

AGENDA ITEM REQUEST

Agenda Item Subject:

Approval/Vote Requested? Y/N

Purpose:

Background:

Financial Impact (attach additional documents as needed):

Alternatives:

Recommendation:

12" inch force sewer Line

email: "tbedenba@lexrich5.org Todd Bedenbaugh"

Friday, January 22, 2021 at 9:57:25 AM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Cc: email: "estrange@lexrich5.org Erin Strange"

Dr. Melton, I have attached the updated letter that we plan to send to the town of Chapin on Tuesday morning. The letter follows up with our recent conversations

and email correspondences that date back to October and most recently on January 5, 2021, noting that the 12" force sewer main under pavement on the widened road associated with the new construction at Amicks Ferry Road Elementary School (the Project) that will need to be "relocated."

I had a phone conversation with our Attorney, Caleb Riser with **Richardson Plowden & Robinson, P.A.** on Thursday, January 21. His advice is to go ahead and share the attached letter with the Board Members so they will be aware of the process.

Key Point: We are trying to resolve this without paying legal fees and to expedite the process.

We need to send this letter to the Town of Chapin on Tuesday. Please advise.

Thanks, Todd

--



Todd A. Bedenbaugh

Executive Director of Operations

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

1020 Dutch Fork Road, Irmo, SC 29063

office: 803.476.8153

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

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Attachments:

Ltr of Compromise to Town (w client rev) 011421_clean final.docx 24k

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Friday, January 22, 2021 at 11:28:55 AM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "estrange@lexrich5.org Erin Strange"

Bcc: email: "d5-board-members@lexrich5.org D5 Board Members"

Board of Trustees,

I have attached a letter that we plan to send to the town of Chapin next week. I shared with Board Officers that we were working on this issue and would provide an update to the Board. The letter is a follow up with a recent conversations and email correspondences

that date back to October and most recently on January 5, 2021, noting that the 12" force sewer main under pavement on the widened road associated with the new construction at Amicks Ferry Road Elementary School (the Project) that will need to be "relocated."

Mr. Bedenbaugh has worked with Attorney Caleb Riser with **Richardson Plowden & Robinson, P.A.**

Chair Hammond, I defer to you how you would like to proceed with collecting and answering any questions should there be any. When the tour is conducted next week, we can explain further and answer any questions from those who attend since Board Members will be on site.

This is for information, no action is necessary unless the Board chooses otherwise.



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Todd Bedenbaugh** <tbedenba@lexrich5.org>

Date: Fri, Jan 22, 2021 at 9:57 AM

Subject: 12" inch force sewer Line

To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Erin Strange <estrangle@lexrich5.org>

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email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

To: email: "tbedenba@lexrich5.org Todd Bedenbaugh"

Cc: email: "estrangle@lexrich5.org Erin Strange"

Friday, January 22, 2021 at 11:29:35 AM Eastern Standard Time

The letter has been forwarded. Erin will share information with you.



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email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Friday, January 22, 2021 at 3:18:14 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

Dr. Melton, Thank you for sharing this with us. I have read the letter and I am confused as it appears that we followed specifications yet are agreeing to fund 1/2 the cost to relocate the sewer at a cost of at least \$70,000 to the district. I have not had time to review how this works per the Procurement code but since it appears to be money that we do not owe, I respectfully request a board discussion and approval before we make any payment or any commitment to make a payment or in any way bear additional costs for something we did correctly. In other words, I believe action is necessary.

Thank-you,
Cathy

On Fri, Jan 22, 2021 at 11:29 AM Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org> wrote:

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Catherine Huddle

Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Saturday, January 23, 2021 at 10:14:51 AM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Cc: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

I agree with you.

On Fri, Jan 22, 2021, 3:18 PM Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Dr. Melton, Thank you for sharing this with us. I have read the letter and I am confused as it appears that we followed specifications yet are agreeing to fund 1/2 the cost to relocate the sewer at a cost of at least \$70,000 to the district. I have not had time to review how this works per the Procurement code but since it appears to be money that we do not owe, I respectfully request a board discussion and approval before we make any payment or any commitment to make a payment or in any way bear additional costs for something we did correctly. In other words, I believe action is necessary.

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Catherine Huddle

Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines"

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 6:43:55 PM Eastern Standard Time

Dr. Melton,

Thank you for this email. I understand that the proper protocol is to discuss this situation in greater detail with all parties at the scheduled PWES tour on Thursday.

With that in mind, I will have questions in regards to our "offer to compromise" with the Town of Chapin. In particular, it appears from the letter forwarded by Mr. Cannon that the District has followed all contractual obligations and is not responsible for any decision to relocate the sewer main. Furthermore, it appears

that the decision to relocate the sewer main is a result of convenience for the Town. While I do understand goodwill with our community partners, I am a little confused as to why the District would bear the brunt of the financial responsibility to relocate this sewer main. I will be asking for clarification as to this matter on Thursday.

Once again, this email is just give you advance notice of my questions. I have blind copied the board to this email. I am looking forward to the PWES visit.

Kind regards,
Rebecca Blackburn Hines

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email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 7:09:08 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "cwcannon@lexrich5.org Clayton Cannon", email: "TBedenba@lexrich5.org Todd Bedenbaugh"



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From: **Rebecca Hines** <rhines@lexrich5.org>

Date: Sun, Jan 24, 2021 at 6:41 PM

Subject: Re: 12" inch force sewer Line

To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Dr. Melton,

Thank you for this email. I understand that the proper protocol is to discuss this situation in greater detail with all parties at the scheduled PWES tour on Thursday.

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email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 7:12:56 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Cc: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

Yes ma'am. I'll have Mr. Bedenbaugh include Mrs. Robinson who oversees procurement responsibilities in District Five.

Mrs. Hammond, once I have confirmation from the availability of attorneys, I will let you know. Would this be considered a special called meeting or is there another idea?

If the agenda is amended for the meeting tomorrow night, we have not coordinated legal counsel to be in attendance.

I'll have Mr. Cannon hold the letter for now.



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Superintendent

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On Fri, Jan 22, 2021 at 3:18 PM Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org> wrote:

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 7:13:10 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "cwcannon@lexrich5.org Clayton Cannon" , email: "TBedenba@lexrich5.org Todd Bedenbaugh"

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Date: Sun, Jan 24, 2021 at 7:12 PM

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To: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>, Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 7:21:07 PM Eastern Standard Time

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Cc: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

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Executive Director of Operations

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[1020 Dutch Fork Road, Irmo, SC 29063](https://www.lexrich5.org/1020-Dutch-Fork-Road-Irmo-SC-29063)

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Catherine Huddle

Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

To: email: "awhite@sodacitylaw.com Andrea White"

Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 7:29:22 PM Eastern Standard Time

Any support you may offer, I would appreciate guidance.

I understood Mrs. Hammond was going to follow up on some items to offer me guidance.

Mrs. Hammond is active in responding with "thank you" but unfortunately, that doesn't resolve the issue.



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

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From: **Janis Hammond** <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

Date: Sun, Jan 24, 2021 at 7:21 PM

Subject: Re: 12" inch force sewer Line

To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>, Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>

Thank you.

On Sun, Jan 24, 2021 at 7:13 PM Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Yes ma'am. I'll have Mr. Bedenbaugh include Mrs. Robinson who oversees procurement responsibilities in District Five.

Mrs. Hammond, once I have confirmation from the availability of attorneys, I will let you know. Would this be considered a special called meeting or is there another idea?

If the agenda is amended for the meeting tomorrow night, we have not coordinated legal counsel to be in attendance.

I'll have Mr. Cannon hold the letter for now.



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



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On Fri, Jan 22, 2021 at 3:18 PM Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Dr. Melton, Thank you for sharing this with us. I have read the letter and I am confused as it appears that we followed specifications yet are agreeing to fund 1/2 the cost to relocate the sewer at a cost of at least \$70,000 to the district. I haave not had time to review how this works per the Procurement code but since it appears to be money that we do not owe, I respectfully request a board discussion and approval before we make any payment or any commitment to make a payment or in any way bear additional costs for something we did correctly. In other words, I believe action is necessary.

Thank-you,
Cathy

On Fri, Jan 22, 2021 at 11:29 AM Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Board of Trustees,

I have attached a letter that we plan to send to the town of Chapin next week. I shared with Board Officers that we were working on this issue and would provide an update to the Board. The letter is a follow up with a recent conversations and email correspondences that date back to October and most recently on January 5, 2021, noting that the 12" force sewer main under pavement on the widened road associated with the new construction at Amicks Ferry Road Elementary School (the Project) that will need to be "relocated."

Mr. Bedenbaugh has worked with Attorney Caleb Riser with **Richardson Plowden & Robinson, P.A.**

Chair Hammond, I defer to you how you would like to proceed with collecting and answering any questions should there be any. When the tour is conducted next week, we can explain further and answer any questions from those who attend since Board Members will be on site.

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Superintendent

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Todd Bedenbaugh** <tbedenba@lexrich5.org>

Date: Fri, Jan 22, 2021 at 9:57 AM

Subject: 12" inch force sewer Line

To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Erin Strange <estrangle@lexrich5.org>

--



Todd A. Bedenbaugh

Executive Director of Operations

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

[1020 Dutch Fork Road, Irmo, SC 29063](http://1020DutchForkRoad.com)

office: 803.476.8153

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider"

--
Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "cwcannon@lexrich5.org Clayton Cannon"
To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"
Cc: email: "TBedenba@lexrich5.org Todd Bedenbaugh"

Monday, January 25, 2021 at 7:19:11 AM Eastern Standard Time

Got these and will sit tight

On Sun, Jan 24, 2021 at 7:13 PM Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org> wrote:



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Christina Melton** <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Date: Sun, Jan 24, 2021 at 7:12 PM

Subject: Re: 12" inch force sewer Line

To: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>, Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

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Superintendent

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Todd Bedenbaugh** <tbedenba@lexrich5.org>

Date: Fri, Jan 22, 2021 at 9:57 AM

Subject: 12" inch force sewer Line

To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Erin Strange <estrangle@lexrich5.org>



Todd A. Bedenbaugh

Executive Director of Operations

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

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Catherine Huddle

Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee



Clay Cannon, PE, LEED AP

Director of Facilities Operations

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

1020 Dutch Fork Road, Irmo, SC 29063

office: 803.476.8123

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

email: "tbedenba@lexrich5.org Todd Bedenbaugh"

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Monday, January 25, 2021 at 9:09:08 AM Eastern Standard Time

Thanks, Clay has the letter on hold. I have a call into our attorney. One question that I forgot to ask and will share with you after I receive his response.

On Sun, Jan 24, 2021 at 7:09 PM Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org> wrote:



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Rebecca Hines** <rhines@lexrich5.org>

Date: Sun, Jan 24, 2021 at 6:41 PM

Subject: Re: 12" inch force sewer Line

To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Dr. Melton,

Thank you for this email. I understand that the proper protocol is to discuss this situation in greater detail with all parties at the scheduled PWES tour on Thursday.

With that in mind, I will have questions in regards to our "offer to compromise" with the Town of Chapin. In particular, it appears from the letter forwarded by Mr. Cannon that the District has followed all contractual obligations and is not responsible for any decision to relocate the sewer main. Furthermore, it appears that the decision to relocate the sewer main is a result of convenience for the Town. While I do understand goodwill with our community partners, I am a little confused as to why the District would bear the brunt of the financial responsibility to relocate this sewer main. I will be asking for clarification as to this matter on Thursday.

Once again, this email is just give you advance notice of my questions. I have blind copied the board to this email.

I am looking forward to the PWES visit.

Kind regards,
Rebecca Blackburn Hines

On Fri, Jan 22, 2021 at 11:29 AM Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Board of Trustees,

I have attached a letter that we plan to send to the town of Chapin next week. I shared with Board Officers that we were working on this issue and would provide an update to the Board. The letter is a follow up with a recent conversations and email correspondences that date back to October and most recently on January 5, 2021, noting that the 12" force sewer main under pavement on the widened road associated with the new construction at Amicks Ferry Road Elementary School (the Project) that will need to be "relocated."

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Superintendent

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Todd Bedenbaugh** <tbedenba@lexrich5.org>

Date: Fri, Jan 22, 2021 at 9:57 AM

Subject: 12" inch force sewer Line

To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Erin Strange <estrange@lexrich5.org>

--



Todd A. Bedenbaugh

Executive Director of Operations

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

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Todd A. Bedenbaugh

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office: 803.476.8153

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"This institution is an equal opportunity provider"

email: "awhite@sodacitylaw.com Andrea White"
To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Monday, January 25, 2021 at 1:36:40 PM Eastern Standard Time

Hello Christina,

If this needs to be discussed and acted upon by the Board before their next regular meeting in February, then I would hold it as a special-called meeting, though it seems to me it could wait.

I talked with Jan several times over the weekend and also had a very nice conversation with Nekki Shutt on Friday. Jan did not ask me any questions about this issue, but did ask that I (along with Scott Winburn, who will be there this evening as well) act as the Board's parliamentarian if that becomes necessary.

Looking forward to seeing you tonight.

Andrea White

Partner

White & Story LLC

3614 Landmark Drive, Suite EF

P.O. Box 7036 (29202)

Columbia SC, 29204

O: 803-814-0993 | T: 803-626-1778

M: 803-960-6026 | F: 803-814-1183

E: awhite@sodacitylaw.com

www.sodacitylaw.com

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From: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Sent: Sunday, January 24, 2021 7:29 PM

To: Andrea White <awhite@sodacitylaw.com>

Subject: Fwd: 12" inch force sewer Line

Any support you may offer, I would appreciate guidance.

I understood Mrs. Hammond was going to follow up on some items to offer me guidance.

Mrs. Hammond is active in responding with "thank you" but unfortunately, that doesn't resolve the issue.



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties
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----- Forwarded message -----

From: Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

Date: Sun, Jan 24, 2021 at 7:21 PM

Subject: Re: 12" inch force sewer Line

To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>, Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>

Thank you.

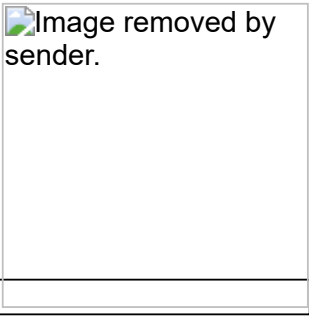
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 Image removed by sender.

Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Todd Bedenbaugh** <tbedenba@lexrich5.org>

Date: Fri, Jan 22, 2021 at 9:57 AM

Subject: 12" inch force sewer Line

To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Erin Strange <estrange@lexrich5.org>

--



Todd A. Bedenbaugh

Executive Director of Operations

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

[1020 Dutch Fork Road, Irmo, SC 29063](#)

[office: 803.476.8153](#)

[www.lexrich5.org](#)



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Catherine Huddle

Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Attachments:

image004.jpg 878

image005.jpg 380

image006.jpg 380

image522165.png 12k

12/21 and 12/22

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"
To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 6:47:03 PM Eastern Standard Time

Cc: email: "estrange@lexrich5.org Erin Strange" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "ewhite@lexrich5.org Edward White" , email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan"

I have copied all board members to save Dr. Melton from having to notify them and to make "reply all" easier.

Dr. Melton, I apologize for emailing you during this recent "email storm" but have had two people reach out to me about a concern - they reported that the District Office was closed on 12/21 and 12/22 with only a couple of employees physically present. I checked the calendar and believe the office was scheduled to be open those days but please let me know if that is incorrect. Can you confirm that the office was open on those dates with staff onsite (other than those taking vacation or out sick)?

Thank-you,
Cathy

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 12:31:00 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Cc: email: "estrange@lexrich5.org Erin Strange" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "ewhite@lexrich5.org Edward White" , email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan"

Ms. Huddle:

Thank you for the ease of responding to include all, Mrs. Huddle and for your question. Per the color coding on the school board approved calendar, "Schools & Offices" were closed; however, 240 employees were working on those days, unless they submitted leave.

It's typical for staff at the district office and at schools to take these days off. This year some could work remotely while abiding by expectations outlined in Board Policy AR EBC-R Remote Work. In other words, staff were informed that they were "expected to maintain work productivity and prioritize district business during the workday". The district office had staff on site to continue operations and meals were also served on Monday at Irmo High School to a record number of families. Additionally, each school and office were instructed to place signage on the doors with contact information so immediate assistance was available.

