

SPARTANBURG COUNTY DISTRICT 4 BOARD MEETING

August 3, 2026

The District 4 Board of Trustees held its regular meeting Monday, August 3, at 6:00 p.m. at the new Woodruff High School, in 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.

Chairman Morgan Smith called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the June 1 meeting and the June 25 Budget meeting were approved as submitted.

Michelle Knight addressed the board regarding her concerns about parental rights and extracurricular participation.

Mr. Clark Simpkins, Director of Facilities, presented a PowerPoint presentation on summer projects.

Superintendent Report – Dr. Aaron Fulmer

1. Presented a copy of the 2026-2027 meeting schedule.
2. Thanks to all summer staff for preparing for the 2026-2027 school year.
3. Great Start was held at each school during registration. Thanks to all area churches and community organizations for assisting students with back-to-school supplies.
4. SC Budget has not fully passed. The General Assembly is expected to meet again on August 11.
5. A bid for security cameras is expected to be brought at next month's meeting. This will be funded through a safety grant.

The following reports were submitted:

Woodruff Primary School

Mrs. Dover submitted the following report:

1. Calendar of Events for August 2026 is attached.
2. Registration for all students was held on July 27th from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Parents completed forms for transportation, received classroom placements, and had the option to purchase a yearbook or school shirt and join PTO. WPS had approximately 500 students registered that day.
3. Meet the Teacher is scheduled for Tuesday, August 4th from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Parents will visit classrooms, meet the teachers, drop off school supplies, and help students practice the route to their classrooms.
4. Sixty-six WPS, WES, and WIS preschool teachers, kindergarten – third grade teachers, SPED teachers, instructional coaches and administrators completed LETRS training in May. This was an extensive two-year training on the science of reading. New teachers and second year teachers will continue with their training in the fall. Allison Duckett and Erin Gambrell are being trained as LETRS Facilitators and will be training our year-one group this year.
5. WPS custodial staff has completed many tasks throughout the building this summer. Tasks include waxing all floors, cleaning all classroom rugs, deep clean of classrooms and restrooms, deep clean of cafeteria tables, landscape maintenance, and scrubbing tile floors.
6. WPS welcomes 12 new employees for the 2026-2027 school year!

Jenna Peace – Kindergarten Teacher
 Hannah Weick – First Grade Teacher
 Dori Helms – Special Education Teacher
 Jonah Rollins – PE Teacher
 Mitchell George – Special Education Assistant
 Stephanie Grubbs – Kindergarten Assistant
 Tenishia Joyner – First Grade Assistant
 Emily Lanford – Special Education Assistant
 Matt Morgan – Kindergarten Assistant
 Jamie Larck – Kindergarten Assistant
 Karen Lamb – First Grade Assistant
 Lacey Morgan – Custodial Staff

August 2026

July 30 – August 5 - Teacher Inservice Days

August 4 – Meet the Teacher 4:00 – 6:00

August 6, 7, and 10 – Staggered Start for 3K, 4K , and 5K

August 6 – First day of School

Enrollment- As of 7/29/2026

Grade Level	# in PS
1/2-day 3K	52
4k	121
5K	209
1st	225
TOTAL	606

Woodruff Elementary School

Dr. McCoy submitted the following:

Summary:

July/August marked an exciting and successful start to the 2026–2027 school year. Our focus is centered on establishing our culture with a new staff to create a welcoming environment for students and families. We are striving to maintain strong instructional expectations, support staff, and ensure operational readiness. Through collaboration, careful planning, and a shared commitment, Woodruff Elementary is opening the school year prepared to provide high-quality experience for our students and families.

Staffing and Personnel

- Frequent staff check-ins and support for those transitioning in some way whether new to D4, new to a role, or new to the elementary.
 - 16 new to D4 and 6 to new roles
- Facilitated professional learning focused on instructional expectations, school procedures, student support, and collaborative planning.

Student Enrollment

- As of July 29, 2026, our enrollment is as follows:

July 2026	
Grade Level	# in PS
2nd	211
3rd	233
Total	444

Facilities and Operations

- Cubbies added in all classrooms
- Removal of science lab sink for improved classroom functioning.
- Custodial staff worked to move classroom furniture based on needs and requests for improved classroom environments for learning, waxed all classrooms, cafeteria, and hallways. They've worked hard to set areas back up to ensure we are ready for the opening day.

Teaching and Learning

- Strategically planned with our i-Ready Professional Development Facilitator to design a personalized learning experience for our teachers based on their feedback.
- Begin establishing intervention structures to support students through timely data analysis and targeted instruction.
- Conducted collaborative planning among teachers to strengthen instructional consistency and ensure intentionality to improve student outcomes.

