Revisions to Board Policy GDQC "Retirement of Support Staff" (Exhibit E)
- Approval of Establish Procurement Review Panel (Exhibit F)

### **Discussion Agenda – the following item was discussed:**

- Audit Services Update – Manley Garvin Auditing Process
- Discussion of Board Policy DFAB "Reserved Funds" (Exhibit G)
- Discussion of Board Policy DB "Annual Budget" (Exhibit H)
- Discussion of Board Policy IB "Academic Freedom" (Exhibit I)
- Discussion of IMB "Teaching About Controversial/Sensitive Issues" (Exhibit J)
- Discussion regarding Board Officers' meeting being live-steamed