If the two people who contacted you went unassisted, please let me know so I can ensure assistance has been secured.

Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

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Thank-you,
Cathy

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 12:42:47 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "Ken@lovelesscontracting.com Ken Loveless"

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Christina Melton** <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Date: Wed, Jan 6, 2021 at 12:31 PM

Subject: Re: 12/21 and 12/22

To: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Erin Strange <estrangle@lexrich5.org>, Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>, Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>, Nikki Gardner <ngardner@lexrich5.org>, Edward White <ewhite@lexrich5.org>, Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org>, Matt Hogan <mhogan@lexrich5.org>

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Superintendent

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Thank-you,

Cathy

--

Catherine Huddle

Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 1:00:31 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Dr. Melton, Thank you for your reply. To avoid an "electronic meeting" I have not copied the other board members on this reply, other than Ms. Hammond and Mr. Loveless, since they are the chair and vice chair. Here is my concern: You referenced Policy AR EBC-R Remote Work, which addresses the need to close a school or district building and work remotely due to "limited situations that necessitate" it. Clearly that policy was not intended to provide for remote work for anything other than an emergency.

So here are my questions - were district office employees told in writing or verbally that they could work from home on these two particular days? How many district office employees worked remotely those 2 days and how many worked their normal schedule in the office? I understand there are people who took

vacation days. I am asking of those who worked those 2 days, how many were remote and how many were in the office?

Thank-you,
Cathy

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Cathy

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 1:32:43 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Cc: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

Dr. Melton,

I have read the email chain. Are there other 240 day employees not working at the district office who worked from their normal locations and not at home?

If there are, please provide a list of those persons.

Please reply before the next board meeting.

Respec submitted,

Ken Loveless

On Wed, Jan 6, 2021 at 1:00 PM Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org> wrote:

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Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

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email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 10:05:42 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

Bcc: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org"

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email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 10:07:49 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Jan Hammond"

Mr. Loveless,

This is to confirm receipt of your email. Consistent with my previous email, I have blindcopied other board members since my initial reply was sent to all earlier.

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Date: Wed, Jan 6, 2021, 1:32 PM

Subject: Re: 12/21 and 12/22

To: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>

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To: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Cc: email: "EWhite@lexrich5.org Edward White" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan" , email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines"

Mr. Loveless,

Thank you for including all board members with your email. When looking back, I noticed the email you sent on January 6 was not sent to all Board Members so I copied and pasted it below to assist with ease of communication rather than forwarding your email.

"Dr. Melton,

I have read the email chain. Are there other 240 day employees not working at the district office who worked from their normal locations and not at home?

If there are, please provide a list of those persons.

Please reply before the next board meeting.

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Mr. Loveless,

I have not seen an email where you questioned my actions "allowing employees at the district office days off with pay" until this message. I discussed your email pasted above with Mrs. Hammond when the two of us met. To address your concern, no, sir, I did not allow employees at the district office days off with pay. I take my responsibilities very seriously and find it concerning if there is such a concern about my leadership or integrity.

Mrs. Hammond, I request to discuss this Monday in Executive Session.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kenneth Loveless** <kloveless@lexrich5.org>

Date: Wed, Jan 6, 2021, 1:32 PM

Subject: Re: 12/21 and 12/22

To: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>, Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

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12/21 and 12/22

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

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Cathy

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If the two people who contacted you went unassisted, please let me know so I can ensure assistance has been secured.

Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 10:07:49 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Jan Hammond"

Mr. Loveless,

This is to confirm receipt of your email. Consistent with my previous email, I have blindcopied other board members since my initial reply was sent to all earlier.

Chair Hammond,

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Please reply before the next board meeting.

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 10:16:47 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

Yes ma'am. I can meet tomorrow or Friday if either of those days work for you or a day next week.



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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 10:55:14 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

Jan, This is concerning to me. I asked questions that do not put a burden on the superintendent and I think I should receive an answer. My understanding from Andrea White is that if the superintendent believes a question is an unnecessary burden they can reply as such but if 4 or more board members request it, they must provide the information.

While I very much respect your position as chairman, I don't think it relates to my request - either she answers my questions or we have to get a quorum to get an answer. Obviously you are free to meet with her and if you do, I hope you will encourage her to answer me and avoid this becoming a big deal. I

really don't want to have to make a motion in a board meeting to get my questions answered but if that is the only way to get an answer I will.

Thank-you,
Cathy

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Christina Melton** <csmelton@lexrich5.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 6, 2021 at 10:06 PM
Subject: Re: 12/21 and 12/22
To: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>
Cc: Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

Mrs. Huddle,
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Chair Hammond,
I would like to request a meeting with you.



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email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"
To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"
Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

Thursday, January 7, 2021 at 8:37:27 AM Eastern Standard Time

Dr. Melton, Your response is extremely concerning to me. I am sure that you agree that we should all be working together for the good of our students, staff and community. The questions I asked are not burdensome. As such, according to the workshop we had with Ms. White, I believe you are required to answer them. However, per that workshop, if you do believe a request is burdensome you are supposed to let the requestor know and if a board majority wants the information it is still to be provided. While I very much respect Ms. Hammond and her position as board chair, I do not recall the board chair as having a decision in that process other than their position as a board member.

Since it appears you are not going to answer the questions I sent, I kindly ask for you to explain why you are not answering them.

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email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 8:35:26 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" , email: "EWhite@lexrich5.org Edward White" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan" , email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines"

Dr. Melton, I sent you a question about your actions allowing employees at the district office days off with pay. My question was whether other 240 day employees not at the district office also received days off with pay. Are you going to answer my question? Respectfully submitted Ken Loveless

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kenneth Loveless** <kloveless@lexrich5.org>

Date: Wed, Jan 6, 2021, 1:32 PM

Subject: Re: 12/21 and 12/22

To: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>, Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Catherine Huddle
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email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 12:26:00 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Cc: email: "EWhite@lexrich5.org Edward White" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan" , email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines"

Mr. Loveless,

Thank you for including all board members with your email. When looking back, I noticed the email you sent on January 6 was not sent to all Board Members so I copied and pasted it below to assist with ease of communication rather than forwarding your email.

"Dr. Melton,

I have read the email chain. Are there other 240 day employees not working at the district office who worked from their normal locations and not at home?

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Dr. Melton, I sent you a question about your actions allowing employees at the district office days off with pay. My question was whether other 240 day employees not at the district office also received days off with pay. Are you going to answer my question? Respectfully submitted Ken Loveless

Mr. Loveless,

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Mrs. Hammond, I request to discuss this Monday in Executive Session.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kenneth Loveless** <kloveless@lexrich5.org>

Date: Wed, Jan 6, 2021, 1:32 PM

Subject: Re: 12/21 and 12/22

To: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>, Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

Dr. Melton,

I have read the email chain. Are there other 240 day employees not working at the district office who worked from their normal locations and not at home?

If there are, please provide a list of those persons.

Please reply before the next board meeting.

Respec submitted,

Ken Loveless

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Thank-you,
Cathy

On Wed, Jan 6, 2021 at 12:31 PM Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org> wrote:

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Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

On Tue, Jan 5, 2021 at 6:47 PM Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org> wrote:

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Thank-you,
Cathy

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

12/21 and 12/22

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 6:47:03 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Cc: email: "estrange@lexrich5.org Erin Strange" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email:

"kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "ewhite@lexrich5.org

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Thank-you,
Cathy

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Catherine Huddle

Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 12:31:00 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Cc: email: "estrange@lexrich5.org Erin Strange" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email:

"kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "ewhite@lexrich5.org

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Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

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Cathy

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 10:05:42 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

Bcc: email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org"

Mrs. Huddle,

Thank you for your mindfulness of "electronic meeting" concerns. I have blindcopied other board members since all others received my reply previously.

Chair Hammond,

I would like to request a meeting with you.



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 10:07:49 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Jan Hammond"

Bcc: email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org"

Mr. Loveless,

This is to confirm receipt of your email. Consistent with my previous email, I have blindcopied other board members since my initial reply was sent to all earlier.

Chair Hammond,

I would like to discuss this with you when we are able to coordinate a meeting.



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

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If there are, please provide a list of those persons.

Please reply before the next board meeting.

Respec submitted,

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 8:35:26 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" , email: "EWhite@lexrich5.org Edward White" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan" , email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines"

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Cc: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>, Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 12:26:00 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Cc: email: "EWhite@lexrich5.org Edward White" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan" , email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org

Cathy Huddle" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email:

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Mr. Loveless,

Thank you for including all board members with your email. When looking back, I noticed the email you sent on January 6 was not sent to all Board Members so I copied and pasted it below to assist with ease of communication rather than forwarding your email.

"Dr. Melton,

I have read the email chain. Are there other 240 day employees not working at the district office who worked from their normal locations and not at home?

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To: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>, Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Agenda modifications

email: "ewhite@lexrich5.org Edward White"

Monday, January 25, 2021 at 4:26:43 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email:

"kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org

Matt Hogan" , email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Cc: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Mrs. Hammond,

I wanted to give you advance notice that I wanted to propose the following amendments to the agenda at the start of our meeting tonight:

1. That item 3.c., Discussion of the Superintendent's Goals/Expectations and Board/Superintendent Relationship be moved to the Action Agenda to be conducted in public session.
2. That a new item be added to the action agenda to read: Requiring Board Officer Meeting to be open to the public, including live streaming the meeting, in accordance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.
3. That a new item be added to the Discussion Agenda to read: Financial Relationship of Ken Loveless with a Vendor and Recusal Requirements.
4. That item 14. on the Action Agenda, Approval of revisions to Policy BDE "Board Committees" be postponed until (i) all new board members had received their required training from the South Carolina School Board Association, (ii) the policy has been reviewed by a representative from the South Carolina School Board Association for legal compliance or concerns and (iii) a presentation has been made to the full Board in a public meeting on best practices, the proper use of Board committees and an understanding of the provisions of the policy that is currently being modified.

Thank you,

Ed

Candidates for HR, CFO position and proposed Operating Officer position

email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Saturday, December 12, 2020 at 10:28:57 AM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan" , email: "EWhite@lexrich5.org Edward White" , email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines" , email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Dr. Melton, please provide to the full board the logs of all interviews and notes made for all candidate interviews with respect to these positions. We will need those by noon on Monday. Thank you Ken Loveless

email: "ewhite@lexrich5.org Edward White"

Saturday, December 12, 2020 at 1:51:56 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan" , email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines" , email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Dr. Melton,

Please provide the information in the format that you deem appropriate to inform the board of your recommendations. Your actions are not directed by a single board member but only by a vote of the board in a public.

To all,

Please do not respond. We can discuss in our public meeting if necessary.

Thank you,

Ed

On Sat, Dec 12, 2020 at 10:29 AM Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Dr. Melton, please provide to the full board the logs of all interviews and notes made for all candidate interviews with respect to these positions. We will need those by noon on Monday. Thank you Ken Loveless

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Monday, December 14, 2020 at 11:12:47 AM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan" , email: "EWhite@lexrich5.org Edward White" , email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines"

Board of Trustees,

I would like to seek clarification from the Board regarding what information the Board requests to be provided for employment recommendations. In the past, we have provided the recommended candidate with appropriate background information, and the Board has the opportunity to approve or disapprove the recommendation at the Board meeting. I have spoken with Chair Hammond about this request.

Mr. Loveless has requested over the weekend that the administration provide by noon today all information about all candidates interviewed for three administrative positions. However, that is not information we have provided to the Board in the past. I want to make the Board aware that names of candidates other than the final three applicants under consideration are not required to be released under FOIA, so we need to ensure the confidentiality of candidates other than the top three finalists are maintained. For these reasons, I am concerned about providing information about all candidates interviewed and would appreciate guidance from the Board this evening on what information the Board is requesting. Dr. Turner and I will be available to respond to any questions this evening in Executive Session.



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

On Sat, Dec 12, 2020 at 10:29 AM Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Dr. Melton, please provide to the full board the logs of all interviews and notes made for all candidate interviews with respect to these positions. We will need those by noon on Monday. Thank you Ken Loveless

email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines"

Monday, December 14, 2020 at 11:27:49 AM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Cc: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email:

"ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan" , email: "EWhite@lexrich5.org Edward White"

I believe that personnel decisions (outside of the Superintendent) are operational in nature, and that the responsibility of the board is to review and approve the Superintendent's suggested candidate for a position. If we were to review interview logs for these three positions, we would need to review the same for all employees.

Furthermore, as discussed in board training, we cannot act individually as board members. If the board needs to discuss or redefine expectations from Dr. Melton, then that needs to occur by the board as a whole.

I would suggest that further emails be sent individually so that we do not violate the rules for a virtual meeting.

Kind regards,
Rebecca Blackburn Hines

On Mon, Dec 14, 2020 at 11:13 AM Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Board of Trustees,

I would like to seek clarification from the Board regarding what information the Board requests to be provided for employment recommendations. In the past, we have provided the recommended candidate with appropriate background information, and the Board has the opportunity to approve or disapprove the recommendation at the Board meeting. I have spoken with Chair Hammond about this request.

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email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 9:17:30 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan" , email: "EWhite@lexrich5.org Edward White" , email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines" , email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Dr. Melton, please see below. I asked for all available information regarding the top three candidates for each of these positions. My request was not honored and went unanswered. I asked for the information so that we all, as a board, could study the suggested candidate's qualifications. Obviously, a majority of the board members were of the opinion that the candidate presented was not qualified, or perhaps, that the presentation was not convincing. If the CFO position top candidate will be presented in executive session at the next meeting or thereafter (which the board does not know at this time), please provide the resumes and any other information provided by the candidates with the board packet tomorrow or well in advance of the board meeting where the candidate will be presented for approval. Interest has been expressed by more than one board member in studying this information well in advance of the meeting. Respectfully submitted, Ken Loveless

On Sat, Dec 12, 2020, 10:28 AM Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org> wrote:
Dr. Melton, please provide to the full board the logs of all interviews and notes made for all candidate interviews with respect to these positions. We will need those by noon on Monday. Thank you Ken Loveless

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 10:41:34 AM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan" , email: "EWhite@lexrich5.org Edward White" , email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines"

Mr. Loveless,

You will find in my brief (which will be sent with board packet today) the information for the top three candidates. There is a recommended candidate for the CFO position included in the packet and my brief. Dr. Turner worked with legal counsel to ensure what we provided was appropriate. I hope you will find the forthcoming information is satisfactory.



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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

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email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 12:56:37 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Cc: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle", email: "EWhite@lexrich5.org Edward White", email:

"kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless", email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan", email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner", email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines"

Thank you.

On Thu, Jan 21, 2021 at 10:42 AM Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org> wrote:

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Covid related sick leave extension

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"
To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Saturday, January 23, 2021 at 12:41:21 AM Eastern Standard Time

Dr. Melton, Thank you for proposing to extend the special Covid leave program. I had a few questions:

- * I have seen other school districts extend to a specific date with the most common being 3/31 and 6/30. Are you requesting a specific date?
- * Would the policy be retroactive to 1/1/21?
- * I have also seen most districts extend the same policy as 2020 but have also seen some change it. Are you proposing the same policy/rules for 2021 as were in place for 2020?
- * It sounds like there isn't (currently) any \$ for this and that while we have received ESSR and other funds we would still receive those funds whether or not we extended Covid leave - is that accurate?

Thank-you,
Cathy

--
Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"
To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 7:22:35 PM Eastern Standard Time

Mrs. Huddle,
Thank you for these questions. Dr. Turner will be prepared to answer questions this evening.

We are awaiting a technical assistance training led by the SC Department of Education to better understand how we may use expected funds. That training will impact our decision making and also identify funding sources.

Would you like for Dr. Turner to address these questions during the presentation tomorrow or would you prefer to ask the questions during the meeting?



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

On Sat, Jan 23, 2021 at 12:41 AM Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org> wrote:

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Thank-you,
Cathy

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"
To: email: "tturner@lexrich5.org Tamara Turner"

Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 7:22:45 PM Eastern Standard Time



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Christina Melton** <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Date: Sun, Jan 24, 2021 at 7:22 PM

Subject: Re: Covid related sick leave extension

To: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>

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Thank-you,
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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"
To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 7:57:42 PM Eastern Standard Time

Dr. Melton, Thank you for your reply. If he could go ahead and address the funding and other questions that would be great. It would actually be super helpful if he could share the actual policy (i.e., what will be communicated with employees regarding the rules for requesting such leave).

