



Minutes/January 24, 2022

The Board of Trustees of School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties met at the Center for Advanced Technical Studies with the following members present:

Mrs. Rebecca Blackburn Hines
Mrs. Nikki Gardner, Secretary
Mrs. Jan Hammond, Chair
Mr. Matt Hogan
Mrs. Catherine Huddle
Mr. Ken Loveless, Vice Chair
Mrs. Tifani Moore
Dr. Akil Ross, Interim Superintendent

The following staff were in attendance:

Mr. Todd Bedenbaugh, Executive Director of Operations
Dr. Michael Harris, Chief Student Services and Planning Officer
Mrs. Anna Miller, Chief of Academics and Administration
Mrs. Marty Rawls, Chief Finance Officer
Mrs. Amanda Taylor, Director of Communications
Dr. Tamara Turner, Chief Human Resources Officer

A livestream video link was provided to the public as a viewing option for the January 24, 2022, board meeting.

Chair Hammond called the meeting to order and gave welcoming remarks. The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were led by Tifani Moore, board of trustees.

The Board conducted the School Board Spotlight.

During the Superintendent's Report, Dr. Ross presented updates on New Teacher Education Retention Incentive, and 2022-2023 Budget philosophy. Also, during the Superintendent's Report, Mr. Vann Holden presented an update on the COVID-19 Dashboard; and Mrs. Marty Rawls presented a Monthly Financials Report (Exhibit F).

During the public participation, Pat Blackwell spoke regarding primary stakeholders; Natalie Brown spoke regarding DHEC and policies; Alan Wright, Christa Sorrenti, Renee Kelly, Todd Grosh, and Oliva Trochesset spoke regarding library books; and Kim Murphy spoke regarding taxes.

The Board presented for discussion:

- Car standing issue during drop off/pick up at Irmo Elementary School on Fork Avenue
- The Board discussed and gave first reading approval of proposed renovations to Board Policy JFBA "Intra-District Transfer and Withdrawal" (Exhibit L).

Revisions to Administrative Rule DE-R "ESSER Funds" was presented as information (Exhibit M).

Revisions to Administrative Rule GCC-R(2) "COVID-19 Related Leave (Professional Staff)" and GDC-R(2) "COVID-19 Related Leave (Support Staff)" was presented as information (Exhibit N).

A = Absent
AB = Abstain
N = No
X = Yes
R = Recuse

SCHOOL DISTRICT FIVE
OF
LEXINGTON AND RICHLAND COUNTIES

Meeting of January 24, 2022

	B L A C K B U R N H I N E S	G A R D N E R	H A M M O N D	H O G A N	H U D D L E	L O V E L E S S	M O R E
1. M. Gardner S. Hogan Approve the agenda M. Huddle S. Loveless I move to amend the agenda to move item 16 (Second and Final Reading of Proposed revisions to Board Policy DJ "Purchasing" to our next meeting, February 7, 2022. Vote on the original motion							
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
2. M. Loveless S. Huddle I make the motion that we enter executive session to consider the following: a.) Selected employment items (Exhibit A) (Action); b.) Selected employment items (Exhibit B) (Information Only); c.) Update to Employment Contract Matter (Exhibit C); d.) Receipt of legal advice Concerning Sale of Excess Real Property – Derrick Pond; e.) Contractual Matter regarding New Irmo High School East Wing (Exhibit D); and f.) Contractual Matter Regarding Chapin High School Stadium Renovation (Exhibit E).	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
3. M. Huddle S. Blackburn Hines I move that we enter into today's meeting the letter from DHEC (Attachment #1) for the record.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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4. M. Blackburn Hines S. Hogan I move that the Board of Trustees for School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties adopt the resolution regarding Recognizing Parental Rights, Stakeholder Authority, and Political Participation. M. Huddle S. I move that we amend the resolution regarding Parental Rights, Stakeholder Authority, and Political Participation to end after the first BE IT RESOLVED statement and that at the end of that sentence add "legal guardians." MOTION FAILED DUE TO NOT RECEIVING A SECOND Vote on Original Motion The resolution can be found on the District's website under presentations for the January 24, 2022 board meeting.	X	X	X	X	N	N	N
5. M. Huddle S. Hogan I move that we approve the minutes of the January 24, 2022 board meeting.	AB	X	X	X	X	X	X
6. M. Huddle S. Loveless I move that we redact the recording of tonight's meeting before it's posted online to remove any obscene words or pornographic content.	X	X	X	N	X	X	X

