

# SPARTANBURG COUNTY DISTRICT 4 BOARD MEETING

February 23, 2026

The District 4 Board of Trustees held its regular meeting Monday, February 23, at 6:00 p.m. at the new Woodruff High School, room 130. Agenda notice was distributed to Spartanburg Herald Journal, Woodruff Times, Post and Courier and listed on the District website at [spartanburg4.org/do/agenda](http://spartanburg4.org/do/agenda).

Chairman Morgan Smith called the meeting to order. Minutes of January 5 meeting were approved as submitted.

Mr. Clark Simpkins, Director of Facilities, presented information regarding potential expenses from the proposed 2026 BAN.

Mr. Chris Benfield, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance, presented information regarding health care expenses.

Superintendent Report- Dr. Aaron Fulmer

1. Presented information regarding State Ethics filings.
2. March 6, 2026, is now a student day. Parents and staff have been notified.
3. Discussions are being held regarding transition plans involving transportation, start times, traffic patterns, furniture and playground equipment.
4. March 30<sup>th</sup> is the next scheduled board meeting.

**The following reports were submitted:**

## **Woodruff Primary School**

Mrs. Dover submitted the following report:

1. Calendar of Events for February and March 2026 is attached.
2. WPS will begin an after-school program for kindergarten, first, and second grade students on February 9<sup>th</sup> for approximately 40 students. The program will run three days a week for six weeks. Students were selected based on math i-Ready scores and specific areas of need. Instruction will be intensive and focused.
3. The WPS community project for January was dedicated to the Agape Care Center of Woodruff. Students and staff collected a variety of items. The February project will benefit the Spartanburg Humane Society.
4. Preschool and kindergarten enrollment for students new to WPS, for the 26-27 school year, will be held on March 19, 2026 from 8:30 – 2:00 in the District 4 Activity Center. Informational flyers will be sent out soon.
5. Teachers have been holding midyear conferences with parents throughout January. Teachers met with parents of children who are below grade level in reading or math.
6. Vision to Learn will conduct vision exams and provide glasses for WPS students who are eligible, based on previous screenings. A mobile unit will be at WPS beginning on January 29<sup>th</sup>, and an eye doctor will perform exams over several days. Parents had the option to opt out of this service.
7. Students and staff celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Students were allowed to wear festive 100<sup>th</sup> day gear or dress as 100-year-olds. Teachers completed special activities in class on this day.
8. The WPS PTO has rescheduled a family skate night for February 23<sup>rd</sup> at Roebuck Skate Center. We hope to have a good turnout and spend some quality time together as a school family!

9. The WPS Student Council hosted Chairman Morgan Smith at a breakfast on January 21<sup>st</sup> in honor of School Board Appreciation Month. Students shared leadership traits they have learned. WPS is thankful for Chairman Smith and all board members for their commitment and service to District 4 Schools.
10. WPS Science Fair for first and second graders will be held March 9 – 13. Students and their families are encouraged to do projects together! The projects that place in the school fair are eligible to be entered in the regional fair at USC Upstate.
11. Twenty-five second graders qualified to take the Performance Task Assessment (PTA) in order to qualify for the gifted and talented program in third grade. PTA will be administered on Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> through Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. Results will be received later in the spring.
12. The SCDE Parent Survey will open on February 25<sup>th</sup>. Parents are encouraged to complete a survey for each District 4 student in their parent portal.  
All classes at WPS are participating in a Black History Month project that will highlight the contributions of important African Americans. Each grade level will research individuals who contributed to community, the arts, leadership, and make changes. Students will participate in a Gallery Walk on February 27<sup>th</sup> to view class displays and learn about the many African Americans who have helped shape our country.