Thank-you,
Cathy

On Sun, Jan 24, 2021 at 7:23 PM Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Mrs. Huddle,
Thank you for these questions. Dr. Turner will be prepared to answer questions this evening.

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "tturner@lexrich5.org Tamara Turner"
To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Monday, January 25, 2021 at 3:24:33 PM Eastern Standard Time

Hello Dr. Melton,

Here are the responses to the questions related to the extension of the covid-related leave. I hope this helps, but let me know if I missed anything.

- **I have seen other school districts extend to a specific date with the most common being 3/31 and 6/30. Are you requesting a specific date?**
 - The pending motion would allow District Five to provide emergency paid sick leave for up to two weeks, as initially outlined by the Employee Paid Sick Leave Act (EPSLA), beginning January 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2021 (end of fiscal year and end of the school year).
- **Would the policy be retroactive to 1/1/21?**
 - Yes
- **I have also seen most districts extend the same policy as 2020 but have also seen some change it. Are you proposing the same policy/rules for 2021 as were in place for 2020?**
 - The district's current proposal is more conservative than the 2020 requirements under The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) that applied from April 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020.
 - Under the expired FFCRA, there were two rules for the administration of paid leave. The first rule was the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act (EPSLA), which required that employers provide up to 80 hours/2 weeks of paid sick leave to employees who needed to take leave for specific reasons related to COVID-19. The second rule was the Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act (EFMLEA), which required that employers expand FMLA to provide up to 12 weeks of emergency leave to eligible employees if the employee is caring for his or her son or daughter whose school or place of care was closed or whose child care provider was unavailable for reasons related to COVID-19.
 - The district's current proposal would maintain up to 80 hours/2 weeks of leave on an as-needed basis and based on the same specified COVID-related reasons outlined under the EPSLA; however, it would not extend the additional 12 weeks of emergency leave to employees that were available under EFMLEA.
 - The current proposal would also only apply to eligible employees who have not already exhausted two weeks of emergency paid leave before December 31.
 - Qualifying Reasons for Leave - Under the FFCRA, an employee qualifies for paid sick time if the employee is unable to work (or unable to telework) due to a need for leave because the employee: (1) is subject to a Federal, State, or local quarantine or isolation order related to COVID-19; (2) has been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine related to COVID-19; or (3) is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and is seeking a medical diagnosis.
- **It sounds like there isn't (currently) any \$ for this and that while we have received ESSR and other funds we would still receive those funds whether or not we extended Covid leave - is that accurate?**
 - While the district's receipt of ESSR funds is not contingent on a decision to extend COVID-related leave; the memo ([linked here](#)) released by Superintendent Spearman states, "*the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) **strongly recommends** each district create an emergency leave plan using their ESSER funds to ensure those who need to take paid leave for a COVID-19 related issue may do so.*" The memorandum also states that "*there is adequate federal funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act's*

Elementary

and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) fund to cover leave for school district employees in 2021."

- o This proposal would allow the district to be consistent with what the state has asked us to do and provide a level of support to employees based strictly on the EPSLA criteria.



Tamara D. Turner, Ed.D.

Chief Human Resources Officer

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8198

fax: 803.476.8196

tturner@lexrich5.org

On Sun, Jan 24, 2021 at 7:23 PM Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org> wrote:



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Christina Melton** <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Date: Sun, Jan 24, 2021 at 7:22 PM

Subject: Re: Covid related sick leave extension

To: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>

Mrs. Huddle,

Thank you for these questions. Dr. Turner will be prepared to answer questions this evening.

We are awaiting a technical assistance training led by the SC Department of Education to better understand how we may use expected funds. That training will impact our decision making and also identify funding sources.

Would you like for Dr. Turner to address these questions during the presentation tomorrow or would you prefer to ask the questions during the meeting?



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"
To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Monday, January 25, 2021 at 3:28:53 PM Eastern Standard Time

Mrs. Huddle,
I hope this provides what you need.
Dr. Turner is prepared to include your questions in her remarks.



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Tamara Turner** <tturner@lexrich5.org>

Date: Mon, Jan 25, 2021 at 3:25 PM

Subject: Re: Covid related sick leave extension

To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Hello Dr. Melton,

Here are the responses to the questions related to the extension of the covid-related leave. I hope this helps, but let me know if I missed anything.

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Superintendent

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

----- Forwarded message -----

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Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

To: email: "tturner@lexrich5.org Tamara Turner"



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

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Hello Dr. Melton,

Here are the responses to the questions related to the extension of the covid-related leave. I hope this helps, but let me know if I missed anything.

- **I have seen other school districts extend to a specific date with the most common being 3/31 and 6/30. Are you requesting a specific date?**

- The pending motion would allow District Five to provide emergency paid sick leave for up to two weeks, as initially outlined by the Employee Paid Sick Leave Act (EPSLA), beginning January 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2021 (end of fiscal year and end of the school year).
- **Would the policy be retroactive to 1/1/21?**
 - Yes
- **I have also seen most districts extend the same policy as 2020 but have also seen some change it. Are you proposing the same policy/rules for 2021 as were in place for 2020?**
 - The district's current proposal is more conservative than the 2020 requirements under The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) that applied from April 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020.
 - Under the expired FFCRA, there were two rules for the administration of paid leave. The first rule was the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act (EPSLA), which required that employers provide up to 80 hours/2 weeks of paid sick leave to employees who needed to take leave for specific reasons related to COVID-19. The second rule was the Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act (EFMLEA), which required that employers expand FMLA to provide up to 12 weeks of emergency leave to eligible employees if the employee is caring for his or her son or daughter whose school or place of care was closed or whose child care provider was unavailable for reasons related to COVID-19.
 - The district's current proposal would maintain up to 80 hours/2 weeks of leave on an as-needed basis and based on the same specified COVID-related reasons outlined under the EPSLA; however, it would not extend the additional 12 weeks of emergency leave to employees that were available under EFMLEA.
 - The current proposal would also only apply to eligible employees who have not already exhausted two weeks of emergency paid leave before December 31.
 - Qualifying Reasons for Leave - Under the FFCRA, an employee qualifies for paid sick time if the employee is unable to work (or unable to telework) due to a need for leave because the employee: (1) is subject to a Federal, State, or local quarantine or isolation order related to COVID-19; (2) has been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine related to COVID-19; or (3) is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and is seeking a medical diagnosis.
- **It sounds like there isn't (currently) any \$ for this and that while we have received ESSR and other funds we would still receive those funds whether or not we extended Covid leave - is that accurate?**
 - While the district's receipt of ESSR funds is not contingent on a decision to extend COVID-related leave; the memo ([linked here](#)) released by Superintendent Spearman states, "*the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) **strongly recommends** each district create an emergency leave plan using their ESSER funds to ensure those who need to take paid leave for a COVID-19 related issue may do so.*" The memorandum also states that "*there is adequate federal funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act's Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) fund to cover leave for school district employees in 2021.*"
 - This proposal would allow the district to be consistent with what the state has asked us to do and provide a level of support to employees based strictly on the EPSLA criteria.

Tamara D. Turner, Ed.D.

Chief Human Resources Officer

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8198

fax: 803.476.8196

tturner@lexrich5.org



On Sun, Jan 24, 2021 at 7:23 PM Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org> wrote:



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Christina Melton** <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Date: Sun, Jan 24, 2021 at 7:22 PM

Subject: Re: Covid related sick leave extension

To: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>

Mrs. Huddle,

Thank you for these questions. Dr. Turner will be prepared to answer questions this evening.

We are awaiting a technical assistance training led by the SC Department of Education to better understand how we may use expected funds. That training will impact our decision making and also identify funding sources.

Would you like for Dr. Turner to address these questions during the presentation tomorrow or would you prefer to ask the questions during the meeting?

Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

On Sat, Jan 23, 2021 at 12:41 AM Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Dr. Melton, Thank you for proposing to extend the special Covid leave program. I had a few questions:

* I have seen other school districts extend to a specific date with the most common being 3/31 and 6/30. Are you requesting a specific date?

* Would the policy be retroactive to 1/1/21?

* I have also seen most districts extend the same policy as 2020 but have also seen some change it. Are you proposing the same policy/rules for 2021 as were in place for 2020?

* It sounds like there isn't (currently) any \$ for this and that while we have received ESSR and other funds we would still receive those funds whether or not we extended Covid leave - is that accurate?

Thank-you,
Cathy

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Details on Redistricting Scenarios 5 and 6

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Sunday, January 17, 2021 at 1:17:03 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner"

Dr. Melton, Could the consultants provide us more details on these 2 scenarios?

#1 - I would like to see a chart such as the one attached for each scenario for the 3 impacted schools and would like to see greater detail for each school, including:

For each school separately (PWES, CES and LMES):

- * Current and projected attendance by grade without school choice (ie., school choice is not offered at PWES and only children currently enrolled in choice at CES and LMES are included)

- * Current and projected attendance in other programs (such as PK4, speech therapy, etc).

- * The number of students the school is constructed to hold

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#2 - I would like to see the maps the presented the board with the # of current students in each planning block (the maps presented at the workshop - screenshot attached).

#3 - I have a feeling that most discussion will center on the moving lines from LMES to CES so I would like to know exactly how many students would be impacted by grade level and that those numbers not include any additional school choice (would only include impacted students currently enrolled in choice).

#4 - A summary of the feedback received from parents/the community on the proposed scenarios.

Ideally they could get us this information before the board packet for the 1/25 meeting but if not, if they could at least include in the board packet that would be great.

Thank you for all your help with this.

Thank-you,
Cathy

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Attachments:

Screen Shot 2021-01-17 at 1.02.48 PM.png 1.3M

Screen Shot 2021-01-17 at 1.10.53 PM.png 3.8M

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 3:22:36 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner"

Mrs. Huddle,

If I'm not mistaken, we were trying to keep the window open to gather as much feedback as possible so there likely won't be a report in your packet. Dr. Harris is preparing remarks for Monday evening to summarize the information.

I'll pass along to Dr. Harris your email for us with Malone and MacBroom. Dr. Harris is working with them to prepare a draft for my review which will be in board packet.



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

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Thank you for all your help with this.

Thank-you,
Cathy

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 1:23:56 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Dr. Melton, You're correct about the community feedback. However, the consultants already have the data I requested, so I would like to get that as soon as possible. I sent the email last week to give them plenty of time to pull together but am certainly open to receiving the information in whatever format they have.

Thank-you,
Cathy

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If I'm not mistaken, we were trying to keep the window open to gather as much feedback as possible so there likely won't be a report in your packet. Dr. Harris is preparing remarks for Monday evening to summarize the information.

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Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Details on Redistricting Scenarios 5 and 6

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Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner"

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Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner"

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Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

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Thank-you,
Cathy

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Fwd: 12" inch force sewer Line

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

To: email: "estrange@lexrich5.org Erin Strange"

Bcc: email: "d5-board-members@lexrich5.org"

Friday, January 22, 2021 at 11:28:55 AM Eastern Standard Time

Board of Trustees,

I have attached a letter that we plan to send to the town of Chapin next week. I shared with Board Officers that we were working on this issue and would provide an update to the Board. The letter is a follow up with a recent conversations and email correspondences that date back to October and most recently on January 5, 2021, noting that the 12" force sewer main under pavement on the widened road associated with the new construction at Amicks Ferry Road Elementary School (the Project) that will need to be "relocated."

Mr. Bedenbaugh has worked with Attorney Caleb Riser with **Richardson Plowden & Robinson, P.A.**

Chair Hammond, I defer to you how you would like to proceed with collecting and answering any questions should there be any. When the tour is conducted next week, we can explain further and answer any questions from those who attend since Board Members will be on site.

This is for information, no action is necessary unless the Board chooses otherwise.



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Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

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www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Todd Bedenbaugh** <tbedenba@lexrich5.org>

Date: Fri, Jan 22, 2021 at 9:57 AM

Subject: 12" inch force sewer Line

To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Erin Strange <estrange@lexrich5.org>

--



Todd A. Bedenbaugh

Executive Director of Operations

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

1020 Dutch Fork Road, Irmo, SC 29063

office: 803.476.8153

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

Attachments:

Ltr of Compromise to Town (w client rev) 011421_clean final.docx 24k

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Friday, January 22, 2021 at 3:18:14 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

Dr. Melton, Thank you for sharing this with us. I have read the letter and I am confused as it appears that we followed specifications yet are agreeing to fund 1/2 the cost to relocate the sewer at a cost of at least \$70,000 to the district. I have not had time to review how this works per the Procurement code but since it appears to be money that we do not owe, I respectfully request a board discussion and approval before we make any payment or any commitment to make a payment or in any way bear additional costs for something we did correctly. In other words, I believe action is necessary.

Thank-you,
Cathy

On Fri, Jan 22, 2021 at 11:29 AM Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Board of Trustees,

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider"

--
Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Saturday, January 23, 2021 at 10:14:51 AM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Cc: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

I agree with you.

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"This institution is an equal opportunity provider"

--

Catherine Huddle

Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines"

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Bcc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org"

Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 6:43:55 PM Eastern Standard Time

Dr. Melton,

Thank you for this email. I understand that the proper protocol is to discuss this situation in greater detail with all parties at the scheduled PWES tour on Thursday.

With that in mind, I will have questions in regards to our "offer to compromise" with the Town of Chapin. In particular, it appears from the letter forwarded by Mr. Cannon that the District has followed all

contractual obligations and is not responsible for any decision to relocate the sewer main. Furthermore, it appears that the decision to relocate the sewer main is a result of convenience for the Town. While I do understand goodwill with our community partners, I am a little confused as to why the District would bear the brunt of the financial responsibility to relocate this sewer main. I will be asking for clarification as to this matter on Thursday.

Once again, this email is just give you advance notice of my questions. I have blind copied the board to this email. I am looking forward to the PWES visit.

Kind regards,
Rebecca Blackburn Hines

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"This institution is an equal opportunity provider"

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 7:12:56 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Cc: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

Yes ma'am. I'll have Mr. Bedenbaugh include Mrs. Robinson who oversees procurement responsibilities in District Five.

Mrs. Hammond, once I have confirmation from the availability of attorneys, I will let you know. Would this be considered a special called meeting or is there another idea?

If the agenda is amended for the meeting tomorrow night, we have not coordinated legal counsel to be in attendance.

I'll have Mr. Cannon hold the letter for now.



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

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Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Todd Bedenbaugh** <tbedenba@lexrich5.org>

Date: Fri, Jan 22, 2021 at 9:57 AM

Subject: 12" inch force sewer Line

To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Erin Strange <estrangle@lexrich5.org>

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Todd A. Bedenbaugh

Executive Director of Operations

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

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office: 803.476.8153

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"This institution is an equal opportunity provider"

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 7:21:07 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Cc: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle", email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

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To: email: "estrange@lexrich5.org Erin Strange"

Bcc: email: "d5-board-members@lexrich5.org"

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Attachments:

Ltr of Compromise to Town (w client rev) 011421_clean final.docx 24k

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Friday, January 22, 2021 at 3:18:14 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Saturday, January 23, 2021 at 10:14:51 AM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Cc: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

I agree with you.

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Catherine Huddle

Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines"

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Bcc: email: "klloveless@lexrich5.org"

Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 6:43:55 PM Eastern Standard Time

Dr. Melton,

Thank you for this email. I understand that the proper protocol is to discuss this situation in greater detail with all parties at the scheduled PWES tour on Thursday.

With that in mind, I will have questions in regards to our "offer to compromise" with the Town of Chapin. In particular, it appears from the letter forwarded by Mr. Cannon that the District has followed all contractual obligations and is not responsible for any decision to relocate the sewer main. Furthermore, it appears that the decision to relocate the sewer main is a result of convenience for the Town. While I do understand goodwill with our community partners, I am

a little confused as to why the District would bear the brunt of the financial responsibility to relocate this sewer main. I will be asking for clarification as to this matter on Thursday.

Once again, this email is just give you advance notice of my questions. I have blind copied the board to this email. I am looking forward to the PWES visit.

Kind regards,
Rebecca Blackburn Hines

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email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 7:12:56 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Cc: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

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Catherine Huddle

Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

To: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org"

Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 1:45:35 AM Eastern Standard Time

Here's an example of how I need help :

Christina S. Melton , Ed.D.