Family and Community Engagement

- Successfully hosted registration activities that welcomed families and strengthened school-home partnerships.
 - 71% of our families attended
- Maintained consistent communication with families through multiple means to ensure a smooth transition into the school year.

Major Accomplishments

- Hosted Summer Reading Camp & Academic Recovery (led by Joy Mitchell)
 - Had a successful visit/meeting with our state representative receiving positive feedback
- Successfully opened the 2026–2027 school year.
- Received positive parent feedback from registration day overall as well as compliments on staff and administrative visibility during the event.
- Local small business support Back to School Teacher Raffle.
 - Boost Woodruff
 - In His Image Creations
 - Pizza Inn Woodruff Road
- Started a good foundation to build relationships with each other, students, and families.
- Revised Vision in conjunction with families and staff: At Woodruff Elementary, we are one family, committed to ensuring every child feels safe, seen, and supported. We believe strong relationships and high expectations go hand in hand, and we strive each day to create meaningful, engaging, and rigorous learning experiences for every student. Together with our staff and families, we share the responsibility of nurturing growth, building character, and preparing every child for a successful future.

Looking Ahead

As we move into September, our priorities include strengthening instructional practices through classroom observations and coaching, preparing for beginning-of-year assessments,

refining intervention supports, expanding family engagement opportunities, and continuing to build a collaborative culture centered on student achievement.

Upcoming Dates

- Meet the Teacher – Tuesday, August 4 (4-6 PM)
- All Staff Training – Tuesday, August 11 (3-4 PM)

Woodruff Intermediate School

Mrs. Giada Parris submitted the following:

1. The WES Summer Reading Camp and Academic Recovery Camp operated in June. Students took the i-Ready assessment at the end of summer school to monitor progress.
2. As of Tuesday, July 28th, 339 students have completed online registration.
3. The week of July 30th and 31st through August 3-5th we had the following scheduled for teachers including meetings on E3 Crisis Management, curriculum, evaluations, special education services, handbook policies and procedures, etc.
4. Students can meet their teacher on August 4th, from 4:00 to 6:00.
 - a. Technology Fee: None
 - b. Watershed Science Program: \$7.00
 - c. T-shirts: \$15.00
 - d. Agenda: \$10.00

Enrollment as of 7/31/26

PowerSchool Enrollment Numbers	
4 th Grade	208
5 th Grade	231
Total	439

July

30th -First day for teachers

August

6th - First day for students

10th– Begin fall testing i-Ready

17th Gifted Music starts

18th Gifted Art starts

Woodruff Middle School

Mr. Scott Lawson submitted the following:

1. Summer School was held from June 1 – June 25.
2. Woodruff Middle School welcomes new staff to the building this year:

Becky Pope	6 th grade ELA
Alicia Hill	6 th ELA
Anna Nicholls	SP ED
Rhonda Compton	ML
Jennifer Reese	LEA
Kyndal Peeler	8 th social studies
Ashton Sloan	PowerSchool clerk
Courtnei Brissie	Receptionist

3. Open House/Meet the Teacher will be held Tuesday, August 4, 5pm-7pm.

Calendar of Events:

August 4	Open House 5pm-7pm
August 6	First day for students
August 10	Breakfast begins
August 17	MAP window opens
August 26	WMS FB at D6 jamboree
August 28	MAP window closes
August 31	WMS VB at Ewing
September 2	WMS VB at home vs Blacksburg
September 3	FB at hickory Tavern
September 7	Labor Day Holiday
September 9	Interims/WMS VB at home vs Chesnee
September 10	WMS FB at Jonesville
September 11	WMS and youth night at WHS FB vs Union
September 14	WMS VB at HPA
September 16	WMS VB at Mabry
September 17	WMS FB at Clifdale
September 21	WMS VB at home vs Sims
September 23	WMS VB at home vs Jonesville/SYAP
September 24	WMS FB at home vs Sims
September 28	WMS VB at home vs Landrum/Spirit Week begins
September 30	WMS VB at Campobello

Woodruff High School

Mrs. Christine Morris presented the following:

- All student and teacher schedules were emailed/available for pick up in July and related instructions given. Numerous parent conferences have been held regarding course schedules.
- WHS New Teacher Orientation was held on July 14.
- Registration for the 2026-27 school year was held on Monday, July 27, from 8 am to 6 pm.
- There are currently 961 students with schedules at Woodruff High School. Students continue to transfer into and out of WHS in the weeks leading up to the start of school.
- The facility continues to become more operational day by day. It is an amazing building, and we look forward to seeing what it looks like with the students in the halls.
- 111 students completed the extended school year program, received credits and made progress toward graduation.
- Three seniors completed their diploma requirements during the extended school year program. One senior finished as an early graduate through Wolverine Express.
- Student athletes have been working throughout the summer and have attended various camps. A consistent group of young men and women have been conditioning in the mornings throughout the summer. This group represents players from all athletic teams at WHS.
- Band members have been working throughout the summer and have begun band camp. The competition program is entitled "*Reverie*".