**February 2026**

- 2- 6 - Vision to Learn Eye Exams
- 3 - WPS PTO Skate Night 5:30 – 7:30
- 4 - Guidance Counselor Appreciation Day
- 9 - After School Program Begins  
School Improvement Council (rescheduled)
- 13 - Valentine’s Day Class Parties
- 16 - School Resource Officer Appreciation Day
- 25 - Spring Pictures
- 27 - School Family Celebration, WPS Book Fair Begins, Gallery Walk

**March 2026**

- 2 - Dr. Seuss’s Birthday Celebration
- 2, 3, 5 - Vision to Learn Eye Exams
- 2 - 6 - Book Fair
- 9-13 - WPS Science Fair
- 11 - Report Cards Issued
- 19 - Preschool and Kindergarten Enrollment Day
- 25 - Cap and Gown Pictures for Kindergarten

**Enrollment- As of 2/9/2026**

Grade Level	# on Roll	# in PS	Difference	Why
1/2 day 3K	41	47	-6	6- Moon (Special Education)
4k	137	147	-10	10- Moon (Special Education)
5K	202	209	-7	3 -Watson & 3- Humerez (Special Education) 7- Deaf and Blind

1st	202	210	-8	4- Watson (Special Education) 4-Humerez (Special Education)
2nd	215	224	-9	4- Humerez 3- Watson (Special Education) 2- McT
<b>TOTAL</b>	797	837	-40	11 - Humerez, 10- Watson, 16- Moon, 3- Satellite

**Woodruff Elementary School**

Mrs. Parris submitted the following:

1. We had a Stone Soup storyteller visit WES in January.
2. January 22<sup>nd</sup>-Students, faculty, and staff dressed up in yellow/gold to Celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School- "100 Days Together"
3. Vision to Learn will visit WES the week of February 2<sup>nd</sup>. They will provide free screening and eyeglasses for students that qualify.
4. We are currently sending out letters for our afterschool program. Students will meet on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 2:30 to 4:00 starting on February 9<sup>th</sup> through March 18<sup>th</sup>. The program will give students targeted instruction on their level.
5. Bright Star Children's Theatre will perform on Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. "The Pirates of Efficient Sea"
6. Third grade students researched important people. Important Person Red Carpet Hall of Fame will be held in our cafeteria for parents to view the projects on February 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.
7. USC Upstate clinical student, Lina Tollison, will complete hours in Mrs. Jones's resource class.

Professional Development Opportunities:

January 15, 2026	Anderson Mill	District 6	Guker/Rhodes *observe intervention program and discuss GT program
January 22, 2026	Medal of Honor Character Development Program	Columbia	SCDE-just added 1-6-26
February 2, 2026	iReady PD-Driven by Data, Defined by Results	Columbia	Guker/Parris

**Estimated Enrollment for WES as of 1/30/26**

<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade</i>	217
<i>4<sup>th</sup> Grade</i>	229
<i>5<sup>th</sup> Grade</i>	208

February 2026 Calendar

- 2- WE Singers
- 3-Good News Club
- Gifted Art
- 4-School Counselor Appreciation Day
- Interims Issued

9-13 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Guidance Lessons  
 9-WE Singers  
 10-Good News Club  
 Gifted Art  
 12 –4<sup>th</sup> Watershed Program, “What on Earth”  
 13-Bright Star Touring Theater “The Pirates of Efficient Sea”  
 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Guidance Lessons  
 16- SRO’s Appreciation Day  
 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Watershed Program, “Incredible Journey”  
 Good News Club  
 Gifted Art  
 17-4<sup>th</sup> Grade Watershed Program, “What on Earth”  
 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Watershed Program, “Incredible Journey”  
 Good News Club  
 Gifted Art  
 20-Fabulous Friday  
 22-27 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Guidance Lessons  
 23-WE Singers  
 24 and 25-Important Person Red Carpet Hall of Fame (parents are welcome)  
 24-Good News Club  
 Gifted Art  
 26-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Watershed Program, “Them Bones”  
 27-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Watershed Program, “Them Bones”  
 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to Barrier Island  
 24-WE Singers

### **Woodruff Middle School**

Mr. Scott Lawson submitted the following:

1. Current enrollment figures:
  - a. 6<sup>th</sup> – 223 7<sup>th</sup> – 215 8<sup>th</sup> – 250
2. Interim reports for 3<sup>rd</sup> nine weeks were distribute February 11. Report cards will be distributed March 11.
3. WIDA testing began February 16.
4. WMS had four wrestlers place in their weight class at the Foothills Conference tournament: Ryan Fults was champion with David Chavez, Braedyn Bookman, and Rodney Hyatt being runners-up.
5. 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers had the initial meeting with iRIZE prevention program representatives on January 22. The student presentation was held Feb. 5.
6. The WMS girls’ basketball team finished the season undefeated. They were 10-0 in conference play and 12-0 overall.
7. Cubs on the PROWL were recognized for January during morning assembly.
8. Congratulations to the following students for having their artwork selected by Mr. McConnell to represent Woodruff Middle School at the Chapman Cultural Center for January/February: Wes Newsome, Barlee Morris, Lena Epton, Sophia Wotjun, Konnor Simmons, Sarah Watson, Zoey Windham, Max Sanchez, Elizabeth Rash, and Cowen Graves.
9. The following WMS students were selected for region band: Cevanna Campos, Caleb Dickerson, and Sophie Tropeano.
10. The WMS winter sport awards program will be held March 9 at 6pm.

Feb 5            6<sup>th</sup> students RIZE presentation(ENCORE) during 5<sup>th</sup>  
 Feb 6            Last to join sick day bank(extended from 1/30)

Feb 11	Interims
Feb 16	WIDA testing begins
Feb 17	Vision screenings
Feb 18	Vision screenings
Feb 19	WHS meets with 8th teachers
Mar 2	WHS meets with current 8 <sup>th</sup> graders
Mar 5	parent meeting for rising 9 <sup>th</sup> at new WHS 6pm
Mar 4	7 <sup>th</sup> field trip
Mar 6	Student attendance day in place of February 6/dental check follow-ups
Mar 9	WMS winter sport awards program 6pm
Mar 11	Report Cards issued
Mar 13	Spring pictures/Deliver preregistration for 6, 7, 8
Mar 16-18	Core subject recommendations for current 6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> grades
Mar 17	Rising 6 <sup>th</sup> grade night at WMS 630PM
Mar 18	WES gives materials to current 5 <sup>th</sup> grade
Mar 18-25	6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> ENCORE selections/WMS band and chorus visits WES
Mar 20	8 <sup>th</sup> course cards to WMS
Mar 23	MAP opens
Mar 25	6 <sup>th</sup> grade RIZE Pep Rally(5 <sup>th</sup> period ENCORE)
Mar 26	Book Fair begins
Mar 27	8 <sup>th</sup> course cards to WHS/All 5 <sup>th</sup> ,6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> course cards to WMS counselors
Apr 2	MAP closes/Last day of book fair
Apr 6-10	Spring Holidays
Apr 15	Interims

### **Woodruff High School**

Mrs. Christine Morris submitted the following:

- First Semester Report Cards went home January 7.
- Spartanburg Regional came and held a cooking class for ESOL students on Friday, January 16. Thanks to Audra Terry for organizing. Our students really enjoyed this opportunity, and we hope to partner with them again.
- Student Council held their winter pep rally on Friday, January 16. All winter varsity teams were recognized. Congratulations to Jensyn Turner for winning the basketball musical chairs competition.
- Student Council had the privilege of hosting an Appreciation Breakfast for a few of our board members. Thanks to Ms. Prince for providing quite the spread.
- Ms. Abrams met with our faculty on Wednesday, January 22, to show through their power teacher how they can make student recommendations for the next school year. This begins our registration process for the 26-27 school year.
- We celebrated our guidance department on Wednesday, February 4. They do so much for our students, teachers, and the school as a whole.
- WHS held its Character/Career Assembly. Chris Singleton was the guest speaker. His message was unity and love. The students were very respectful, and everyone enjoyed his words of encouragement.
- ACCESS testing begins Monday, February 9. Mrs. Morris treated the students testing to Chick-Fil-A biscuits making sure there are working on a full stomach for that first day of testing.
- A Dual Enrollment night was held on Thursday, February 12.
- WHS's FA Credit Recovery Program will run Monday February 16 – March 13. Students have a free opportunity to recover their grade by completing assigned content.
- Guidance is holding a Career Fair on Wednesday, February 18. Several classes have signed up to participate.
- A fire drill was held on Wednesday, February 18.