Superintendent of School District 5 of Lexington & Richland Counties

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Date: January 24, 2021 at 7:12:56 PM EST

To: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>, Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

Subject: Re: 12" inch force sewer Line

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Ltr of Compromise to Town (w client rev) 011421_clean final.docx 24k

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Friday, January 22, 2021 at 3:18:14 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

Dr. Melton, Thank you for sharing this with us. I have read the letter and I am confused as it appears that we followed specifications yet are agreeing to fund 1/2 the cost to relocate the sewer at a cost of at least \$70,000 to the district. I have not had time to review how this works per the Procurement code but since it appears to be money that we do not owe, I respectfully request a board discussion and approval before we make any payment or any commitment to make a payment or in any way bear additional costs for something we did correctly. In other words, I believe action is necessary.

Thank-you,
Cathy

On Fri, Jan 22, 2021 at 11:29 AM Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Board of Trustees,

I have attached a letter that we plan to send to the town of Chapin next week. I shared with Board Officers that we were working on this issue and would provide an update to the Board. The letter is a follow up with a recent conversations and email correspondences that date back to October and most recently on January 5, 2021, noting that the 12" force sewer main under pavement on the widened road associated with the new construction at Amicks Ferry Road Elementary School (the Project) that will need to be "relocated."

Mr. Bedenbaugh has worked with Attorney Caleb Riser with **Richardson Plowden & Robinson, P.A.**

Chair Hammond, I defer to you how you would like to proceed with collecting and answering any questions should there be any. When the tour is conducted next week, we can explain further and answer any questions from those who attend since Board Members will be on site.

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Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Todd Bedenbaugh** <tbedenba@lexrich5.org>

Date: Fri, Jan 22, 2021 at 9:57 AM

Subject: 12" inch force sewer Line

To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Erin Strange <estrangle@lexrich5.org>

--



Todd A. Bedenbaugh

Executive Director of Operations

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider"

--
Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Saturday, January 23, 2021 at 10:14:51 AM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Cc: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

I agree with you.

On Fri, Jan 22, 2021, 3:18 PM Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Dr. Melton, Thank you for sharing this with us. I have read the letter and I am confused as it appears that we followed specifications yet are agreeing to fund 1/2 the cost to relocate the sewer at a cost of at least \$70,000 to the district. I have not had time to review how this works per the Procurement code but since it appears to be money that we do not owe, I respectfully request a board discussion and approval before we make any payment or any commitment to make a payment or in any way bear additional costs for something we did correctly. In other words, I believe action is necessary.

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Catherine Huddle

Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines"

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Bcc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org"

Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 6:43:55 PM Eastern Standard Time

Dr. Melton,

Thank you for this email. I understand that the proper protocol is to discuss this situation in greater detail with all parties at the scheduled PWES tour on Thursday.

With that in mind, I will have questions in regards to our "offer to compromise" with the Town of Chapin. In particular, it appears from the letter forwarded by Mr. Cannon that the District has followed all

contractual obligations and is not responsible for any decision to relocate the sewer main. Furthermore, it appears that the decision to relocate the sewer main is a result of convenience for the Town. While I do understand goodwill with our community partners, I am a little confused as to why the District would bear the brunt of the financial responsibility to relocate this sewer main. I will be asking for clarification as to this matter on Thursday.

Once again, this email is just give you advance notice of my questions. I have blind copied the board to this email. I am looking forward to the PWES visit.

Kind regards,
Rebecca Blackburn Hines

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email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 7:12:56 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Cc: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

Yes ma'am. I'll have Mr. Bedenbaugh include Mrs. Robinson who oversees procurement responsibilities in District Five.

Mrs. Hammond, once I have confirmation from the availability of attorneys, I will let you know. Would this be considered a special called meeting or is there another idea?

If the agenda is amended for the meeting tomorrow night, we have not coordinated legal counsel to be in attendance.

I'll have Mr. Cannon hold the letter for now.



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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 7:21:07 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Cc: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

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Todd A. Bedenbaugh

Executive Director of Operations

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--

Catherine Huddle

Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Fwd: agenda

email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 8:52:23 AM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Erin Strange** <estrange@lexrich5.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 20, 2021 at 8:09 AM
Subject: Fwd:
To: Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>, Nikki Gardner <ngardner@lexrich5.org>
CC: Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

Good morning,

Per Mrs. Hammond's request - attached is the agenda for January 25.

Thank you,
Erin



Erin Strange

*Executive Administrative Assistant
Board of Trustees and Superintendent*
School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties
[1020 Dutch Fork Road, Irmo, SC 29063](https://www.lexrich5.org)
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estrange@lexrich5.org
www.lexrich5.org



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From: **Janis Hammond** <jhammond@lexrich5.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 20, 2021 at 8:01 AM
Subject:
To: Erin Strange <estrange@lexrich5.org>

Please send draft to Ken and Nikki this morning. Nikki's notes have the dates we discussed for added meetings. I want both of them to see the draft this morning. Thanks it would not load when I sent it.

Attachments:

January 25, 2021.pdf 196k

email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 9:05:49 AM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "ken@lovelesscontracting.com Ken Loveless"

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nikki Gardner** <ngardner@lexrich5.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 20, 2021 at 8:52 AM
Subject: Fwd: agenda
To: Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>

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Board of Trustees and Superintendent*
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January 25, 2021.pdf 196k

Fwd: Board Packet

email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 8:48:59 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner"

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Janis Hammond** <jhammond@lexrich5.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 19, 2021 at 9:45 AM
Subject: Re: Board Packet
To: Erin Strange <estrange@lexrich5.org>

Thank you!

On Tue, Jan 19, 2021 at 9:21 AM Erin Strange <estrange@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Good morning, Mrs. Hammond-

I hope you had a restful weekend!

A few loose ends I wanted to tie up for the board packet...

I have attached the latest agenda which notes the wording you requested on item #14 "Approval of revisions to Policy BDE "Board Committees""

To confirm our conversation last week, I should expect the exhibits for item #14 and #18 to come from Mrs. Gardner by the end of the day tomorrow, Wednesday.

Please let me know if you have any questions- thank you!
Erin



Erin Strange

*Executive Administrative Assistant
Board of Trustees and Superintendent*
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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

Fwd: Proposed Board Policy

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 1:53:11 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner"

Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

Nikki, Please see attached. To save you from having to contact the SCSBA and possible additional costs, I converted our policy and Fort Mill's into Word documents and then updated our policy to match theirs - please see attached.

I am not sure the method typically used to indicate changes but here is what I did:

Strikethrough - words or sections to be removed since they are not in the Fort Mill policy

Yellow highlighting - new words or sections added so that the policy now match's Fort Mill's

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Thank-you,

Cathy

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Date: Thu, Jan 14, 2021 at 10:13 AM

Subject: Re: Proposed Board Policy

To: Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>

Mrs. Hammond,

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Thank you,

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Erin, Ms. Hammond asked me to send you this policy for the board packet and first reading. The proposal is to replace the current policy in its entirety with the SCSBA model policy from Fort Mill, which can be found at: https://boardpolicyonline.com/?b=fort_mill# and attached. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank-you,
Cathy

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Attachments:

Policy BDE Board Committees LR5 rev2021.docx 13k

email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 3:20:15 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner"

Nikki I talked with school board legal policy department. It is fine to use Fort Mills and just replace our school district s information. Do you mind doing this and sending it to Erin. She wanted clarification on this through me. Thanks so much. Thanks to Cathy for sending it to us.

----- Forwarded message -----

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To: email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner"

Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 1:10:18 PM Eastern Standard Time

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Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Attachments:

Policy BDE Board Committees LR5 rev2021.docx 13k

email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner"
To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 1:28:46 PM Eastern Standard Time

Thanks Cathy! You are doing all the heavy lifting on this one! I think the way you have it edited is perfect. Thanks!

Nikki

On Thu, Jan 14, 2021 at 1:53 PM Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Nikki, Please see attached. To save you from having to contact the SCSBA and possible additional costs, I converted our policy and Fort Mill's into Word documents and then updated our policy to match theirs - please see attached.

I am not sure the method typically used to indicate changes but here is what I did:
Strikethrough - words or sections to be removed since they are not in the Fort Mill policy
Yellow highlighting - new words or sections added so that the policy now match's Fort Mill's

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.
Thank-you,
Cathy

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Erin Strange** <estrange@lexrich5.org>
Date: Thu, Jan 14, 2021 at 10:13 AM
Subject: Re: Proposed Board Policy
To: Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>
Cc: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>

Mrs. Hammond,

As I mentioned yesterday, compiling the exhibit may be something you prefer Mrs. Gardner handle as Board Secretary, since the Board is bringing these revisions forward and will speak to it during the meeting. SCSBA should be able to share a Word document with the model policy that Fort Mill has adopted.

Thank you,
Erin



Erin Strange

*Executive Administrative Assistant
Board of Trustees and Superintendent*
School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties
1020 Dutch Fork Road, Irmo, SC 29063
office: 803.476.8169
estrange@lexrich5.org
www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

On Wed, Jan 13, 2021 at 10:41 PM Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org> wrote:

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Thank-you,
Cathy

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"
To: email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner"

Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 1:44:08 PM Eastern Standard Time

Glad to help anytime. I like things like that and was probably a secretary in an earlier life :)

Thanks,
Cathy

On Wed, Jan 20, 2021 at 1:28 PM Nikki Gardner <ngardner@lexrich5.org> wrote:

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--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Fwd: protest

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"
To: email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner"

Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 1:45:29 PM Eastern Standard Time

FYI. Since I called you about this and didn't want to accidentally create a quorum via email, I didn't include you in my email.

Thanks,
Cathy

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cathy Huddle** <chuddle@lexrich5.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 20, 2021 at 1:17 PM
Subject: Fwd: protest
To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Dr. Melton, Is this student correct that she informed the district office about this protest and has been assigned a security officer? Obviously they have a right to protest, but it would be nice to know this type of thing is coming. ASAP if/when the DO knows.

The location is still showing as TBA. If this meeting is in a location with windows, I ask that protestors not be directed to the windows or encouraged to disrupt the actual meeting.

Thank-you,
Cathy

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Maren Martin** <maren1026@aol.com>
Date: Wed, Jan 20, 2021 at 11:52 AM
Subject: protest
To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>, Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>, Nikki Gardner <ngardner@lexrich5.org>, Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>, Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org>, Matt Hogan <mhogan@lexrich5.org>, Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

It has come to my attention that some students/parents/teachers (see attachment) are planning another protest at the next board meeting. Please consider allowing students that do not feel safe to join their classes from home without fear of being marked absent. There are many students that are struggling with the inconsistency of this school year and need to have a stable day to day schedule. The loud voices of some should not be able to speak for the silent majority.

Thank you

Maren Martin


--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Attachments:

Screenshot_20210120-113746_Facebook.jpg 1.1M

Fwd: Wednesdays

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 10:31:05 AM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Dr. Melton, I don't think Ms. Williams sent her email to you so I am forwarding because I think her point of needing to "practice" for possible virtual days has merit. While I personally don't think we should use Wednesdays for that, the overall concept of a plan for possible return to virtual, at a school level or district level, for any reason (Covid, flood, flu, etc), is a good one - a disaster recovery plan of sorts.

I have copied Ms. Hammond and Mr. Loveless in the event they believe such a plan is something that should be built into policy and/or needs to be a future agenda item.

Thank-you,
Catherine Huddle

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Denise Williams** <dwilliam@lexrich5.org>

Date: Wed, Jan 20, 2021 at 4:59 PM

Subject: Wednesdays

To: Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>, Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>, Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>, Edward White <ewhite@lexrich5.org>, Matt Hogan <mhogan@lexrich5.org>, Nikki Gardner <ngardner@lexrich5.org>, Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org>

Dear Board Members,

I am a teacher at Oak Pointe Elementary school. As you all well know, this year has been like no other. This pandemic has robbed us of so much, especially so many parts of a school experience. As I reflect on all of the changes that occurred practically overnight, I am so proud of my school family and our ability to adjust to more work, less planning, sharing our classrooms with related arts teachers, less time for lunch, etc.

I wanted to reach out to you all in hopes that you would listen to why I think it is extremely important to continue using Wednesdays as a distant learning day. I know the original idea was to have a day to deep clean. I am not in my building on Wednesdays, but I feel sure things are being done above and beyond to keep our school clean. However, I do not think we need to continue to be out of the building on Wednesdays in order to keep our school clean. Yes, it helps, but maybe not completely necessary.

However, there are so many other reasons why I think it is important to keep Wednesdays the way they are currently. Wednesdays have caused teachers, assistants, and students to learn how to navigate virtual learning. Our students have the opportunity to "practice" this kind of learning each week. If we return to five days a week, students will no longer have the opportunity to learn like this and so much will be forgotten.

This week it was very apparent to me that I reach out to you all. We had a kindergarten class that had to quarantine. Most found out late on Sunday as the child's results did not come back positive until then. The teacher, principal, and nurse worked tirelessly that night to make sure everyone was aware of what Monday would look like. The teacher teaches these children every Wednesday in a virtual environment

and because of this, guess what? This class did not miss a beat!!!! She was able to open up her classroom on Monday morning, not in the same way, but instruction happened. If this class had not had the opportunity to learn this way each Wednesday, Monday in quarantine would have looked very different. As we all know the famous saying- practice makes perfect. I witnessed this practice become perfection as this class began school on Monday without fail and we are talking about five year olds!

Please, please consider keeping the current model in place as our numbers continue to rise higher than we have ever seen. This kindergarten class is only one example of how learning has continued through a virtual lens. Classes, students, teachers are all getting calls constantly finding out there is a need for quarantine. If we take virtual Wednesdays away, our kids will lose out so much because they are not going to remember the ins and outs of virtual learning. They need this day.

One last remark, I work non-stop on Wednesdays. Meeting with my students and then meeting with my team in the afternoons to plan. We have been given so many extra tasks to deal with this year and a shortened planning period! Wednesdays are the only time our team can get together to plan to teach effectively.

Please consider keeping the current model and not returning to five days in February.

Thank you for your time,
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--
Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 12:44:10 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"
Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Thank you, Mrs. Huddle. I have heard this recently from more teachers.

I'll be sure that we make note for our reentry committee when we convene next.



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 12:44:26 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "mguliano@lexrich5.org Michael Guliano" , email: "estrange@lexrich5.org Erin Strange"

for next reentry agenda



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

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To: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

information only

email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 11:37:12 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan" , email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines" , email: "ewhite@lexrich5.org Edward White" , email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" , email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Trustees,

As you all will recall, at our meeting on December 14,2020, the Board and Dr. Melton discussed scheduling a time for us to discuss our individual and collective assessment of the relationship between the Board and the Superintendent and the plan for going forward for the good of the district. That meeting has been scheduled for the Executive Session at the Board's meeting on January 25,2021.

So that this meeting can be as efficient and productive as possible, I am requesting that each Trustee come to the meeting prepared to share concerns, as well as positive comments, regarding how Dr. Melton and the Board are working together. As we have three Trustees who were just elected in November 2020, I also would ask those trustees to come to the meeting with any questions they have regarding Dr. Melton's most recent evaluation, and in particular, the goals that were established by the Board at that time.

If we all will take the time to prepare for this discussion in advance, I believe this meeting will be successful. I plan to open our discussion by restating the purpose and then giving each Trustee the opportunity to share. So that everyone present will have the same opportunity to speak, I will ask each of you to speak no more than 10 minutes during the first round of discussion. If time permits, every Trustee that wishes will be given a second opportunity to speak after Dr. Melton has an opportunity to respond and share information with the Board. Andrea White also will be present to answer any legal and procedural questions that the Board may have.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing everyone on the 25th.

Jan Hammond

n

Invitation: PWES Site Visit w/ Board @ Thu Jan 28, 2021 10am - 12:30pm (EST) (mhogan@lexrich5.org)

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 10:08:48 AM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org" , email: "cpaschal@lexrich5.org Cassandra Paschal" , email: "cwcannon@lexrich5.org" ,
email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org" , email: "ewhite@lexrich5.org" , email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org" , email: "d5-board-
members@lexrich5.org D5 Board Members" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org" , email:
"rhines@lexrich5.org" , email: "ghughes@contractconstruction.net"

You have been invited to the following event.

