

LEXINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE
Board Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2022

The Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees held a meeting on Tuesday, February 15, 2022, in the Lexington County School District One's Central Services Building One located at 100 Tarrar Springs Road in Lexington, South Carolina. The meeting was livestreamed on the Lexington One YouTube channel and a video of the meeting has been uploaded to the YouTube channel and LexOne video website. It is also on the Board Meeting Agendas and Minutes webpage.

Board Members: Chair Anne Marie Green, Secretary Mike Anderson, Jada Garris, Dr. Kyle Guyton, Kathy Henson, Tim Oswald, and Vice Chair Dr. Brent Powers.

1.0 Call to Order 6:00 p.m. Executive Session

Chair Green called the meeting to order.

2.0 Executive Session

Chair Green called for a motion to enter into executive session for discussion of 2021–22 and 2022–23 employment recommendations and to discuss proposed property contractual arrangements for the purchase of land for a new River Bluff Area Elementary School. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Anderson	Powers	Approved Unanimously

The Board of Trustees adjourned to the boardroom for executive session.

3.0 Adjourn Executive Session

Chair Green called for a motion to adjourn executive session and return to general session of the February 15, 2022, board meeting. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Powers	Anderson	Approved Unanimously

4.0 Call to Order General Session of the February 15, 2022 Board of Trustees Meeting

4.1 Notification of Compliance with S.C. Freedom of Information Act

Chair Green called to order the general session of the February 15, 2022, board meeting at 7:00 p.m. The district is in compliance with S.C. Freedom of Information Act by notifying the media of the date, time and place of the meeting. The district tapes the meeting for accuracy in preparing the minutes. Dr. Brent Powers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5.0 Approval of Agenda

Chair Green called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. A motion was made, seconded and was approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Powers	Henson	Approved Unanimously

6.0 Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

6.1 Approval of the Minutes of the January 11 and January 18, 2022 Board Meetings Meeting

Minutes of the January 11 and January 18 board meetings were included for approval. Chair Green asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes, other than those that had already been received. Hearing none, the minutes were accepted as presented.

7.0 Reports and Action Items, if Needed, from Executive Session**Employment Recommendations for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 Academic Year**

Chair Green called for a motion to approve one certified recommendation for the 2021-2022 academic year and 19 certified recommendations for the 2022-2023 academic year. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Oswald	Powers	Approved Unanimously

Discussion: Ms. Price, Chief Human Resources Officer, indicated her team continues to recruit for the 2022-2023 school year and they are sponsoring another virtual recruitment fair on March 23, 2022.

Chair Green called for a motion to approve one administrative recommendation for the 2021-2022 academic year. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Oswald	Powers	Approved Unanimously

Discussion: None

Chair Green called for a motion to accept the newly hired support staff report as presented by administration. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Oswald	Powers	Approved Unanimously

Discussion: None

Discussion of Proposed Property Contractual Arrangements for the Purchase of Land for a New River Bluff Area Elementary School

This was for information only; no action was taken.

8.0 Honors and Achievements

Chair Green, Superintendent Gregory Little and school board members recognized honorees present to receive national awards. The Lexington Technology Center was recognized during Career and Technical Education month. LTC staff and student organization representatives were present to be recognized.

9.0 Superintendent's Report**9.1 Third Reading — Lakeside Middle School Zoning Proposal — Jeff Salters, Chief Operations Officer**

Mr. Salters reviewed the rezoning proposal. Administration recommended no changes since the second reading. He reviewed the attendance lines. With the rezoning proposed current attendance for Meadow Glen Middle School would hold 826 students and Lakeside Middle School would hold 852 students. He reviewed the elementary feeder patterns and both LMS and MGMS would feed into River Bluff High School. Grandfathering options would allow rising 8th grade students to stay at MGMS if they have been rezoned but must provide their own transportation. Chinese immersion will remain at MGMS and French immersion will be relocated to LMS. There is a 7th grade French immersion class that would stay at MGMS for their 8th grade year. Mr. Salters recommended the board approve the rezoning proposal as presented.

9.2 Report — Superintendent’s Update — Superintendent Gregory D. Little, ED.D.

Superintendent Little gave a COVID update reporting a significant drop in community spread in the last two weeks. He reviewed positive and quarantine cases comparing numbers from two weeks prior for students and staff which have decreased significantly. While the community is still in high spread, he was hopeful that by the fourth quarter the community would be back to moderate spread. The district will be implementing a Test-to-Stay program that will help reduce student quarantines. Content on ESSER funds have been updated on the Lexington One Safe Return to School webpage and the district will be giving an update on ESSER at the March board meeting. He reported that the new Superintendent Evaluation tool is being populated and that it represents a living document of work being done throughout the district.