- One senior is attending a Braille Challenge in Columbia on Thursday, February 19. We wish him all the luck.
- Guidance held a Lunch and Learn about self-love on Thursday, February 19.
- Interims for third nine weeks has been delayed due to the weather, they will go home Wednesday, February 11.
- Congratulations to upperclassman Bryce Collins and underclassman Noah Foster for being selected December Students of the Month. Congratulations to upperclassman Caroline Lopez and underclassman Nick Wardlow for being selected January Students of the Month. Jaylin Lyles, Damani Woodson, and Mekhi Norman were recognized as “BE a Wolverine” recipients.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
2-4	Interims
2-6	Character Assembly
2-9	Access Testing Begins
2-13	Winter Guard Preview Show
2-18	Career Fair
2-19	Lunch and Learn
2-27	Scoops
3-1	Empty Bowls
3-6	Teacher Workday
3-11	Report Cards
3-11	ACT/SAT
3-19	Lunch and Learn
3-20	Senior Supplies Delivered
3-23	SEL Survey Opens
3-31	WIN Testing
3-2	Auschwitz Virtual Field Trip
3-20	Senior Meeting #1/Seniors Supplies
3-21	Chorus Carowinds Trip
3-28	Band Carowinds Trip
4-6	Spring Break
4-15	Interims
4-16	Lunch and Learn
4-17	Band Banquet
4-18	Art Flower Fundraiser
4-22	Senior Meeting #2
4-24	Scoops
4-25	Prom
4-28	Most Improved Banquet
5-1	Lunch and Learn
5-2	SAT
5-4	AP Bio (AM)
5-5	AP Gov't (AM)
5-5	Band Concert
5-6	AP Lit (AM)
5-7	AP Stats (PM)
5-8	APUSH (AM), AP Art
5-8	Lunch and Learn
5-11	AP Calc (AM)
5-12	Chorus Concert
5-13	AP Lang (AM)
5-14	AP CS (PM)

5-15 WHS Awards Day Tentatively  
5-15 APES (AM)  
5-22 Last Day  
5-23 Teacher Workday

### **Instructional Reports**

Mrs. Rachel Traynham submitted the following:

1. Nursing
  - a. We met with AED Sales Representatives last month to discuss options for AEDs in the new High School
  - b. We have been in contact with DPH and other Spartanburg Districts regarding protocols should we get any Measles cases. We have not had any confirmed cases in Spartanburg 4
2. Mental Health
  - a. Numbers of New Referrals to date:  
WPS-15  
WES-38  
WMS-36  
WHS-29  
Columbia Screeners:73, 9 EMS, 4 Hospitalized, 5 Sent to CAFÉ
3. SPED
  - a. The County Special Education Directors will meet this week at District 6.
  - b. Audit Documentation is due February 6, 2026.
  - c. I will attend the SC Council for Exceptional Children Conference later this month.
4. Title Programs:
  - a. We have received approval for several of our Title Plans
  - b. Title III has now issued funding, and I was able to attend a meeting in January regarding Multi-Lingual Learners
5. Multi-lingual Learners:
  - a. Our population continues to grow
  - b. They are looking at increasing teacher licensure requirements in this area to include a more advanced degree.
6. Art on Display
  - a. We will participate in a reception with Spartanburg School District 3 at Chapman Cultural Center to celebrate the contributions of Spartanburg Four students in their art show. This event will take place on February 5, 2026, from 5-6pm.