PWES Site Visit w/ Board

When Thu Jan 28, 2021 10am – 12:30pm Eastern Time - New York

[more details »](#)

Where PWES ([map](#))

Calendar mhogan@lexrich5.org

Who

- Christina Melton - organizer
- estrange@lexrich5.org - creator
- Cassandra Paschal
- cwcannon@lexrich5.org
- kloveless@lexrich5.org
- ewhite@lexrich5.org
- chuddle@lexrich5.org
- D5 Board Members
- mhogan@lexrich5.org
- jhammond@lexrich5.org
- ngardner@lexrich5.org
- rhines@lexrich5.org
- ghughes@contractconstruction.net

Going (mhogan@lexrich5.org)? **Yes** - **Maybe** - **No** [more options »](#)

Invitation from [Google Calendar](#)

You are receiving this email at the account mhogan@lexrich5.org because you are subscribed for invitations on calendar mhogan@lexrich5.org.

To stop receiving these emails, please log in to <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/> and change your notification settings for this calendar.

Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to send a response to the organizer and be added to the guest list, or invite others regardless of their own invitation status, or to modify your RSVP. [Learn More](#).

Attachments:

invite.ics 1.9k

invite.ics 1.9k

Proposed Board Policy

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 10:41:33 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "estrange@lexrich5.org Erin Strange"
Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

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Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Policy-BDE (4).pdf 26k

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Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 1:53:11 PM Eastern Standard Time

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Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Attachments:

Policy BDE Board Committees LR5 rev2021.docx 13k

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"
To: email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner"

Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 1:10:18 PM Eastern Standard Time

I found it - resending.
Thanks,
Cathy

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cathy Huddle** <chuddle@lexrich5.org>
Date: Thu, Jan 14, 2021 at 1:53 PM
Subject: Fwd: Proposed Board Policy
To: Nikki Gardner <ngardner@lexrich5.org>
Cc: Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

Nikki, Please see attached. To save you from having to contact the SCSBA and possible additional costs, I converted our policy and Fort Mill's into Word documents and then updated our policy to match theirs - please see attached.

I am not sure the method typically used to indicate changes but here is what I did:
Strikethrough - words or sections to be removed since they are not in the Fort Mill policy
Yellow highlighting - new words or sections added so that the policy now match's Fort Mill's

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.
Thank-you,
Cathy

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Erin Strange** <estrange@lexrich5.org>
Date: Thu, Jan 14, 2021 at 10:13 AM
Subject: Re: Proposed Board Policy
To: Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>
Cc: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>

Mrs. Hammond,

As I mentioned yesterday, compiling the exhibit may be something you prefer Mrs. Gardner handle as Board Secretary, since the Board is bringing these revisions forward and will speak to it during the meeting. SCSBA should be able to share a Word document with the model policy that Fort Mill has adopted.

Thank you,
Erin



Erin Strange

*Executive Administrative Assistant
Board of Trustees and Superintendent*
School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties
1020 Dutch Fork Road, Irmo, SC 29063
office: 803.476.8169
estrange@lexrich5.org
www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

On Wed, Jan 13, 2021 at 10:41 PM Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Erin, Ms. Hammond asked me to send you this policy for the board packet and first reading. The proposal is to replace the current policy in its entirety with the SCSBA model policy from Fort Mill, which can be found at: https://boardpolicyonline.com/?b=fort_mill# and attached. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank-you,
Cathy

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--
Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--
Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Attachments:

Policy BDE Board Committees LR5 rev2021.docx 13k

email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 1:28:46 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Thanks Cathy! You are doing all the heavy lifting on this one! I think the way you have it edited is perfect. Thanks!

Nikki

On Thu, Jan 14, 2021 at 1:53 PM Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Nikki, Please see attached. To save you from having to contact the SCSBA and possible additional costs, I converted our policy and Fort Mill's into Word documents and then updated our policy to match theirs - please see attached.

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Thank you,
Erin



Erin Strange

Executive Administrative Assistant

Board of Trustees and Superintendent

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1020 Dutch Fork Road, Irmo, SC 29063

office: 803.476.8169

estrangle@lexrich5.org

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Thank-you,
Cathy

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"
To: email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner"

Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 1:44:08 PM Eastern Standard Time

Glad to help anytime. I like things like that and was probably a secretary in an earlier life :)

Thanks,
Cathy

On Wed, Jan 20, 2021 at 1:28 PM Nikki Gardner <ngardner@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Thanks Cathy! You are doing all the heavy lifting on this one! I think the way you have it edited is perfect. Thanks!

Nikki

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Erin



Erin Strange

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Board of Trustees and Superintendent

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

protest

email: "maren1026@aol.com Maren Martin" **Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 11:52:00 AM Eastern Standard Time**
To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" , email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

It has come to my attention that some students/parents/teachers (see attachment) are planning another protest at the next board meeting. Please consider allowing students that do not feel safe to join their classes from home without fear of being marked absent. There are many students that are struggling with the inconsistency of this school year and need to have a stable day to day schedule. The loud voices of some should not be able to speak for the silent majority.

Thank you

Maren Martin



Attachments:

Screenshot_20210120-113746_Facebook.jpg 1.1M

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" **Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 12:38:12 PM Eastern Standard Time**
To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"
Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Dr. Melton, I read then screen shot attached, which indicates the young lady contacted the district office to inform the office of the protest. Is that true? If so, why wasn't the board notified?

Is her claim that a security officer is being assigned to their group also true? If so, is this one of the officer usually allotted to the board meetings or an extra officer?

To avoid a quorum, I have only copied Ms. Hammond and Mr. Loveless on this email.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Maren Martin** <maren1026@aol.com>

Date: Wed, Jan 20, 2021 at 11:52 AM

Subject: protest

To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>, Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>, Nikki Gardner <ngardner@lexrich5.org>, Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>, Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org>, Matt Hogan <mhogan@lexrich5.org>, Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

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with the inconsistency of this school year and need to have a stable day to day schedule. The loud voices of some should not be able to speak for the silent majority.

Thank you

Maren Martin


--
Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Attachments:

Screenshot_20210120-113746_Facebook.jpg 1.1M

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 1:17:54 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Dr. Melton, Is this student correct that she informed the district office about this protest and has been assigned a security officer? Obviously they have a right to protest, but it would be nice to know this type of thing is coming. ASAP if/when the DO knows.

The location is still showing as TBA. If this meeting is in a location with windows, I ask that protestors not be directed to the windows or encouraged to disrupt the actual meeting.

Thank-you,
Cathy

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From: **Maren Martin** <maren1026@aol.com>

Date: Wed, Jan 20, 2021 at 11:52 AM

Subject: protest

To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>, Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>, Nikki Gardner <ngardner@lexrich5.org>, Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>, Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org>, Matt Hogan <mhogan@lexrich5.org>, Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

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Thank you

Maren Martin


--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Attachments:

Screenshot_20210120-113746_Facebook.jpg 1.1M

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"
To: email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner"

Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 1:45:29 PM Eastern Standard Time

FYI. Since I called you about this and didn't want to accidentally create a quorum via email, I didn't include you in my email.

Thanks,

Cathy

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cathy Huddle** <chuddle@lexrich5.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 20, 2021 at 1:17 PM
Subject: Fwd: protest
To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Dr. Melton, Is this student correct that she informed the district office about this protest and has been assigned a security officer? Obviously they have a right to protest, but it would be nice to know this type of thing is coming. ASAP if/when the DO knows.

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Thank-you,
Cathy

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Date: Wed, Jan 20, 2021 at 11:52 AM
Subject: protest
To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>, Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>, Nikki Gardner <ngardner@lexrich5.org>, Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>, Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org>, Matt Hogan <mhogan@lexrich5.org>, Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

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Thank you

Maren Martin


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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--
Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Attachments:

Screenshot_20210120-113746_Facebook.jpg 1.1M

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 2:25:08 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "maren1026@aol.com Maren Martin"

Ms. Martin, Thank you for your email and sharing your concerns. While there appears to be a lot of chatter based on the emails I am receiving, the current plan is 4 days with a return to 5 days in February. The superintendent can request board approval for a modification to that plan but so far has not.

We implemented the "10% rule" in part to bring consistency and as a result have only seen 2 of our schools return to virtual and in both cases for only one day. I am optimistic that this rule will continue to work and minimize the disruption to our students and staff.

I try to read all my emails and respond to most. However, when making decisions on any subject, while I consider the emails and other feedback received, I know that they are not necessarily representative of our student's, parent's or staff's thoughts - and that a great deal of other information must be considered before making any decision.

Thank-you,
Catherine Huddle

On Wed, Jan 20, 2021 at 11:52 AM Maren Martin <maren1026@aol.com> wrote:

It has come to my attention that some students/parents/teachers (see attachment) are planning another protest at the next board meeting. Please consider allowing students that do not feel safe to join their classes from home without fear of being marked absent. There are many students that are struggling with the inconsistency of this school year and need to have a stable day to day schedule. The loud voices of some should not be able to speak for the silent majority.

Thank you

Maren Martin


--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 4:22:23 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Mrs. Huddle,

Usually the location is confirmed when the board receives an update from Officers. Mrs. Hammond and I just spoke about how she plans to create that flow of information. IHS is the location. We will meet in the cafeteria where there are not any windows and the Board will have assigned parking and officers positioned.

Our Safety Officers typically communicate with parking information if we are aware of a situation. I'll make note for future meetings your request.

I appreciate your questions and the opportunity you offer me to explain.



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

On Wed, Jan 20, 2021 at 1:18 PM Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Dr. Melton, Is this student correct that she informed the district office about this protest and has been assigned a security officer? Obviously they have a right to protest, but it would be nice to know this type of thing is coming. ASAP if/when the DO knows.

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Date: Wed, Jan 20, 2021 at 11:52 AM

Subject: protest

To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>, Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>, Nikki Gardner <ngardner@lexrich5.org>, Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>, Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org>, Matt Hogan <mhogan@lexrich5.org>, Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

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Thank you

Maren Martin


--
Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 1:45:33 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"
Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Dr. Melton, Thank you for providing information on the location in your reply. I didn't see an answer to the first part of my question in your reply: "Is this student correct that she informed the district office about this protest?"

Thank-you,
Cathy

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Thank you

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 2:54:02 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"
Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Mrs. Huddle,
My apologies. I included this information below in the message I sent to all board members yesterday at 3:17 addressing the student's outreach but did not include that with my response to your email.

"A student reached out and asked for guidance to ensure that students would be in compliance with district expectations. Fortunately, our students understand our student behavior handbook is enforced whether it is during the school day or other events on our campuses.

I am not aware of a safety officer being assigned but I am aware that questions were answered by a safety officer as we would do with any other group that reaches out in advance. We have had SC For Ed, F2F supporters and students all within the last calendar year. Our safety officers in conjunction with law enforcement work to ensure safety when there are gatherings and of course to ensure safety when the board is meeting. "



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Catherine Huddle

Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 5:43:04 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Thank you for clarifying. As you know, we get many emails from parents and others and I have "conversation view" turned on - which resulted in your 3:17pm email being linked to Ms. Martin's email which I had moved to a folder.

Since you replied to me directly after that but didn't answer the question in your reply to me, I was unaware you had answered in another email. If that happens again in the future, it would be very helpful if you wouldn't mind repeating the answer or directing me to the other email that has the answer.

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Subject: protest

To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>, Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>, Nikki Gardner <ngardner@lexrich5.org>, Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>, Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org>, Matt Hogan <mhogan@lexrich5.org>, Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

It has come to my attention that some students/parents/teachers (see attachment) are planning another protest at the next board meeting. Please consider allowing students that do not feel safe to join their classes from home without fear of being marked absent. There are many students that are struggling with the inconsistency of this school year and need to have a stable day to day schedule. The loud voices of some should not be able to speak for the silent majority.

Thank you

Maren Martin


--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

PWES Tour

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"
To: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Jan Hammond"

Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 8:50:55 AM Eastern Standard Time

Mrs. Hammond,
I have two things that I need your guidance on:

1. We have proceeded with scheduling the tour at PWES on January 28 as we discussed in Board Officers. I set the time from 10 - 12:30 to help our folks with scheduling.

Have you or the Officers invited others or would you prefer we send an invitation?

2. Has Mrs. Gardner shared with the Board the drafted agenda items?

I forgot to ask what you wanted your style to be to prepare others members for upcoming meetings.

Feel free to reach out to Erin or me once you're ready.

Thanks



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 9:44:22 AM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Thank you!

On Tue, Jan 19, 2021 at 8:51 AM Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Mrs. Hammond,

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 10:03:26 AM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "estrange@lexrich5.org Erin Strange"



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From: **Janis Hammond** <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

Date: Tue, Jan 19, 2021 at 9:44 AM

Subject: Re: PWES Tour

To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

email: "estrange@lexrich5.org Erin Strange"

Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 10:06:14 AM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

Bcc: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org"

Thank you for sharing the email -

As you suggested, I will send a calendar invitation to board members regarding the PWES site visit. I will also get clarification from Dr. Melton regarding who "others" are. By the sound of her email, I believe Dr. Melton meant board members, but I will get back to you.

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Board of Trustees and Superintendent

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

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Subject: Re: PWES Tour

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

FYI - Mrs. Hammond did not request that I/we/you send the agenda to board members.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Janis Hammond** <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

Date: Tue, Jan 19, 2021 at 10:09 AM

Subject: Re: PWES Tour

To: Erin Strange <estrange@lexrich5.org>

Thanks

On Tue, Jan 19, 2021 at 10:06 AM Erin Strange <estrange@lexrich5.org> wrote:

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[office: 803.476.8169](tel:8034768169)

estrange@lexrich5.org

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

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To: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Jan Hammond"

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 9:53:46 AM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "estrange@lexrich5.org Erin Strange"

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Janis Hammond** <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

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Subject: Re: PWES Tour

To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

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email: "estrange@lexrich5.org Erin Strange"

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 10:08:52 AM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "estrange@lexrich5.org Erin Strange"

Thanks

On Tue, Jan 19, 2021 at 10:06 AM Erin Strange <estrange@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Thank you for sharing the email -

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

Re: FW: FIVE

email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" Saturday, January 23, 2021 at 10:43:26 AM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan" , email: "EWhite@lexrich5.org Edward White" , email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines"

Dr. Melton, I noticed that there are agenda items addressing FIVE. Below is my 12/17/20 email with questions related to FIVE. I reiterate and reaffirm the need for these questions to be answered before the meeting. I asked my questions early so that your staff would be prepared to answer at the 1/25/21 meeting. Please respond with the appropriate and detailed reply as you normally give on subjects of such gravity. Respectfully submitted, Ken Loveless

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Christina Melton** <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Date: Fri, Dec 18, 2020 at 9:32 AM

Subject: Re: FIVE

To: Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>, Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>, Nikki Gardner <ngardner@lexrich5.org>, Matt Hogan <mhogan@lexrich5.org>, Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org>, Edward White <EWhite@lexrich5.org>

Mr. Loveless,

As we continue our operation of FIVE and advance our policy discussions in the next board meeting, we can be better prepared for the 2021-2022 cost of FIVE if it is offered. I appreciate your questions in advance to assist with our preparation.

Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

On Thu, Dec 17, 2020 at 1:12 PM Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Dr. Melton,

With Excellence for All and mindful of a successful allocation of scarce resources, I thought about the presentation of FIVE made at the board meeting Monday night. I believe it would be beneficial to see a "business model" analysis approach applied to the subject.

First, a survey of parents of students who presently use FIVE should be made. We should determine that if COVID were no longer a factor next year, how many parents believe their students would return to FIVE.

Second, chief among the topics we would like addressed in the business model are student populations likely to use and benefit, student fees to be charged, if any, the minimum feasible planned number of students, the uniform district wide delivery system to be used, the costs of mobile Hot Spots (the present grant expires 12/31/2020), the initial equipment outlay for hardware and software, projected licensing and maintenance costs, likely ramp up consulting costs, implementation costs, the broad overview of courses to be offered and the additional fully burdened personnel costs associated with administration and production.

Since Dr. G. said the number of end users cannot be anticipated or projected, we believe a base rate plus marginal, tiered threshold unit cost approach at differing economies of scale would be beneficial.

My belief is that other board members might have similar concerns.

I am sending this to you now so that you might have plenty of time to address.