9.3 Update — Lexington Middle School Campus Repurpose — Mary Gaskins, Chief Academic Officer and Jeff Salters

Ms. Gaskins gave a report on how the district would like to repurpose the soon to be vacant Lexington Middle School campus. The Personalized Pathways Programs would relocate there. This includes Adult Education, Alternative Education Services (AES), Lexington One Online Learning Academy (LOOLA), The College Center, Parenting Center, and partnership programs with Midlands Technical College and the Palmetto College. She discussed the benefits of moving all of these programs onto one campus such as an easy transition for graduating Adult Education students to a higher education program, and the ability to leverage staffing by sharing staff between AES, LOOLA and College Center staff. The plan is to begin moving programs there once LMS vacates the campus and open the Fall 2022 semester at the new location. This would also increase MTC’s presence in the Lexington Community with the hope to eventually open MTC courses for the Lexington community as a whole, not just Lexington One students.

9.4 Report — Reading Recovery — Kris Gillaspay, PH.D., ESOL and Response to Intervention Coordinator and Peggy Phillips, Reading Recovery Teacher Leader

Dr. Gillaspay explained the Reading Recovery program in which specially trained certified teachers provide one-to-one instruction for first grade students with the highest level of need. It is a 12-20 week short-term intervention program which focuses on the five essential components of reading. The program supplements classroom instruction. She discussed community partnerships such as the Clemson Reading Recovery & Early Literacy Training Center which trains reading recovery teachers and enables them to return to the district and train additional teachers. She shared professional development opportunities such as “behind the glass” instruction which assists certified reading recovery teachers, early childhood teachers and reading interventionists. Ms. Phillips reviewed implementation and data. The district has grown from 11 to 40 trained teachers in 4 years. Since the 2018-19 school year, the program has grown from 73 students to 270 students in one-to-one instruction, and increased from 330 students impacted in small group intervention to 1,200 students in small groups. She explained data reviews and analysis to insure short and long-term growth for students in the program. Data on text level growth showed that the district ended 2020-2021 year higher than national average. They presented examples and videos that showed the value and successes of the program.

9.5 Report — Lexington District One Networked Community (LINC) — Bryce Myers, Lexington Technology Center Director

Mr. Myers introduced Lexington District One Networked Community (LINC), a partnership initiative, investing in a kindergarten to career opportunity for Lexington One students to become workforce ready graduates. LINC partners with business and industry, community organizations and higher education institutions. Mr. Myers reviewed the five core principles of the program. The goal is to create a system for K-to-Career investment opportunities. He discussed the types of partnerships which can include worked-based learning experiences, employment opportunities, business and industry volunteers and mentors. The next step in the development of the program will be to develop a survey to document and identify the district’s partnerships and to create a web presence to generate interest in the program. This will organize all of the district’s partnerships under one umbrella to be more intentional and strategic in promoting and providing opportunities to students.

9.6 Report — Operations Update — Matt Warren, Operations Director

Mr. Warren presented a building and bond referendum project update. He reviewed the capital improvement projects that are being funded by the 8% bond sale issued in October 2021 for facility improvement use and preventative maintenance such as roofing and mechanical. He reviewed a list of upcoming capital projects. Mr. Warren shared progress on bond referendum projects. He gave updates on the Gilbert Middle and Carolina Springs Middle Schools' classroom additions, Gilbert High School's new performing arts center and athletic facility addition, and the new transportation facility site work. The White Knoll High School performing arts center is nearing completion and he reported on progress at Lakeside Middle School. Building plan progress can be tracked on the Lexington One website.

9.7 Report — Test to Stay Program — Amy Wood, BSN, RN, Nursing and Health Services Director

Ms. Amy Wood reviewed the most recent DHEC changes on COVID-19 guidance. She reviewed student isolation protocols including clarification on the quarantine guidelines for student athletes who perform activities with forced exhalation. She reviewed the definition of school close contact to students who test positive, close contact exemptions from quarantine and close contacts that are not exempt from quarantine. DHEC clarified that if not enrolled in TTS can return to school after 5 days but if a student athletes with forced exhalation has to provide a negative test after day 5. The district is preparing to implement DHEC's Test to Stay (TTS) program for close contacts that are not exempt from quarantine. This allows close contacts to continue to attend school if they have no symptoms, self-monitor for symptoms daily, test negative between day 5 and 7 and agree to wear a mask through day 10. New household contact guidelines do not allow positive household contacts to enroll in the TTS program. She explained TTS for students who are exposed, unvaccinated and eligible for the program. Families must opt-in to the program if eligible. The district will begin accepting negative home test results but it must be accompanied by a completed DHEC Attestation Form. Dr. Powers read the response from DHEC as a result of the letter from the board requesting a review of the quarantine guidelines.

10.0 Citizens' Participation

Chair Green read the citizens' participation guidelines. Mr. Anderson reminded the board that its policy designates fifteen minutes for citizens' participation and the board has been in violation of that policy. He suggested the board review this policy and Chair Green indicated the board would consider the policy but would allow all speakers in the interim.