Date	Event
8/6	First Day of School
8/12	Fire Drill

8/21	Scoops
8/22	Frist Saturday School
8/26	SEL Lesson
8/29	Band Mattress Sale @ WMS
9/1	Underclassmen Make Up Pictures/Staff Pictures
9/9	Interims
9/14	BETA Club Induction
9/22	Senior Make Up Pictures
9/25	Scoops
9/25	Homecoming Parade/Powder Puff
9/26	Art Fall Wreath Fundraiser

Instructional Reports

Mrs. Rachel Traynham submitted the following:

SPED:

1. The County-wide SPED meeting will be held August 6th in Spartanburg School District 7
2. We will hold SPED Teacher meetings later this month to share feedback from our Special Education Audit and the supports in place for the new school year.
3. We saw several new students transfer into the district with an IEP. We are at 15.8% SPED in the district as of July 29th.

Nursing:

1. Nurse McCarley has sent out the school exclusion list from SC Department of Public Health (previously DHEC)
2. We have been able to establish several nurse substitutes to assist us this school year.

Mental Health:

1. We are continuing our partnership with ReGenesis for Mental Health Services in addition to our 3 direct hires through Spartanburg Four.

Multi-Lingual Learners:

1. Teachers will begin screening new students. We are starting the year with 218 ML Learners.

Federal and State Programs:

1. We have submitted our funding applications for Title I, Title II, and Title IV. Funds may be spent upon approval.
2. There will be a meeting in Columbia for Federal and State Programs later this month

Cognia

1. We are going through our accreditation process for Cognia this school year. We will be working with school to collect data for this process as well as sending required surveys to Parents, teachers, and students later this month. The "Virtual" Cognia team review will be held on December 14 from 9-1:00 pm. More information will be shared as it gets closer.

Mrs. Jennifer Turner submitted the following report:

1. Registration for the 2026-2027 school year was held at all schools on July 27th from 8 am-6pm.
2. The most up-to-date Spartanburg School District Four assessment calendar is attached. Please note this is a working document and subject to change throughout the year.
3. Assessment data for the 2025-2026 school year has been received, and we await state averages for comparison. Once received, this information will be shared.

Mr. Russell Mahaffey submitted the following report:

1. The Orientation for new employees was held on Tuesday, June 16th in the Woodruff High School library. Dr. Fulmer addressed the new employees regarding district vision and goals. They completed payroll and insurance documentation with Mr. Benfield and Mrs. Skinner.

Accommodations were made for new employees who were unable to attend due to vacations or other conflicts.

2. Employees will participate in trainings specific to their roles through the Vector/Safe Schools online training modules. Universal trainings will include the following online videos: Bloodborne Pathogen, Sexual Harassment, slips\trips\and falls, and Child Abuse. Employees have had access to the training videos since early July, so they can view them at a time that is convenient.
3. District Four has **sixteen teachers who will be evaluated at the induction level**. They will be assigned mentors and participate in monthly induction classes. These classes support first year teachers, as they learn the SC Teaching Standards and the teacher evaluation instrument utilized in SC.
4. **Seven teachers will be evaluated at the annual contract level**. These teachers will participate in a formal evaluation process with a team consisting of a building administrator and peer evaluator. They will be evaluated using the SC Teaching Standards Rubric 4.0.
5. **Thirty-nine continuing contract teachers** will renew certificates on June 30, 2027. These teachers will participate in the comprehensive formative evaluation. Teachers complete this evaluation the year in which their certificates are scheduled to expire (5-year cycle). Mrs. Denise Brown completes these evaluations for District Four.

Facilities

BAN 2026 Projects – Board received a list.

2026 / 2027 School Year Projects – Board received a list.

Engraved Bricks for New WHS – Initial order: 249 Installed in Oct 2025.

We ordered 43 additional bricks on April 2 for installation this summer. 292 Total sold to date.

New WHS – Work continues on the Punchlist.

Summer Projects - Board received a list of completed work and viewed a PowerPoint of selected finished projects.

Board Action

Approved the following new hire for the 2026-2027 school year:

Tevin Logan – Guidance Counselor at WHS

The motion passed unanimously.