Please respond.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Loveless

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you have received this transmission in error, any use, reproduction or dissemination of this transmission is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please immediately notify the sender by reply e-mail or phone and delete this message and its attachments, if any.

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 7:20:13 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan" , email: "EWhite@lexrich5.org Edward White" , email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines"

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I have engaged every department with numerous discussions so hopefully we will be able to answer questions tomorrow evening. Whatever further information the Board needs, we will work to meet the expectations.



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Board Members,

Below are responses to questions regarding FIVE for the 2021-22 school year. I regret the formatting of this information, we were prepared to discuss this tonight during the policy conversations that focused upon this content. The staff listed responses in bullet form. Context can be provided this evening should there be interest.

- * FIVE would be available to all students in School District 5 as a program of choice option.
- * Anticipated student fees would be the same for students in FIVE as students in-person.
- * The minimum number of students will vary depending upon level, as factors such as grade level configuration and scheduling vary across levels. Every attempt will be made to ensure student to teacher ratios ranging from 12:1 to 25:1 as outlined in Administrative Rule IIB-R: Class Size. The minimum and maximum number of students will be adhered to in FIVE as outlined in the referenced administrative rule.
- * G Suite Enterprise for Education (Google Enterprise) will continue to be the uniform district wide delivery system.
- * Mobile Hotspots will not be offered to families in FIVE as it is a program of choice versus a program during a pandemic.
- * Students and staff in FIVE are given the same hardware as in-person students and staff.
- * The projected costs for licensing and programs exclusive to FIVE is \$60,000 based upon current rates and based upon current approved requests.
- * There are no projected consulting costs exclusive to FIVE.
- * FIVE courses for elementary school will be the core content areas, in addition to electives such as Physical Education, Art, Music, and World Language.
- * FIVE courses for intermediate and middle school will be the core content areas, in addition to electives such as Physical Education, World Language, various Visual and Performing Arts, and computer courses.
- * FIVE courses for high school will be College Preparatory and Honors courses in core content areas, in addition to electives such as Physical Education, World Language, some CATE, and various Visual and Performing Arts. Advanced Placement (AP) classes will be based upon student interest levels, but there will be fewer AP offerings in FIVE than in-person. Parents and students will be able to view the entire FIVE Course Catalog prior to selecting FIVE as a program of choice.
- * In accordance with Board Policy GCK: Professional Staff Assignments and Transfers and Administrative Rule GCK-R: Professional Staff Assignments and Transfers, every attempt will be made to reassign existing personnel to staff FIVE. Also, in accordance with Board Policy GBC: Staff Compensation, compensation for professional staff would be based upon district and state salary schedules.
- * As of January 20th, we have 4558 students in FIVE. If 4558 students left FIVE to go to another online program, the District would lose approximately \$8.6 million (based upon the current State of South Carolina Base Student Cost of \$1,888.44).



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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

On Sun, Jan 24, 2021 at 9:14 PM Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Dr. Melton.

I spoke with Mr. Loveless about his questions concerning FIVE. I know I spoke with you in your office about the need to know the cost of this program but I did not intend for our conversation to answer his specific questions. . Please answer his direct questions so that he and all other board members will have the same information and your staff will be better prepared and informed for tomorrow night's meeting.

Thank you.

Jan Hammond.

On Sun, Jan 24, 2021 at 7:20 PM Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org> wrote:

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Superintendent

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office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

On Sat, Jan 23, 2021 at 10:43 AM Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Dr. Melton, I noticed that there are agenda items addressing FIVE. Below is my 12/17/20 email with questions related to FIVE. I reiterate and reaffirm the need for these questions to be answered before the meeting. I asked my questions early so that your staff would be prepared to answer at the 1/25/21 meeting. Please respond with the appropriate and detailed reply as you normally give on subjects of such gravity. Respectfully submitted, Ken Loveless

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Christina Melton** <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Date: Fri, Dec 18, 2020 at 9:32 AM

Subject: Re: FIVE

To: Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>

Cc: Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>, Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>, Nikki Gardner <ngardner@lexrich5.org>, Matt Hogan <mhogan@lexrich5.org>, Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org>, Edward White <EWhite@lexrich5.org>

Mr. Loveless,

As we continue our operation of FIVE and advance our policy discussions in the next board meeting, we can be better prepared for the 2021-2022 cost of FIVE if it is offered. I appreciate your questions in advance to assist with our preparation.



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Re: FW: FIVE

email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" Saturday, January 23, 2021 at 10:43:26 AM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan" , email: "EWhite@lexrich5.org Edward White" , email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines"

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email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Sunday, January 24, 2021 at 7:20:13 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan" , email: "EWhite@lexrich5.org Edward White" , email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines"

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Board Members,

Below are responses to questions regarding FIVE for the 2021-22 school year. I regret the formatting of this information, we were prepared to discuss this tonight during the policy conversations that focused upon this content. The staff listed responses in bullet form. Context can be provided this evening should there be interest.

- * FIVE would be available to all students in School District 5 as a program of choice option.
- * Anticipated student fees would be the same for students in FIVE as students in-person.
- * The minimum number of students will vary depending upon level, as factors such as grade level configuration and scheduling vary across levels. Every attempt will be made to ensure student to teacher ratios ranging from 12:1 to 25:1 as outlined in Administrative Rule IIB-R: Class Size. The minimum and maximum number of students will be adhered to in FIVE as outlined in the referenced administrative rule.
- * G Suite Enterprise for Education (Google Enterprise) will continue to be the uniform district wide delivery system.
- * Mobile Hotspots will not be offered to families in FIVE as it is a program of choice versus a program during a pandemic.
- * Students and staff in FIVE are given the same hardware as in-person students and staff.
- * The projected costs for licensing and programs exclusive to FIVE is \$60,000 based upon current rates and based upon current approved requests.
- * There are no projected consulting costs exclusive to FIVE.
- * FIVE courses for elementary school will be the core content areas, in addition to electives such as Physical Education, Art, Music, and World Language.
- * FIVE courses for intermediate and middle school will be the core content areas, in addition to electives such as Physical Education, World Language, various Visual and Performing Arts, and computer courses.
- * FIVE courses for high school will be College Preparatory and Honors courses in core content areas, in addition to electives such as Physical Education, World Language, some CATE, and various Visual and Performing Arts. Advanced Placement (AP) classes will be based upon student interest levels, but there will be fewer AP offerings in FIVE than in-person. Parents and students will be able to view the entire FIVE Course Catalog prior to selecting FIVE as a program of choice.
- * In accordance with Board Policy GCK: Professional Staff Assignments and Transfers and Administrative Rule GCK-R: Professional Staff Assignments and Transfers, every attempt will be made to reassign existing personnel to staff FIVE. Also, in accordance with Board Policy GBC: Staff Compensation, compensation for professional staff would be based upon district and state salary schedules.
- * As of January 20th, we have 4558 students in FIVE. If 4558 students left FIVE to go to another online program, the District would lose approximately \$8.6 million (based upon the current State of South Carolina Base Student Cost of \$1,888.44).



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On Sun, Jan 24, 2021 at 9:14 PM Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Dr. Melton.

I spoke with Mr. Loveless about his questions concerning FIVE. I know I spoke with you in your office about the need to know the cost of this program but I did not intend for our conversation to answer his specific questions. . Please answer his direct questions so that he and all other board members will have the same information and your staff will be better prepared and informed for tomorrow night's meeting.

Thank you.

Jan Hammond.

On Sun, Jan 24, 2021 at 7:20 PM Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org> wrote:

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Re: protest

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 1:45:33 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Dr. Melton, Thank you for providing information on the location in your reply. I didn't see an answer to the first part of my question in your reply: "Is this student correct that she informed the district office about this protest?"

Thank-you,
Cathy

On Wed, Jan 20, 2021 at 4:23 PM Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Mrs. Huddle,

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Thank-you,
Cathy

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From: **Maren Martin** <maren1026@aol.com>

Date: Wed, Jan 20, 2021 at 11:52 AM

Subject: protest

To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>, Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>, Nikki Gardner <ngardner@lexrich5.org>, Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>, Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org>, Matt Hogan <mhogan@lexrich5.org>, Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>

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Thank you

Maren Martin



--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 2:54:02 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

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"A student reached out and asked for guidance to ensure that students would be in compliance with district expectations. Fortunately, our students understand our student behavior handbook is enforced whether it is during the school day or other events on our campuses.

I am not aware of a safety officer being assigned but I am aware that questions were answered by a safety officer as we would do with any other group that reaches out in advance. We have had SC For Ed, F2F supporters and students all within the last calendar year. Our safety officers in conjunction with law enforcement work to ensure safety when there are gatherings and of course to ensure safety when the board is meeting. "



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Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 5:43:04 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Thank you for clarifying. As you know, we get many emails from parents and others and I have "conversation view" turned on - which resulted in your 3:17pm email being linked to Ms. Martin's email which I had moved to a folder.

Since you replied to me directly after that but didn't answer the question in your reply to me, I was unaware you had answered in another email. If that happens again in the future, it would be very helpful if you wouldn't mind repeating the answer or directing me to the other email that has the answer.

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Subject: protest

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It has come to my attention that some students/parents/teachers (see attachment) are planning another protest at the next board meeting. Please consider allowing students that do not feel safe to join their classes from home without fear of being marked absent. There are many students that are struggling with the inconsistency of this school year and need to have a stable day to day schedule. The loud voices of some should not be able to speak for the silent majority.

Thank you

Maren Martin



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Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Re: Requesting answers

email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 7:06:32 PM Eastern Standard Time

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Chair Hammond,

I would respectfully ask that you address the questions presented by Mr. Loveless at the meeting this evening. As the board cannot participate in this conversation as it would constitute a quorum, and Dr. Melton has repeatedly deferred to you, I believe further discussion should take place in an open meeting.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,

Rebecca Blackburn Hines

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On Wed, Jan 20, 2021, 7:06 PM Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Dr. Melton, are you going to answer me? I have requested access which would involve much more than the facile group visit shown as scheduled for 1/28/21. I certainly plan to attend. However, I have on numerous occasions requested a deeper dive into the subject. Are you going to answer me? Respectfully submitted, Ken Loveless

On Wed, Jan 6, 2021, 2:21 PM Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Dr. Melton,

I have asked several times that a meeting between Director of Facilities, Clay Cannon Nikki Gardner and I at PWES be arranged. The purpose is that we be allowed to see and study contract documents with an eye toward compliance. Once a protocol has been established we would like to be able to meet Mr. Cannon as many times as it takes to complete our review. We will need access to all documents indicated in the Contract for Construction.

I once again ask for this to be arranged.

Please let us know as soon as possible when this can be arranged.

Thank you in advance,

Kenneth B. Loveless, Vice Chair

Re-Entry Committee

email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner"
To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 11:07:36 AM Eastern Standard Time

Dr. Melton,

Has there been any recommendations or thoughts from the Re-Entry Committee that meets periodically about our current Wednesday situation?

Do they still recommend we go 5 days starting in February? Is there a difference between Elementary, Middle, and High School's thoughts?

I know since it is not on the agenda that you are not recommending a change from the current plan, but just wanted to know what the committee thought.

Thanks,
Nikki Gardner

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"
To: email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner"

Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 12:47:25 PM Eastern Standard Time

No ma'am. We have plans to continue with 5 days as presented. Mrs. Goggins has the next communications ready to share on our weekly timeframe.

The packet is almost ready to release, reentry is not recorded on the agenda.

Mrs. Hammond and I spoke yesterday. She plans to make remarks about reentry when the meeting opens. If anyone would like to amend the agenda, to add Monday night, that may be of interest or consideration if you think it would be helpful. I wouldn't have a presentation but there could be a discussion.

Just a thought ~



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

On Thu, Jan 21, 2021 at 11:07 AM Nikki Gardner <ngardner@lexrich5.org> wrote:

Dr. Melton,

Has there been any recommendations or thoughts from the Re-Entry Committee that meets periodically about our current Wednesday situation?

Do they still recommend we go 5 days starting in February? Is there a difference between Elementary, Middle, and High School's thoughts?

I know since it is not on the agenda that you are not recommending a change from the current plan, but just wanted to know what the committee thought.

Thanks,
Nikki Gardner

Requirement that Ken Loveless Recuse Himself from any Discussions about Contract Construction

email: "ewhite@lexrich5.org Edward White"

Monday, January 25, 2021 at 9:13:56 AM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond" , email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner" , email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" , email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org Matt Hogan" , email: "rhines@lexrich5.org Rebecca Hines" , email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" , email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Mrs. Hammond,

I am writing in reference to Mr. Loveless' request that he assume the role of inspecting and critiquing Piney Woods Elementary School with Nicki Gardner on behalf of the District.

If you recall, Mr. Loveless obtained a contract through his personal company to do work with Contract Construction sometime in the early part of 2020. Mr. Loveless never disclosed this financial relationship to the Board but was questioned about it in the Board's September 14, 2020 meeting at which time Mrs. Hutchinson raised the question of whether that financial relationship created an ethical problem. On September 25, 2020 Mr. Loveless obtained an Ethics Opinion (the "Opinion") from the South Carolina Ethics Commission based on Mr. Loveless bidding on second project with Contract Construction. The Opinion is addressed directly to Mr. Loveless and he put a copy of the letter on the minutes of our September 25, 2020 Board meeting..

While the Opinion concludes there is no outright prohibition for Mr. Loveless' company to enter into a contract with Contract Construction (while it is a vendor to the District), the Opinion is also very clear that Mr. Loveless, as a Board member, is required to recuse himself pursuant to Section 8-13-700(B) of the SC Code of Laws (the "Code") from any matters the District has with Contract Construction.

As cited in the Opinion, Section 8-13-700(B) of the Code clearly states that no public official may make, participate in making, **"or in any way attempt to use his office to influence a governmental decision"** involving the matter with which he has a financial relationship. Simply stated, Section 8-13-700(B) requires that Mr. Loveless recuse himself from any conversations or communication with the Board or the District involving Contract Construction and the Piney Woods School.

Section 8-13-700(B) of the Code also provides that (i) Mr. Loveless is required to prepare a written statement of his financial relationship with Contract Construction and deliver it to you (as the Board Chair) to put into the minutes of the Board, and (ii) that you, as the Board Chair are required to make sure that Mr. Loveless recuses himself from any discussions or votes pertaining to Contract Construction. I am not aware of any written statement Mr. Loveless submitted to put on the minutes of our Board meeting.

Technically, for Mr. Loveless to have properly complied with his recusal obligation he should have disclosed his financial relationship to the Board at the time his company first entered into the financial relationship with Contract Construction by submitting his written statement to the Board Chair and then he should have recused himself from all discussions or votes concerning the Piney Woods School. This means that if Mr. Loveless' company entered into its contract with Contract Construction prior to March 24, 2020 that Mr. Loveless should have never submitted his letter of March 24, 2020 to the Superintendent making allegations about the quality of the work of Contract Construction at the Piney Woods School site (which is a public document included on the minutes of the June 15, 2020 Board meeting) and he should have never participated in the discussions of the Piney Woods project in our September 14, 2020 Board meeting.

Even if Mr. Loveless was unaware of his ethical obligations at the time his company entered into its financial relationship with Contract Construction, he clearly should have known of his obligations after his receipt of the Opinion on September 25, 2020. This means that after September 25, 2020 Mr. Loveless should have immediately submitted his written statement of his company's financial relationship with Contract Construction to you as the Board Chair to put be into the minutes for public disclosure and he should have ceased any further efforts for him to personally be allowed to inspect and approve the construction of Piney Woods School. In other words, if Mr. Loveless company still has a financial relationship with Contract Construction then he is not in compliance with the Opinion (i)

if

he failed to submit his written disclosure to you to put into the Board minutes and (ii) because of his recent email requests to Dr. Melton and the Board that he and Nicki Gardner be given the actual plans to the Piney Woods school and the two of them be allowed to make trips to the school to inspect the construction.

I also shared the Opinion with my law partner, James Burns, who is an expert in the South Carolina Ethics laws and is a former past Chairman of the South Carolina Ethics Commission. After reviewing the Opinion, Mr. Burns' opinion is that Mr. Loveless is required to recuse himself from any discussions with the Board or District about the Piney Woods construction project and, you as the Board Chair, have an affirmative obligation to make sure he recuses himself.

I have attached a copy of the Opinion below.