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7.	M. Loveless	S. Hogan						
	I make the motion that we approve the selected employment items listed under Exhibit A for action.							
	M. Huddle	S. Loveless	N	N	N	N	X	X
	I move that we amend Exhibit A to remove line 7.							
	Vote on original motion		X	X	X	X	N	X
8	M. Loveless	S. Huddle	X	N	X	X	X	X
	I make the motion that the Board approve the change order to the ESS contract that allows the District to hire Health Room Support to assist school nurses (Exhibit C).							
9.	M. Blackburn Hines	S. Moore	X	X	X	X	X	X
	I move that the District negotiates the contract for the services of Architecture and Engineering for the new Irmo High School East Wing project for LS3P (Exhibit D).							
10.	M. Loveless	S. Blackburn Hines	X	X	X	X	X	X
	I make the motion that a contract be negotiated and awarded to architect Jumper Carter Sease for the Chapin High School stadium renovation (Exhibit E).							

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11. M. Blackburn Hines S. Hogan I would like to move that we adopt Option #1 for the 2022-2023 calendar year (Exhibit G). M. Gardner S. Huddle I move to amend the motion to approve Option #1 for the proposed 2022-2023 School Year Calendar with the following change: PD day to be moved from the beginning of the year (August 8) to Monday, October 17 and change May 30 th to a half day. Vote on original motion							
	N	X	N	N	X	N	N
	X	N	X	X	X	X	N
12. M. Loveless S. Huddle I make the motion that a Fine Arts Center be located on the old Palmetto Woods property be added to the Chapin High School long-term master plan.	N	X	X	X	X	X	N
13. M. Huddle S. Loveless I move that we approve the second and final reading of the 2021-2022 General Fund Budget Amendment per (Exhibit H).	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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14.	M. Gardner	S. Huddle	X	X	X	X	X	X
	I move that we approve second and final reading of the proposed revisions to Board Policy FEE "Site Acquisition" as shown in (Exhibit J) with the additional revision of changing all words containing the word Realtor with an uppercase "R" to be changed to the word realtor with a lowercase "r."							
15.	M. Huddle	S. Loveless	X	X	X	X	X	X
	I move that we approve the second and final reading of the proposed revisions to Board Policy DI/DIE "Fiscal Accounting/Audit (Exhibit K).							
16.	M. Loveless	S. Huddle	X	X	X	X	X	X
	I make the motion that we authorize the Administration to spend up to \$20,000 on an RFQ to conduct a feasibility study at the District Office.							
17.	M. Gardner	S. Huddle	X	X	X	X	X	X
	I move that we approve discussion and first reading of the proposed revisions to Board Policy JFBA "Intra-District Transfer and Withdrawal as shown in Exhibit L with the revision where the words "must be approved by the Board annually" be changed to "presented to the Board annually," and the stricken sentence that reads "If selected for the random lottery to enroll into a magnet and/or school of choice, the student may remain through the highest grade in that school. Yearly readmission is not required" be added back in.							

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18.	M. Hogan	S. Blackburn Hines	X	X	X	X	X	X
Adjourn at 10:16 p.m.								

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Edward D. Simmer, MD, MPH, DFAPA
Director



January 20, 2022

Lexington-Richland District Five School Board
1020 Dutch Fork Rd.
Irmo, SC 29063

Attachment #1 is included with
the minutes of the 1-24-22
meeting, at the request of Board member
Cathy Hall
pursuant to South Carolina Code
Ann. Section 30-4-90(a)(4)
and Board Policy BEDG. The Board majority
did not approve, disapprove, or otherwise
act upon the contents of this attachment.

