

Board Briefs

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

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 by the Office of Community Services.

February 14, 2011

At the school board meeting on February 14, 2011 the following took place:

- The district's 2010-11 Distinguished Reading Teachers were recognized. Kathy Lott from Dutch Fork High was named the overall Columbia Area Distinguished Reading Teacher of the Year and Maya Hoffman from Ballentine Elementary received Honorable Mention.
- An update on the cost of the lawsuit brought by Kim Murphy, *Murphy vs. School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties and DHEC*, was provided. The cost now exceeds \$1.57 million.
- The school board approved the construction of a covered batting cage at Irmo High School. The baseball team has fund-raised for three years to pay for the project so the batting cage can be built at no cost to the district.
- First reading approval was given to proposed revisions to policies JIB "Student Decision Making," JICEA "School Related Student Publications," JICG and JICG-R "Tobacco Use by Students," and JICH "Drug and Alcohol Use by Students."
- The school board voted to temporarily suspend the Administrative Rule for policy IEC-R "Class Size" for the 2011-12 budget year. This will give needed flexibility to district and school administrators as they work to develop a balanced budget.
- The board discussed proposed revisions to board policies JICA "Student Dress, JICF "Secret Societies/Gang Activity," JICFA "Hazing," and JICFAA "Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying."
- The Board of Trustees adopted a third resolution that "disapproves of the lawsuit brought by Mrs. Kim Murphy, *Murphy vs. School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties and DHEC*, which has cost the school district in excess of \$1.57 million as of February 14, 2011, and is delaying the renovations to Chapin High School and denying students timely use of much needed facilities. The board also disapproves of the recent appeal filed by Mrs. Kim Murphy on January 20, 2011 requesting that DHEC deny a construction permit for the sewer system necessary to begin renovations to Chapin High School."
- The board discussed establishing parameters for school board meetings that would include time limits on the discussion of agenda items and establishing an ending time of each meeting.

The next meeting of the school board will be held on Monday, February 28 at 7 p.m. at the District Administration Building. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.