My request is that you confirm whether Mr. Loveless has submitted his written disclosure about his company's financial relationship with Contract Construction. As Board members we are all entitled to know the start date and ending date of all contracts that Mr. Loveless' company has with Contract Construction. If Mr. Loveless has not prepared the written statement, then I would request you require him to do so prior to arriving at our meeting tonight and you publicly announce to the Board and the public (i) the starting and end dates of all financial relationships Mr. Loveless' company has with Contract Construction, (ii) that Mr. Loveless has to recuse himself from all communications or discussions the Piney Woods school, and (iii) you publicly notify him that he cannot supervise or inspect the construction. I am asking that you make these statements to in the public meeting to ensure transparency for the public, including the South Carolina Ethics Commission if it ever has to investigate whether Mr. Loveless is in compliance with his obligations in the Opinion.

I have other broader concerns about Mr. Loveless, or any Board member, attempting to personally supervise our construction projects based on the actual precedents established by Mr. Loveless with the Piney Woods School which I will detail in a separate email prior to our next meeting and to request we specifically evaluate the role of board members in construction review projects based on the actual experiences with the Piney Woods School.

As a reminder, please do not respond to this email. Our conversations on this topic need to be in our public meeting tonight.

Thank you,

Ed

Attachments:

Ken Loveless Ethics Opinion dated September 25, 2020[477].pdf 1.5M

email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" Monday, January 25, 2021 at 9:45:45 AM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "Ken@lovelesscontracting.com Ken Loveless"

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Edward White** <ewhite@lexrich5.org>

Date: Mon, Jan 25, 2021, 9:14 AM

Subject: Requirement that Ken Loveless Recuse Himself from any Discussions about Contract Construction

To: Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>, Nikki Gardner <ngardner@lexrich5.org>, Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>, Matt Hogan <mhogan@lexrich5.org>, Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org>, Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>, Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Mrs. Hammond,

I am writing in reference to Mr. Loveless' request that he assume the role of inspecting and critiquing Piney Woods Elementary School with Nicki Gardner on behalf of the District.

If you recall, Mr. Loveless obtained a contract through his personal company to do work with Contract Construction sometime in the early part of 2020. Mr. Loveless never disclosed this financial relationship to the Board but was questioned about it in the Board's September 14, 2020 meeting at which time Mrs. Hutchinson raised the question of whether that financial relationship created an ethical problem. On September 25, 2020 Mr. Loveless obtained an Ethics Opinion (the "Opinion") from the South Carolina Ethics Commission based on Mr. Loveless bidding on second project with Contract Construction. The Opinion is addressed directly to Mr. Loveless and he put a copy of the letter on the minutes of our September 25, 2020 Board meeting..

While the Opinion concludes there is no outright prohibition for Mr. Loveless' company to enter into a contract with Contract Construction (while it is a vendor to the District), the Opinion is also very clear that Mr. Loveless, as a Board member, is required to recuse himself pursuant to Section 8-13-700(B) of the SC Code of Laws (the "Code") from any matters the District has with Contract Construction.

As cited in the Opinion, Section 8-13-700(B) of the Code clearly states that no public official may make, participate in making, **"or in any way attempt to use his office to influence a governmental decision"** involving the matter with which he has a financial relationship. Simply stated, Section 8-13-700(B) requires that Mr. Loveless recuse himself from any conversations or communication with the Board or the District involving Contract Construction and the Piney Woods School.

Section 8-13-700(B) of the Code also provides that (i) Mr. Loveless is required to prepare a written statement of his financial relationship with Contract Construction and deliver it to you (as the Board Chair) to put into the minutes of the Board, and (ii) that you, as the Board Chair are required to make sure that Mr. Loveless recuses himself from any discussions or votes pertaining to Contract Construction. I am not aware of any written statement Mr. Loveless submitted to put on the minutes of our Board meeting.

Technically, for Mr. Loveless to have properly complied with his recusal obligation he should have disclosed his financial relationship to the Board at the time his company first entered into the financial relationship with Contract Construction by submitting his written statement to the Board Chair and then he should have recused himself from all discussions or votes concerning the Piney Woods School. This means that if Mr. Loveless' company entered into its contract with Contract Construction prior to March

24, 2020 that Mr. Loveless should have never submitted his letter of March 24, 2020 to the Superintendent making allegations about the quality of the work of Contract Construction at the Piney Woods School site (which is a public document included on the minutes of the June 15, 2020 Board meeting) and he should have never participated in the discussions of the Piney Woods project in our September 14, 2020 Board meeting.

Even if Mr. Loveless was unaware of his ethical obligations at the time his company entered into its financial relationship with Contract Construction, he clearly should have known of his obligations after his receipt of the Opinion on September 25, 2020. This means that after September 25, 2020 Mr. Loveless should have immediately submitted his written statement of his company's financial relationship with Contract Construction to you as the Board Chair to put be into the minutes for public disclosure and he should have ceased any further efforts for him to personally be allowed to inspect and approve the construction of Piney Woods School. In other words, if Mr. Loveless company still has a financial relationship with Contract Construction then he is not in compliance with the Opinion (i)

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he failed to submit his written disclosure to you to put into the Board minutes and (ii) because of his recent email requests to Dr. Melton and the Board that he and Nicki Gardner be given the actual plans to the Piney Woods school and the two of them be allowed to make trips to the school to inspect the construction.

I also shared the Opinion with my law partner, James Burns, who is an expert in the South Carolina Ethics laws and is a former past Chairman of the South Carolina Ethics Commission. After reviewing the Opinion, Mr. Burns' opinion is that Mr. Loveless is required to recuse himself from any discussions with the Board or District about the Piney Woods construction project and, you as the Board Chair, have an affirmative obligation to make sure he recuses himself.

I have attached a copy of the Opinion below.

My request is that you confirm whether Mr. Loveless has submitted his written disclosure about his company's financial relationship with Contract Construction. As Board members we are all entitled to know the start date and ending date of all contracts that Mr. Loveless' company has with Contract Construction. If Mr. Loveless has not prepared the written statement, then I would request you require him to do so prior to arriving at our meeting tonight and you publicly announce to the Board and the public (i) the starting and end dates of all financial relationships Mr. Loveless' company has with Contract Construction, (ii) that Mr. Loveless has to recuse himself from all communications or discussions the Piney Woods school, and (iii) you publicly notify him that he cannot supervise or inspect the construction. I am asking that you make these statements to in the public meeting to ensure transparency for the public, including the South Carolina Ethics Commission if it ever has to investigate whether Mr. Loveless is in compliance with his obligations in the Opinion.

I have other broader concerns about Mr. Loveless, or any Board member, attempting to personally supervise our construction projects based on the actual precedents established by Mr. Loveless with the Piney Woods School which I will detail in a separate email prior to our next meeting and to request we specifically evaluate the role of board members in construction review projects based on the actual experiences with the Piney Woods School.

As a reminder, please do not respond to this email. Our conversations on this topic need to be in our public meeting tonight.

Thank you,

Ed

Attachments:

Ken Loveless Ethics Opinion dated September 25, 2020[477].pdf 1.5M

email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" Monday, January 25, 2021 at 10:38:58 AM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "Ken@lovelesscontracting.com Ken Loveless"

All, I have not influenced not have I attempted to influence any party to do anything whatsoever. Quite the contrary, I view Mr. White's attempt to keep me from visiting Piney Woods Elementary School site and review documents as an abridgement of my rights as a school board member. The construction company with whom I am employed has worked on numerous and various construction projects for the State of SC for over 35 years. That company has never worked on any project for District Five. As you may imagine, my employer has worked around and for most companies in our geographical area over those years. My review of documents and components of the construction would be exactly the same no matter who the prime contractor. After all, as you know, I am but one of seven and could not act alone anyway. I have already obtained a state ethics commission ruling which states that I must recuse myself from any action which affects the prime construction contractor on the Piney Woods project directly. I am consulting an attorney as to Mr. White's obsession with this issue and with his obvious intention to impugn my integrity. When considering Mr. White's comment asking yourself this: How many of the firms with whom the district uses as vendors does business with Nelson Mullins law firm with whom Mr. White is a partner and why do we not get to see its list of clients? With the 57th largest law firm in the US, it would be plausible that there are clients on that list with whom he could possibly have a connection and/or conflict of interest. Or, maybe, is there a conflict of interest with an attorney on the district's list who Mr. White used personally to represent him in a case against a candidate for school board ? Did Mr. White unduly influence the selection of the Montgomery firm and/or its legal advise? Did that require Mr. White to recuse himself from voting to have the Montgomery firm as the district's attorney? Are there different rules for attorney law partners than employees of a construction company?

Respectfully submitted, Ken Loveless

On Mon, Jan 25, 2021, 9:45 AM Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org> wrote:

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Edward White** <ewhite@lexrich5.org>

Date: Mon, Jan 25, 2021, 9:14 AM

Subject: Requirement that Ken Loveless Recuse Himself from any Discussions about Contract Construction

To: Janis Hammond <jhammond@lexrich5.org>, Nikki Gardner <ngardner@lexrich5.org>, Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>, Matt Hogan <mhogan@lexrich5.org>, Rebecca Hines <rhines@lexrich5.org>, Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>, Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

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Thank you,

Ed

Sample Agenda Item Request

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 1:51:35 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"
Cc: email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org Nikki Gardner"

Ken, Attached is an example from Richland County and a Word document I created that we could use. Nikki, I was talking with Ken about how Richland County Council accepts items for their agenda via a form and he seemed to like the idea and asked me to send examples. I think it would help ensure we know what is being put on the agenda and receive as much information ahead of time as possible. I especially like the section for Budget Impact since I don't know that we are always considering it.

Thanks,
Cathy

--
Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Attachments:

AGENDA ITEM REQUEST.docx 12k

Sample - Request for Action_for Cathy Huddle_Richland County doc.pdf 243k

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle" Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at 1:44:37 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless"

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cathy Huddle** <chuddle@lexrich5.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 20, 2021 at 1:51 PM
Subject: Sample Agenda Item Request
To: Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>
CC: Nikki Gardner <ngardner@lexrich5.org>

Ken, Attached is an example from Richland County and a Word document I created that we could use. Nikki, I was talking with Ken about how Richland County Council accepts items for their agenda via a form and he seemed to like the idea and asked me to send examples. I think it would help ensure we know what is being put on the agenda and receive as much information ahead of time as possible. I especially like the section for Budget Impact since I don't know that we are always considering it.

Thanks,
Cathy

--
Catherine Huddle

Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Attachments:

AGENDA ITEM REQUEST.docx 12k

Sample - Request for Action_for Cathy Huddle_Richland County doc.pdf 243k

email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org Kenneth Loveless" Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at 1:45:50 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "Ken@lovelesscontracting.com Ken Loveless"

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cathy Huddle** <chuddle@lexrich5.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 27, 2021, 1:44 PM
Subject: Fwd: Sample Agenda Item Request
To: Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Cathy Huddle** <chuddle@lexrich5.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 20, 2021 at 1:51 PM
Subject: Sample Agenda Item Request
To: Kenneth Loveless <kloveless@lexrich5.org>
CC: Nikki Gardner <ngardner@lexrich5.org>

Ken, Attached is an example from Richland County and a Word document I created that we could use. Nikki, I was talking with Ken about how Richland County Council accepts items for their agenda via a form and he seemed to like the idea and asked me to send examples. I think it would help ensure we know what is being put on the agenda and receive as much information ahead of time as possible. I especially like the section for Budget Impact since I don't know that we are always considering it.

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Cathy

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Attachments:

AGENDA ITEM REQUEST.docx 12k

Sample - Request for Action_for Cathy Huddle_Richland County doc.pdf 243k

School Board Agenda for Monday January 25

email: "palauzon@gmail.com Peter Lauzon"

Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 3:27:34 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" , email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org"

Dear Chair Hammond and Dr. Melton,

I am certain that the current level of community spread of COVID 19 would warrant a discussion of instruction models going forward. Please consider returning to a less face to face model than we currently have. We should avoid going Face to Face with full rooms where social distance is not practical or safe. Please add this to the agenda so we at least know the current thinking of the Board is on instructional models.

Thank you for making our students and staff safer.

Sincerely,

Peter Lauzon
President
LR5EA

email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Janis Hammond"

Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 9:38:14 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "palauzon@gmail.com Peter Lauzon"

Thank you for your email. I had a productive conversation with Dr. Melton today and we are working on just that.

Thanks again. I appreciate your input. There is no easy answer to this situation and we all pray this COVID pandemic is behind us.

Sincerely

Jan Hammond.

On Thu, Jan 21, 2021 at 3:27 PM Peter Lauzon <palauzon@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Chair Hammond and Dr. Melton,

I am certain that the current level of community spread of COVID 19 would warrant a discussion of instruction models going forward. Please consider returning to a less face to face model than we currently have. We should avoid going Face to Face with full rooms where social distance is not practical or safe. Please add this to the agenda so we at least know the current thinking of the Board is on instructional models.

Thank you for making our students and staff safer.

Sincerely,

Peter Lauzon
President
LR5EA

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"
To: email: "palauzon@gmail.com Peter Lauzon"
Cc: email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org Jan Hammond"

Friday, January 22, 2021 at 11:41:05 AM Eastern Standard Time

Mr. Lauzon,

The agenda has been revised and posted for the public. I appreciate your advocacy and leadership.



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

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Thank you for making our students and staff safer.

Sincerely,

Peter Lauzon
President
LR5EA

Substitute Pay

email: "rcaudl@bellsouth.net Rosa Caudle"

Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 3:15:34 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org csmelton@lexrich5.org", email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org jhammond@lexrich5.org", email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org mhogan@lexrich5.org", email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org ngardner@lexrich5.org", email: "rhines@lexrich5.org rhines@lexrich5.org", email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org chuddle@lexrich5.org", email: "ewhite@lexrich5.org ewhite@lexrich5.org", email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org kloveless@lexrich5.org", email: "cfrick@lexrich5.org cfrick@lexrich5.org"

Dear Dr. Melton and Board of Trustees,

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Thank you for your time and consideration of these suggestions.

Rosa W. Caudle

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"
To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 5:44:23 PM Eastern Standard Time

Dr. Melton, What is a long term substitute? Is there a policy/written document you can send me on how that works?

Thank-you,
Cathy

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Rosa Caudle** <rcaudl@bellsouth.net>

Date: Thu, Jan 21, 2021 at 3:15 PM

Subject: Substitute Pay

To: csmelton@lexrich5.org <csmelton@lexrich5.org>, jhammond@lexrich5.org <jhammond@lexrich5.org>, mhogan@lexrich5.org <mhogan@lexrich5.org>, ngardner@lexrich5.org <ngardner@lexrich5.org>, rhines@lexrich5.org <rhines@lexrich5.org>, chuddle@lexrich5.org <chuddle@lexrich5.org>, ewhite@lexrich5.org <ewhite@lexrich5.org>, kloveless@lexrich5.org <kloveless@lexrich5.org>, cfrick@lexrich5.org <cfrick@lexrich5.org>

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--
Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"
To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Thursday, February 4, 2021 at 6:04:48 PM Eastern Standard Time

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"
To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Friday, February 5, 2021 at 8:30:29 AM Eastern Standard Time

My apologies, Mrs. Huddle.
I did not see this request. I'll get information to you today.



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties
office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

On Thu, Feb 4, 2021 at 6:04 PM Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org> wrote:

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--
Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--
Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"
To: email: "tturner@lexrich5.org Tamara Turner"

Friday, February 5, 2021 at 8:31:58 AM Eastern Standard Time

I need a reply to send this morning.



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Christina Melton** <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Date: Fri, Feb 5, 2021 at 8:30 AM

Subject: Re: Substitute Pay

To: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>

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Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

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To: csmelton@lexrich5.org <csmelton@lexrich5.org>, jhammond@lexrich5.org

<jhammond@lexrich5.org>, mhogan@lexrich5.org <mhogan@lexrich5.org>, ngardner@lexrich5.org

<ngardner@lexrich5.org>, rhines@lexrich5.org <rhines@lexrich5.org>, chuddle@lexrich5.org

<chuddle@lexrich5.org>, ewhite@lexrich5.org <ewhite@lexrich5.org>, kloveless@lexrich5.org <kloveless@lexrich5.org>, cfrick@lexrich5.org <cfrick@lexrich5.org>

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--
Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "tturner@lexrich5.org Tamara Turner"
To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Friday, February 5, 2021 at 10:03:51 AM Eastern Standard Time

Long-term substitute teachers

are Kelly Services substitutes

who serve longer terms in the absence of regular teachers due to reasons such as teacher leaves of absences or vacancies that arise during the year. These subs are considered long-term because they typically commit to serving in the absence for the same teacher. To the extent possible, the district works with Kelly Services to identify long-term substitute teachers who possess the training and experience to insure that students will receive uninterrupted instruction when the regular teacher has to be absent.