Dear Board Members:

Thank you for your January 14, 2022 email and providing a copy of the Lexington-Richland District Five School Board resolution dated January 10, 2022. The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) continuously evaluates its guidance for schools and the public and adjusts that guidance according to the latest and best science and data available.

DHEC understands and appreciates your important role in the safety of students, teachers, and staff in Lexington-Richland Five School District and your desire to keep District Five in-person for learning. We also share that desire wholeheartedly. That is why we recommend all eligible South Carolinians get maximally vaccinated, which means a complete dosage of one of the three available vaccines and booster shots when eligible.

DHEC also **continues to recommend that everyone wear a mask that fits well while indoors and in public places and socially distance when possible.** Combining these layered public health best practices helps reduce the spread of COVID-19 and protects everyone, including your district's students, faculty, and staff, from the most severe outcomes of the virus to include hospitalization and death.

You may confidently reassure concerned parents that DHEC does not force COVID-19 vaccinations on students. **Vaccination of school-aged children is completely a parental and family decision.**

The single-best, scientifically proven way to prevent hospitalizations and deaths from COVID-19, and keep students, teachers and staff in school is to be maximally vaccinated. Consistent with the strong evidence showing their safety and effectiveness, **DHEC does recommend parents talk with their child's medical provider and consider having their child vaccinated.**

January 20, 2022
Lexington-Richland Five School Board
Page Two

Thank you for the important role you play in ensuring that the children of your district receive the best education possible in the safest environment possible.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Edward D. Simmer".

Edward D. Simmer

Resolution Recognizing Parental Rights, Stakeholder Authority, and Political Participation

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees for School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties recognizes that the current political climate on a federal, state, and local level have raised serious concerns about the role of stakeholders in education, especially for parents.

WHEREAS, on September 29th, 2021, the National School Board Association asked President Joe Biden to label parents as "domestic terrorists" for questioning local school board policies;

WHEREAS, on September 30th, 2021, the United States Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona testified before the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions that "parents shouldn't be" the "Primary Stakeholder" in their children's education;

WHEREAS, on November 8th, 2021, the South Carolina School Board Association withdrew its membership from the National School Board Association due to its actions;

WHEREAS, politically charged education organizations within South Carolina are actively lobbying to eliminate any parental authority as evidenced by social media posts displayed by SC for ED on January 13th, 2022 stating that "...teachers should have the authority to make decisions about what's best for their students..."

WHEREAS, parents and/or legal guardians are the Primary Stakeholders in their children's lives, including matters relating to education;

WHEREAS, as stakeholders, parents are responsible for what their children are taught;

WHEREAS being responsible, parents have the inalienable right to be a part of the political process with input regarding adopting policy with their local district school boards;

WHEREAS, current board policy KB for the School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties states that, "the board believes it can impact achievement by improving the quality and quantity of parent/family involvement in the education of their children."

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees for School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties affirms that stakeholders in education are crucial and that the district should encourage a complete stakeholder assessment to identify roles and further collaboration between district administration, teachers, community members, and parents.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees for School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties affirms that parents and/or legal guardians are the **Primary Stakeholders** and primary political participants in their children's lives.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees for School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties affirms the following statements and the policy committee will discuss amending policy KB or creating new policy to also identify:

1. Parents are the Primary Stakeholders in their children's education;
2. As Primary Stakeholders, parents have the right to direct their child's education, unless otherwise prohibited by court order or state law;

#2
Attachment 1-24-22 is included with
the minutes of the meeting, at the request of Board member
As Requested By The Board
pursuant to South Carolina Code
Ann. Section 30-4-90(a)(4)
and Board Policy BEDG. The Board majority
did not approve, disapprove, or otherwise
act upon the contents of this attachment.

3. As Primary Stakeholders, parents and/or legal guardians have the inalienable right to be a part of the political process with input regarding the adoption of policy for School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties; AND
4. As Primary Stakeholders, parents and/or legal guardians make decisions about the welfare and health for their children, unless otherwise prohibited by court order or state law.

ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees for School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties on January 24, 2022.