

# September 1, 2023 - Board Brief

## Gerrita Postlewait and Senior Leadership Team

### FINANCE

We are pleased to report the successful pricing of the General Obligation Bonds, Series 2023B on August 29, 2023, in the amount of \$16,500,000. The Series 2023B Bonds were awarded to StoneX Financial Inc. at an interest rate of 4.033%. Proceeds of this issuance are the final funding for 2018 referendum projects. We had 14 bids that were submitted and the award was to the lowest interest rate. We appreciate all the hard work of our financial advisor and bond counsel who handle this process for the District.

### INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

#### Curriculum Effectiveness Audit Update

The curriculum effectiveness audit team will be in the district September 18–21, 2023. The audit's purpose is to provide a comprehensive evaluation of the school district's work in delivering learning to students. The team will visit 20 schools, representing a cross-section of the district. During school visits, they will observe in classrooms, interview the principal, and conduct student focus groups at middle and high schools. They will also conduct focus groups with a variety of stakeholders across the district, including parents and staff, and interview district leaders and board members. Beginning next week, parents, teachers, and administrators will be invited to complete a survey. Students in Grades 7–12 will have the opportunity to complete a survey at school during the week of September 11. The survey will allow the team to gather input from as many people as possible. Parents will receive a communication via Parent Square asking them to complete the parent survey and, if they are the parent of a student in Grades 7–12, letting them know about the upcoming middle and high school student survey. A PDF version of the middle and high school student survey will be included in the Parent Square communication so that parents can see exactly what their student will be asked. In addition to the on-site visit, the curriculum effectiveness audit team is carefully assessing curricular materials and many other resources that represent the systems and structures that support classroom instruction.

#### Preschool Update

Four of our Child Early Reading and Development Education Program (CERDEP) schools - Red Bank Elementary, Saxe Gotha Elementary, White Knoll Elementary and Oak Grove Elementary - have joined the South Carolina Professional Learning Community - Emergent Literacy (PLC-EL) Research Study in collaboration with The Regional Educational Laboratory - Southeast at Florida State University. The PLC-EL is a professional learning package designed to enrich the capabilities of our 4K teachers in early literacy instruction. It incorporates instructional strategies that will be integrated into the daily routines of our 4K classrooms. These skills align seamlessly with the South Carolina Early Learning Standards, ensuring our students receive developmentally appropriate instruction. Our participation in the PLC-EL study promises to strengthen the instructional quality in our 4K programs. This collaboration with The Regional Educational Laboratory - Southeast allows us to contribute to the advancement of early literacy research while benefiting from evidence-based practices.

#### eLearning

Pursuant of 1A.65 (SDE-EIA: Digital Learning Plan), the implementation of the eLearning program is the responsibility of the SC Department of Education. Lexington One is an approved eLearning district with the SCDE, authorizing us to use up to five eLearning days to allow for the make-up of short-term disruptions to in-person teaching and learning. An eLearning day is used on the specific day that schools would otherwise have had to close due to an unforeseen emergency or when a make-up day would normally be used. eLearning days are designed to offer more flexibility to avoid loss of instruction due to school closings or to manage necessary make-up days that are already included in the school calendar. Per the SCDE, an instructional day should not be classified as eLearning unless in response to emergency situations such as predicted inclement weather or possible utility interruptions that would typically cause a school closing.



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### OPERATIONS & STUDENT SERVICES



**Teamwork**  
Instructional Services, Transportation and Student Services teamed up to make the most of staff time and resources. To support the implementation of the recently revised South Carolina College and Career Ready Science Standards, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) provided districts with

funding to refurbish elementary science kits. The science supplies were delivered to North Lake Community Learning Center. Will Hall, Director of Transportation, and bus drivers teamed up with Dena Fender, Science, Health and PE Coordinator, to pack the kits for each elementary school. The kits were loaded up on buses and delivered to the schools. As a result of this teamwork, students will have the opportunity to think like a scientist and solve problems like an engineer.



### SUPERINTENDENT

I will be attending the South Carolina Association of School Administrators (SCASA) annual Superintendent Symposium on September 6 and 7, 2023.

District-wide holiday - September 4, 2023 in observance of Labor Day.

### BOARD ACTION/WORK

<b>S E P T E M B E R</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Operations: Long-term needs, financing plan review</li> <li>● Attend school events and other community opportunities</li> <li>● Preparations for Superintendent evaluation</li> <li>● Preparation for Board self-evaluation and goal setting</li> <li>● Coffee with Lexington legislative delegation, town and county council and Lex School Boards (9/20/23)</li> </ul>
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### RESPONSE TO CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION/PUBLIC CONCERNS

A correction was made to the online edition of the 6/2/23 Board Brief to clarify a FOIA request as follows:

*The 6/2/23 edition of Board Brief contained a clerical error. Two FOIA requests were inaccurately listed under Reporter Chris Joseph (WIS). Mr. Joseph submitted the request for the bus accident information and Peyton Lewis (WLTX) made the inquiry on two alleged situations. The Peyton Lewis request was again reported on the 6/8/23 Board Brief edition.*

**FOIA REQUESTS RECEIVED (None)**