Mrs. Jennifer Turner submitted the following report:

1. Congratulations to five WMS students for qualifying as a Junior Scholar for the 2024-2025 school year. To qualify as a Junior Scholar, students participate in the fall offering of the PSAT and must score at least a 550 on the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing or at least a 530 on the mathematics portion. Of the five students, one qualified in both areas of the PSAT. These students will be recognized at the May Board Meeting.
2. ACCESS WIDA, a state-mandated assessment required for Multilingual Learners, began on January 21<sup>st</sup> and will conclude on March 6<sup>th</sup>.
3. The Performance Task Assessment, an assessment given to qualifying students to determine inclusion in the Gifted and Talented program, will begin on February 17<sup>th</sup> and will conclude on March 6<sup>th</sup>.
4. Climate surveys, given to parents, teachers, and students, will open on February 23 and close on April 17<sup>th</sup>. Climate surveys (excluding Woodruff Primary School) are a part of school's report cards.

Mr. Russell Mahaffey submitted the following report:

1. Principals have conducted mid-year evaluation conferences with teachers and discussed progress toward the Student Learning Objectives (SLOs). According to the ADEPT timeline, the ending date for final evaluation conferences is April 27.
2. PADEPP conferences were held with principals in January. The purpose of the mid-year conference is to review progress toward professional development plans and to review evidence related to the PADEPP standards. During second semester, principals will complete self-assessments for the PADEPP standards. A final conference will be held at the end of the school year. All evidence, ratings, and signatures are entered into the SC LEAD system.
3. The last induction class was held on Tuesday, January 13 from 3:30 – 6:00pm. The teachers worked with the 12 standards in the Instruction Domain during the last class session. Teachers videotaped themselves teaching a lesson, viewed the lesson, and completed the Post-Conference Teacher Reflection form. They reflect on their teaching in relation to the SC Teaching Standards and share their findings with their colleagues.
4. Forty-four educators have licenses that will expire on June 30, 2026. Twenty-eight educators have already submitted documentation for license renewal. Sixteen teachers are still completing recertification requirements, which include 120 renewal credits. Renewal credits can be accumulated through graduate courses, SCDE workshops, and professional development related to Student Learning Objectives.
5. Personnel have or will attend the following teacher recruiting events this year:
  - a. USC Upstate October 14, 2025
  - b. Anderson University October 20, 2025
  - c. North Greenville University November 3, 2025
  - d. Converse University March 6, 2026
  - e. USC Upstate Meet the Districts March 17, 2026

### **Board Action**

1. Approved the Bond Anticipation Note Resolution authorizing the issuance of \$700,000 for projects.
2. Approved the General Obligation Bond Resolution authorizing the issuance of up to \$1,550,000 to repay the 2025 Bond Anticipation Note and issuance costs.
3. Approved the purchase of computers for all staff at the new WHS in the amount of \$219,601.74 from Y&S state contract.
4. Approved 2026-2027 returning teacher contracts at Woodruff Primary School.
5. Approved the 2026-2027 returning teacher contracts at Woodruff Elementary School.
6. Approved the 2026-2027 returning teacher contracts at Woodruff Intermediate School.
7. Approved the 2026-2027 returning teacher contracts at Woodruff Middle School.
8. Approved the 2026-2027 returning teacher contracts at Woodruff High School.
9. Approved the following new hires for 2026-2027 school year:
  - a. WPS – Jenna Peace and Hannah Weick
  - b. WIS- Kyndal Jordan
  - c. WHS- Morgan Barnett, Larissa Berger, Hannah Collins, Melissa Drummond, Rachel Ginn, Mitzi Sheppard, and Alana Tokar.
10. Approved the following assistant principals at Woodruff Elementary School for the 2026-2027 school year: Paige Roper and Shanita Wallace.
11. Approved the bids from Harper Construction for the security upgrades at the current Woodruff High School and the District Office in the amount of \$127,022.85.