Jessica Garcia, Lead Interventionist at Red Bank Elementary School and parent, addressed the board on the value of the reading recovery program.

Debbie Myers, resident of Lexington, addressed the board on freedoms and eliminating COVID protocols.

Danielle Bowers, Lexington, SC, parent of high school, middle and elementary students, addressed the board on citizens and parental freedoms and COVID protocols.

Sue Carter, Reading Interventionist and Reading Recovery Teacher, addressed the board on the value of the reading recovery program.

Stephanie Berquist, resident of Lexington, SC, presented the board with a letter of intent to file a claim against the district insurance plan if certain demands and COVID practices are not adhered to within 48 hours.

Katherine Oates, Lexington SC, parent of high school, middle and elementary students, addressed the board about grading and testing practices and privacy of student health/medical data and masking for sports.

Michelle Feagin, resident of Lexington, SC, addressed the board on COVID protocols and ESSER funding.

Marie Yontz, resident of Gilbert, SC, addressed the board about access to YouTube on school devices.

Leesue Kim, Lexington, SC, parent of high school student, addressed the board about removing quarantine guidelines and the anxiety of being quarantined.

Murry Kinard, Lexington, SC, addressed the board and thanked the district leaders, teachers and staff for the hard work throughout the district and recognized good things throughout the district.

11.0 New Business

11.1 Executive Session Placement — Jada Garris, Board Member

Ms. Garris addressed the board about interest in holding two executive sessions - one at the beginning of the meeting to approve Human Resources items and one after all agenda items are concluded. The rationale is to allow more time for executive session items that may require a lengthier discussion without having a hard cut-off time at 7:00 p.m. to begin the general session. The board discussed this request. Executive session has been adjusted recently to begin earlier due to lengthier business items. There was debate as to whether beginning at 6:00 p.m. is technically the beginning of the general session or just a vote to enter executive session. The board discussed moving general session to 6:00 p.m. and executive session to 5:00 p.m. so that the business of the district is at a time when stakeholders can attend or watch livestream at a reasonable time. Sometimes presentations and business are not happening until a late hour. The board agreed to a trial of shifting executive session to 5:00 p.m. and general session at 6:00 p.m. The board will discuss and vote on this temporary shift at the March 15th meeting. This policy will also be addressed at a future date by the Ad Hoc Committee for B Policy review.

12.0 Action Items

12.1 Lakeside Middle School Zoning Proposal — Jeff Salters

Chair Green called for a motion to approve the Lakeside Middle School zoning proposal. A motion was made that the board approve the administrative team’s Lakeside Middle School zoning proposal as presented at Third Reading. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Powers	Henson	Approved unanimously

Discussion: No additional discussion.

12.2 Student Travel Request(s) — Mary Gaskins and Jeff Caldwell, Chief Student Services Officer

Chair Green called for a motion for the board to approve fourteen Field Trip Requests. A motion was made for the board to approved fourteen field trip requests. The Field Trip Requests were reviewed and are in compliance with Board Policy. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Henson	Powers	Approved unanimously

Discussion: Ms. Gaskins indicated all trips have been reviewed and are in compliance with guidelines for high spread regarding leadership opportunities and competitions.

12.3 Second Reading — 2022–23 Board of Trustees Meetings Calendar — Kathryn McPhail, Chief Communications Officer

Chair Green called for a motion that the board approve the 2022-2023 Board of Trustees calendar as presented by administration. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Guyton	Anderson	Approved unanimously

Discussion: Ms. McPhail reviewed the proposed calendar and indicated a few changes in meeting dates since the first reading. She reviewed those exception dates and indicated they were to accommodate for long weekends in the district and to acknowledge the short preparation time and legal notice requirements when

those meetings fall on the Tuesday after an extended weekend. There was discussion on the extra board meetings in the proposed calendar. Those are primarily for Human Resources approval purposes. The early May meeting is of importance as that is the contract deadline for individuals moving from another district. The board discussed possibly adjusting those meetings to early morning meetings for the HR approvals only. The board will leave the April 11 and May 2 meetings on the calendar for HR purposes only and as those meetings approach; if additional items are needed we can adjust the time as necessary.

13.0 Items for Board Information

These items are for board information only.

- 13.1 Monthly General Fund Financial Report — January 2022**
- 13.2 Monthly General Fund Budget Transfers — January 2022**
- 13.3 Monthly Capital Projects Report — January 2022**
- 13.4 Monthly Unauthorized Procurements Report — January 2022**

14.0 Adjourn

Chair Green gave an update on board events. A quorum would be attending the South Carolina School Boards Association annual convention February 17 -20, 2022 and board members had been invited to Legislative Breakfast on February 24, 2022.

Chair Green called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made, seconded and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 pm.

Motion	Second	Action
Anderson	Powers	Approved unanimously

Respectfully submitted:

Prepared by:

Mr. Mike Anderson/MEA
Secretary

Tracy Halliday/TAH
Executive Administrative Assistant