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- [AR GCG-R Part-Time and Substitute Professional Staff Employment](#)
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Tamara D. Turner, Ed.D.

Chief Human Resources Officer

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8198

fax: 803.476.8196

tturner@lexrich5.org

On Fri, Feb 5, 2021 at 8:32 AM Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org> wrote:

I need a reply to send this morning.



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Christina Melton** <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

Date: Fri, Feb 5, 2021 at 8:30 AM

Subject: Re: Substitute Pay

To: Cathy Huddle <chuddle@lexrich5.org>

My apologies, Mrs. Huddle.

I did not see this request. I'll get information to you today.

Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent



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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--

Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"
To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Friday, February 5, 2021 at 10:20:15 AM Eastern Standard Time

Mrs. Huddle,

Below is information regarding long term substitutes. I'll forward this to the rest of the Board because I think this would be helpful for them to have context and calibrate their questions. Thank you for asking this question. We certainly have "jargon" in education.

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

--

Catherine Huddle

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Friday, February 5, 2021 at 10:21:20 AM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "d5-board-members@lexrich5.org D5 Board Members"
Cc: email: "estrange@lexrich5.org Erin Strange"

Board Members,
Below is information regarding long term substitutes answering a question posed by Mrs. Huddle.



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties
office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

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Rosa W. Caudle



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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"
To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Sunday, February 7, 2021 at 6:09:47 PM Eastern Standard Time

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Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

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Date: Thu, Jan 21, 2021 at 3:15 PM

Subject: Substitute Pay

To: csmelton@lexrich5.org <csmelton@lexrich5.org>, jhammond@lexrich5.org <jhammond@lexrich5.org>, mhogan@lexrich5.org <mhogan@lexrich5.org>, ngardner@lexrich5.org <ngardner@lexrich5.org>, rhines@lexrich5.org <rhines@lexrich5.org>, chuddle@lexrich5.org <chuddle@lexrich5.org>, ewhite@lexrich5.org <ewhite@lexrich5.org>, kloveless@lexrich5.org <kloveless@lexrich5.org>, cfrick@lexrich5.org <cfrick@lexrich5.org>

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Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"
To: email: "tturner@lexrich5.org Tamara Turner"
Cc: email: "estrange@lexrich5.org Erin Strange"

Monday, February 8, 2021 at 2:49:25 PM Eastern Standard Time



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

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To: Christina Melton <csmelton@lexrich5.org>

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Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"
To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Monday, February 8, 2021 at 2:49:45 PM Eastern Standard Time

Yes ma'am. It may be tomorrow since we will be starting earlier this afternoon.

Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties
office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116



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Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

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Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

Substitute Pay

email: "rcaudl@bellsouth.net Rosa Caudle"

Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 3:15:34 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org csmelton@lexrich5.org", email: "jhammond@lexrich5.org jhammond@lexrich5.org", email: "mhogan@lexrich5.org mhogan@lexrich5.org", email: "ngardner@lexrich5.org ngardner@lexrich5.org", email: "rhines@lexrich5.org rhines@lexrich5.org", email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org chuddle@lexrich5.org", email: "ewhite@lexrich5.org ewhite@lexrich5.org", email: "kloveless@lexrich5.org kloveless@lexrich5.org", email: "cfrick@lexrich5.org cfrick@lexrich5.org"

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email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"
To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 5:44:23 PM Eastern Standard Time

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email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"
To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Thursday, February 4, 2021 at 6:04:48 PM Eastern Standard Time

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email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"
To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Friday, February 5, 2021 at 8:30:29 AM Eastern Standard Time

My apologies, Mrs. Huddle.
I did not see this request. I'll get information to you today.



Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties
office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

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Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

office: 803.476.8169 or 803.476-8116

www.lexrich5.org



Pursuing Excellence for Tomorrow's Challenges

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Date: Thu, Jan 21, 2021 at 3:15 PM

Subject: Substitute Pay

To: csmelton@lexrich5.org <csmelton@lexrich5.org>, jhammond@lexrich5.org <jhammond@lexrich5.org>, mhogan@lexrich5.org <mhogan@lexrich5.org>, ngardner@lexrich5.org <ngardner@lexrich5.org>, rhines@lexrich5.org <rhines@lexrich5.org>, chuddle@lexrich5.org <chuddle@lexrich5.org>, ewhite@lexrich5.org <ewhite@lexrich5.org>, kloveless@lexrich5.org <kloveless@lexrich5.org>, cfrick@lexrich5.org <cfrick@lexrich5.org>

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton" Friday, February 5, 2021 at 10:21:20 AM Eastern Standard Time
To: email: "d5-board-members@lexrich5.org D5 Board Members"
Cc: email: "estrange@lexrich5.org Erin Strange"

Board Members,
Below is information regarding long term substitutes answering a question posed by Mrs. Huddle.



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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

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Catherine Huddle
Lexington Richland Five School Board Trustee

email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"
To: email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"

Sunday, February 7, 2021 at 6:09:47 PM Eastern Standard Time

Dr. Melton, Thank you for the clarification. I have some other questions that could probably best be answered by me just looking at their invoices - could you please ask someone to send me the last two months (December and January) for Kelly Services?

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email: "csmelton@lexrich5.org Christina Melton"
To: email: "chuddle@lexrich5.org Cathy Huddle"

Monday, February 8, 2021 at 2:49:45 PM Eastern Standard Time

Yes ma'am. It may be tomorrow since we will be starting earlier this afternoon.

Christina S. Melton, Ed.D.

Superintendent

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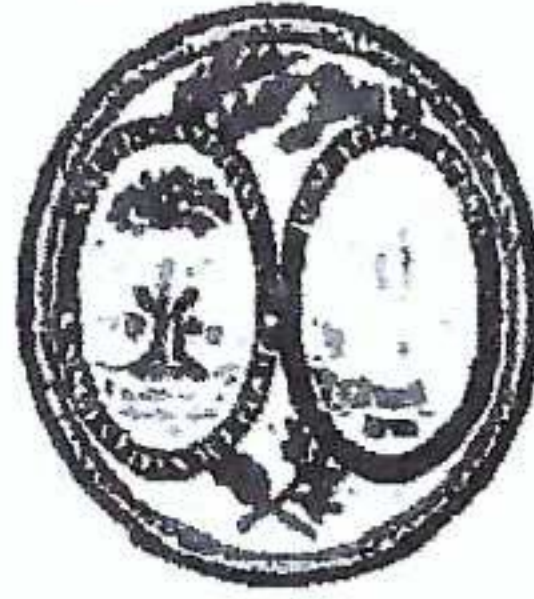
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State of South Carolina

State Ethics Commission

CHILDS C. THRASHER, CHAIR
DONALD GIST, VICE CHAIR
BRIAN M. BARNWELL



AL HOLLOWAY
DON JACKSON
BRANDOLYN THOMAS PINKSTON

201 EXECUTIVE CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 150
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29210

MEGHAN L. WALKER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

September 25, 2020

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Kenneth B. Loveless
228 Lookout Pointes Drive
Chapin, SC 29036
ken@lovelesscontracting.com

Re: Informal Opinion Request

Dear Mr. Loveless:

Thank you for your request for an informal opinion from the State Ethics Commission (Commission). An informal opinion is the opinion of Commission staff, taking into consideration any applicable formal opinions, law, and/or judicial decisions. Please be advised that an informal opinion is not binding on the Commission. Additionally, the Commission's jurisdiction is limited to the applicability of the Ethics, Government Accountability, and Campaign Reform Act of 1991 (Act). This opinion is based solely on the facts relayed by you and does not supersede any other statutory or regulatory restrictions or procedures which may apply to this situation. A failure to disclose relevant information may void the opinion.

ISSUE

On September 21, 2020, you presented the following in an e-mail:

I am an elected member of the Lexington-Richland District Five Board of Trustees. The company for whom I am employed as President, Loveless Commercial Contracting, Inc., from time to time subcontracts work from general contractors. I understand that our company can neither bid upon nor construct projects either as subcontractor or a general contractor for District Five. Loveless Commercial Contracting, Inc. has never done so.

If my employer, Loveless Commercial Contracting, Inc. is awarded a project outside of District Five such as an upcoming project at E.L. Wright Middle School in Richland District No. 2 as a subcontractor for a general contractor who does

Attachment #3, pg 6 is included with
the minutes of the 9/25/2020
meeting, at the request of Board member
Ken Loveless
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.

Kenneth B. Loveless, p. 2
September 25, 2020

business with District Five, what ethics path in reference to voting upon matters that effect the general contractor with whom Loveless contracts should I follow?

LAW

Section 8-13-700 states, in part:

(A) No [public official] may knowingly use his official [office] to obtain an economic interest for himself, a family member, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated . . .

(B) No [public official] may make, participate in making, or in any way attempt to use his [office] to influence a governmental decision in which he, a family member, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated has an economic interest. A [public official] who, in the discharge of his official responsibilities, is required to take an action or make a decision which affects an economic interest of himself, a family member, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated shall:

(1) prepare a written statement describing the matter requiring action or decisions and the nature of his potential conflict of interest with respect to the action or decision;

...

(4) if he is a public official, other than a member of the General Assembly, he shall furnish a copy of the statement to the presiding officer of the governing body of an agency, commission, board, or of a county, municipality, or a political subdivision thereof, on which he serves, who shall cause the statement to be printed in the minutes and require that the member be excused from any votes, deliberations, and other actions on the matter on which the potential conflict of interest exists and shall cause the disqualification and the reasons for it to be noted in the minutes.

Section 8-13-100(4) defines "business with which he is associated" as:

[a] business of which the person or a member of his immediate family is a director, an officer, owner, employee, a compensated agent, or holder of stock worth more than one hundred thousand dollars or more at fair market value and which constitutes five percent or more of the total outstanding stock of any class.

DISCUSSION

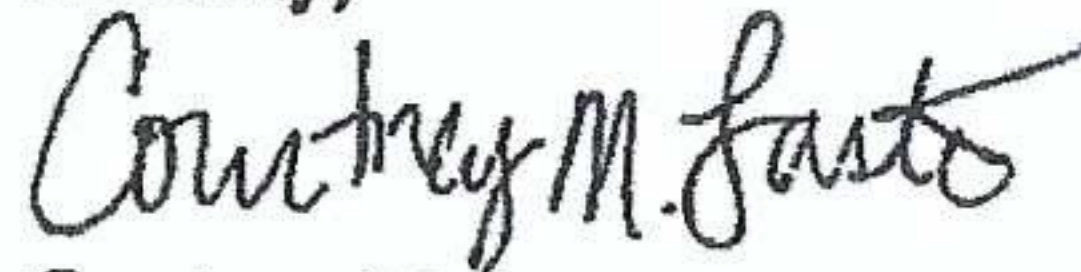
Based on the facts presented, the general contractor for which Loveless Construction subcontracts is a "business with which [you are] associated" for purposes of the Ethics Act. This means that whenever you are faced with a scenario in which the general contractor has an economic

Attachment #3, 1037 is included with the minutes of the 9/28/2020 meeting, at the request of Board member Kenneth B. Loveless pursuant to South Carolina Code Ann. Section 30-4-90(a)(4) and Board Policy SEDG. The Board majority did not approve, disapprove, or otherwise act upon the contents of this attachment.

Kenneth B. Loveless, p. 3
September 25, 2020

interest, you must recuse yourself from that matter following the instructions in Section 8-13-700(B). There is no outright prohibition against Loveless Construction performing subcontracting work for this general contractor; rather, Section 8-13-700(B) must be followed in instances where the general contractor has an economic interest. Thank you for contacting the Commission. If you have any questions or need anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Courtney M. Laster
General Counsel

Attachment #3, 198 is included with
the minutes of the 9/25/2020
meeting, at the request of Board member
Ken Loveless
pursuant to South Carolina Code
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Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject:

Amendment to FY 14-15 Annual Action Plan

March 22, 2016 – The Committee recommended that Council approve the request to amend the FY 14-15 CDBG Action Plan to allow \$200,000 to be used by Trinity Housing/St. Lawrence Place to acquire up to four (4) houses to supply affordable rental housing units.

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject: Amendment to FY 14-15 Annual Action Plan

A. Purpose

County Council is requested to approve an amendment to the FY 14-15 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Action Plan to award \$200,000 to St. Lawrence Place/Trinity Housing to use funds for acquisition and other soft costs for housing to assist families that are at-risk and/or homeless.

B. Background / Discussion

Richland County Community Development has received a request to use current CDBG funds. An amendment of the FY 14-15 Annual Action Plan to award \$200,000 to St. Lawrence Place/Trinity Housing to use funds for acquisition and other soft costs would be necessary. Four initial homes have been identified for potential purchase. They are:

- 122 New Way Road, Columbia 29223 (Council District 10)
- 3147 Harrison Road, Columbia 29204 (Council District 3)
- 2531 Glenwood Dr., Columbia 29204 (Council District 3)
- 2413 Reynolds Dr., Columbia 29204 (Council District 3)

These homes are a part of a larger “cluster plan” of scattered-site homes to be purchased to assist homeless persons. The majority of the persons assisted originated from Richland County before becoming homeless. The units were selected due to be more “shovel ready”. The larger plan also involves applying for SC State Housing funds (\$300,000) and City of Columbia funds to complete these efforts. This reflects leveraging and regionalism.

These scattered site homes would supply affordable rental units to house formally at-risk/homeless families. Trinity Housing will own the properties and the provide site and case management. The locations will keep families close to public transportation and relative short travel distance to St. Lawrence Place for additional case management assistance. The waiting list for these homes are standing at a current list of 60 families in addition to those who call daily seeking housing. The eligible families will not exceed 60% LMI. Trinity will provide some of their own resources for rehabilitation on the housing units for this project.

HUD’s response to the amendment will also be sought to achieve an approved amendment by use of a public comment period and public advertised.

C. Legislative / Chronological History

- County Council approved the FY 14-15 CDBG budget on July 1, 2014. This action would amend this Action Plan for the above purpose. This information was included for your convenience.

D. Financial Impact

There is no financial impact to the County. This action would amend Community Development Department’s FY 14-15 Action Plan in the amount of \$200,000. The overall budget was \$1,296,072 for that fiscal year.

E. Alternatives

1. Approve the request to amend the FY 14-15 CDBG Action Plan to allow \$200,000 to be used by Trinity Housing/St. Lawrence Place to acquire up to 4 homes as noted above.
2. Do not approve request to amend the FY 14-15 CDBG Action Plan to allow \$200,000 to be used by Trinity Housing/St. Lawrence Place to acquire up to 4 homes as noted above.

F. Recommendation

It is recommended that Council approve the request to amend the FY 14-15 CDBG budget to allow \$200,000 to be used by Trinity Housing/St. Lawrence Place to acquire up to 4 homes as noted above.

Recommended by: Valeria Jackson
Department: Community Development
Date: 3/1/16

G. Reviews

(Please replace the appropriate box with a ✓ and then support your recommendation in the Comments section before routing on. Thank you!)

Please be specific in your recommendation. While “Council Discretion” may be appropriate at times, it is recommended that Staff provide Council with a professional recommendation of approval or denial, and justification for that recommendation, as often as possible.

Finance

Reviewed by: Daniel Driggers

Date: 3/9/16

✓ Recommend Council approval

☐ Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation:

Recommendation supports the Community Development Director’s recommendation on amending the action plan based on no financial impact on the County.

Grants

Reviewed by: Natashia Dozier

Date: 03/10/2016

✓ Recommend Council approval

☐ Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation:

Legal

Reviewed by: Brad Farrar

Date: 3/10/16

☐ Recommend Council approval

☐ Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: Policy decision of Council.

Administration

Reviewed by: Warren Harley

Date: 3/10/16

✓ Recommend Council approval

☐ Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: