

**LEXINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**August 17, 2021**

The Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees convened in executive session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 17, 2021, in the Lexington County School District One's Central Services Building One located at 100 Tarrar Springs Road in Lexington, South Carolina. At 7:00 p.m. the Board of Trustees met for General Session in the Auditorium. 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, Vice Chair Brent Powers, Secretary Mike Anderson, Jada Garris, Kyle Guyton, Kathy Henson and Tim Oswald.

**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 to consider employment recommendations for the 2021-2022 academic year, and to receive legal advice concerning a pending legal matter in the case of Alvin Berry vs. Lexington County School District One. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Anderson	Powers	Approved Unanimously

The Board of Trustees adjourned for executive session in the auditorium.

**3.0 Adjourn Executive Session**

Chair Green called for a motion to adjourn executive session and begin the general session of the August 17, 2021 board meeting. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Anderson	Powers	Approved Unanimously

**4.0 Call to Order General Session of the August 17, 2021 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 August 17, 2021 board meeting at 7:00 pm. 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. Chair Green 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 unanimously.

Motion	Second	Action
Anderson	Powers	Approved Unanimously

**6.0 Approval of the July 20, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes**

Minutes of the July 20, 2021 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 Academic Year**

Chair Green called for a motion to approve 26 certified recommendations for the 2021-2022 academic year. A motion was made to approve the recommendations as presented. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Oswald	Powers	Approved Unanimously

**Discussion:** Ms. Price, Chief Human Resources Officer, gave a report on vacancies.

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

Motion	Second	Action
Oswald	Powers	Approved Unanimously

**Discussion:** None

**Receipt of Legal Advice Concerning a Pending Legal Matter (Alvin Berry vs. Lexington County School District One)**

Chair Green said during executive session they received legal advice on a pending legal matter in the case of Alvin Berry vs. Lexington County School District One. She called for a motion on the matter. Dr. Powers moved that the board accept the advice of legal counsel in the matter as it pertains to the case of Alvin Berry vs. Lexington County School District One. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Powers	Anderson	Approved Unanimously

**Discussion:** None

**8.0 Special Recognition**

Board members Anne Marie Green, Kathy Henson and Brent Powers received certificates from the South Carolina School Boards Association for varying levels of achievement for Boardmanship training.

**9.0 Citizens’ Participation**

Chair Green read the guidelines for Citizens’ Participation.

Jill Slapnik, Lexington, SC, parent of middle and high school students, addressed the board on masking and advocated for a mask mandate.

Stephanie Berquist, Lexington, SC, parent of middle and high school students, addressed the board on maintaining parent mask choice and the governor’s orders.

**Citizens’ Participation:**

Claire Tidwell, Lexington, SC, parent of elementary students, addressed the board on safety and advocated for masking or a short term mask mandate for elementary students.

Katie Carter-Jeffcoat, Gilbert, SC, parent of elementary students, addressed the board on ground maintenance custodial support, board policies on budget approval and the proposed board resolution.

Heather Beatty, addressed the board on maintaining parent choice on mask wearing.

Rebekah Godfrey, Lexington, SC, parent of elementary, middle and high school students, addressed the board on maintaining mask choice, removing contact tracing and vaccination recommendations.

Amanda Donovan, Pelion, SC, parent of middle and high school students, addressed the board on removing contact tracing protocols.

Debbie Heim, Lexington, SC, parent of high school students, addressed the board on maintaining mask choice and vaccination choice. Vice Chair Powers made a motion to recess; it was seconded and approved. Chair Green said the board would take a five minute recess.

Motion	Second	Action
Powers	Anderson	4 in favor; 3 opposed (Garris, Henson, Guyton)

Upon return, Chair Green reviewed the rules of Citizens’ Participation. Ms. Heim concluded by reading sections from an article in the Huffington Post.

Matthew Heim, Lexington, SC, parent of high school students, addressed the board regarding governance, policy oversight and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

**10.0 Action Items**

**10.1 Resolution to Authorize the Sale of General Obligation Bonds — Jeff S. Salters, Chief Operations Officer**

Chair Green called for a motion that the board adopt a resolution to provide for the issuance and sale of not to exceed sixteen million two hundred fifteen thousand (\$16,215,000) general obligation bonds of Lexington County School District No. 1, South Carolina. Dr. Guyton moved that the board adopt a resolution to provide for the issuance and sale of not to exceed sixteen million two hundred fifteen thousand (\$16,215,000) general obligation bonds of Lexington County School District No. 1, South Carolina. The bonds are to be issued in two or more series. The Bond Resolution will prescribe the purposes for which the proceeds shall be expended, for the payment of bonds and other matters relating thereto. The resolution was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Guyton	Anderson	Approved Unanimously

**Discussion:** Mr. Salters introduced Mr. Mike Gallagher with Compass Municipal Advisors, to review the bond sale the district does each fall that sets up the payments to be made to the district’s installment purchase revenue bonds done in the fall and spring on Series 2013 and Series 2015 and to infuse approximately \$10 million in additional funding to the capital program. Mr. Salters provided a list of projects and estimated costs. Mr. Gallagher reviewed the two bond series issuance that would keep the millage at 90 mills, lower than the 100 mill projection in the bond referendum. Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Salters took questions and comments from the board. Exhibit A allows the district to work from a broad category and the list of projects presented by Mr. Salters is a working document to provide detailed projects to be covered in the bond sale. This strategy is recommended by the district and the financial advisors. The plan would include an operations update and progress report each month on the list of projects.

**10.2 Second Reading — 2022–2023 Academic Calendar — Clark Cooper, Student Administration Director**

Chair Green called for a motion for the board to approve the 2022-2023 academic calendar as presented by administration. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Action</b>
Henson	Powers	Approved Unanimously

**Discussion:** Mr. Cooper reviewed the second reading of the 2022-2023 academic calendar as proposed by the district’s Calendar Committee for second reading. There were no changes made to the calendar since the first reading. It is a balanced calendar with 91 academic days in the first semester and 89 days in the second semester with 190 days instruction. Virtual weather make-up days will continue as practice for the district, however by law, there are three weather makeup days included in the calendar. If those days are not needed for inclement weather, they will be scheduled days off. First day of school would be August 16, 2022.

**10.3 Waiver for Seat Time Compliance for Graduation Preparation — Luke Clamp, ED.D., Secondary Schools Director**

Chair Green called for a motion to waiver seat time compliance for graduation preparation. Ms. Henson moved that the Board of Trustees approve the Waiver for Seat Time Compliance. The South Carolina Department of Education accepts requests from Districts to waive compliance from a state regulation when the regulation is an impediment to the implementation of an approved district strategic plan or

school renewal plan. Our district is requesting to waive the seat time requirements which impede student’s capabilities to learn at any pace, any place and any time. To engage students who are not progressing on time for graduation, we are seeking to create a pathway for readmission and credit accumulation and progress. The motion was seconded and approved.

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Action</b>
Henson	Powers	Approved Unanimously

**Discussion:** Dr. Clamp reviewed a partnership with the Graduation Alliance and the intended outcomes for students who have dropped out of school. He reviewed the program and services that would be provided. The seat time waiver is necessary as the curriculum uses an online digital platform and uses proficiency ratings as the student progresses.

**10.4 COVID-19 Related Absences Resolution — Devona Price, Chief Human Resources Officer**

Chair Green called for a motion to adopt the COVID-19 Related Absences Resolution. Ms. Henson moved that in light of the expiration on December 31, 2020, of the Employee Paid Sick Leave Act of the Families First Coronavirus Act, and the sunset on June 30, 2021, of the District’s subsequent policy to extend the emergency paid sick leave, the District will, at its expense, grant eligible employees a COVID-related absence designation for up to twelve (12) days, as implemented by District protocol, at no cost to its employees, beginning retroactively on July 1, 2021, and until such time as the leave entitlement is extended by the federal government, or June 30, 2022, whichever occurs first. And she moved that the District will grant eligible employees paid leave, if they are unable to work in-person due to isolation, quarantine, or illness based on an established exposure to COVID-19 while at work for the District, as determined by District protocol, with this leave to be granted as needed separately for each confirmed work-related exposure. The resolution was seconded and approved.

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Action</b>
Henson	Oswald	Approved Unanimously

**COVID-19 Related Absences Resolution (continued):**

**Discussion:** Ms. Price reviewed the resolution and indicated if approved it would be retroactive to July 1, 2021, for those who may have been entitled to these leave days.

**10.5 Board Resolution Supporting and Encouraging Respect and Collaboration in the Lexington District One Family — Vice Chair Dr. Brent Powers**

Chair Green called for a motion to adopt the Board Resolution Supporting and Encouraging Respect and Collaboration in the Lexington District One Family. Vice Chair Powers made a motion to adopt the following resolution:

We, the undersigned members of Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees, pass the following resolution to our students, parents, staff, community and ourselves:

Whereas, the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) virus has caused significant interruption in traditional instruction models requiring significant, and often unexpected and immediate, adjustment by our students and faculty; and

Whereas, the COVID-19 virus has caused significant interruption in extracurricular activities requiring significant, and often unexpected and immediate, adjustments by our students and coaches/leaders; and

Whereas, the COVID-19 virus has caused significant emotional and physical stress and harm to our students, families, faculty, staff and leadership teams; and

Whereas, the COVID-19 virus has led to conflict within our families, our schools, our district and our community; and

Whereas, Lexington District One continues to offer a state-of-the-art, world class education that attracts both students and educators to the area; and

Whereas, this strong educational offering of Lexington District One results in residential and business growth in its attendance area.

Therefore, be it resolved that we, as undersigned members of the Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees, shall:

- Focus on governance (and not management) of Lexington District One operations, acting as an advocate and ambassador for the district;
- Respect the Office of the Superintendent and defer day-to-day operations to the Office of the Superintendent and Senior Leadership Team;
- Hold each other accountable when/if we do not conduct ourselves accordingly; and

Be it further resolved that we, as undersigned members of the Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees, ask our staff to continue to:

- Focus on closing any instructional gaps caused by the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Focus on the emotional wellbeing of our students; and

Be it further resolved that we, as undersigned members of the Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees, ask our parents and caregivers to:

- Communicate to our teachers, coaches and staff any academic and/or emotional needs of their children;

**Board Resolution (continued):**

- Be patient with their teachers as they continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic and associated adjustments; and

Be it further resolved that we, as undersigned members of the Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees, ask our community to:

- Communicate with Lexington District One teachers, staff and administration their appreciation for their daily work;
- Offer grace to the school and district administrators as they navigate an ever-changing landscape; and

Finally, be it further resolved that we, as undersigned members of the Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees, remind our students, our parents, our staff, our communities, and ourselves that:

- We are one family and community, working together to educate our future leaders, essential workers, business owners, craftsmen, teachers and coaches, law enforcement and emergency workers and military personnel.

The resolution was seconded, and approved with amendment (Final Resolution attached).

Motion	Second	Action
Powers	Anderson	Amended

**Discussion:** Vice Chair Powers proposed the resolution and said when there is uncertainty and change, it is easy to be critical. The resolution aims to bring the community together and focus on the good and opportunities. Ms. Garris made a motion to amend the resolution as she did not have input on the initial resolution and consider her recommendations. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Garris	Henson	4 in favor; 3 opposed (Oswald, Powers, Anderson)

There was discussion regarding the process for providing feedback. The board voted on the motion to amend and reviewed the recommendations in order to provide unity and start the school year as one voice. The board discussed recommendations provided by Ms. Garris and the resolution was edited based on collaboration of the board.

The final resolution with agreed upon edits was adopted and signed by the board (attached). Vice Chair Powers made a motion to adopt the resolution with the adapted changes as discussed by the board. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Powers	Henson	Approved Unanimously

**10.6 Superintendent Evaluation Tool — Anne Marie Green**

Chair Green called for a motion for the board to adopt the Superintendent Evaluation Instrument and Superintendent Evaluation Process as presented for use beginning with the 2021-2022 school year and authorize the district’s attorney, Allen Smith, to modify the superintendent’s contract accordingly. The amended motion was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Powers	Oswald	Approved Unanimously

**Superintendent Evaluation Tool (continued):**

**Discussion:** Chair Green reminded the board that this new instrument was presented at the July 20, 2021 meeting. There was one change made to the evaluation process since the first review. Upon approval, the district’s employment attorney would draft an amendment to the Superintendent’s contract to make it effective for the 2022 evaluation.

Ms. Garris made a motion to amend the main motion to change the language Allen Smith to read - “to authorize Halligan Mahoney and Williams...”. She moved that the board adopt the Superintendent Evaluation Instrument and Superintendent Evaluation Process as presented for use beginning with the evaluation of the 2021-2022 school year and authorize Halligan Mahoney and Williams, P.A., to modify the superintendent's contract accordingly.

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Action</b>
Garris	Guyton	Approved Unanimously

**11.0 Superintendent’s Report****11.1 Report — Superintendent’s Update — Superintendent Greg Little, ED.D.**

Dr. Little gave an overview of the first day of school and dismissals which were impacted by tornado warnings combined with normal first day of school traffic issues. Mr. Jeff Caldwell, Chief Student Services Officer, explained the bus transportation issues that occurred on the first day of school. Due to a later close of online registration, bus ridership registration did not close early enough to be fully prepared to develop bus routes and notify families. Ninety-eight percent of ridership requests have now been met and by August 20, 2021, the last requests should be resolved. Processes will be evaluated and adjusted for the next school year.

**11.2 Update — ESSER III Fund Plan — Jessica Buzhardt, Academic Assistance, Early Childhood and Title I Coordinator; Shane Phillips, PH.D., Accountability and Assessment Director**

Dr. Phillips reviewed that through the American Rescue Plan (ARP), Lexington One was allocated \$27,286,904 in ESSER III funds. He reviewed funding categories, the process used to gather feedback from stakeholders on these categories, and the weighting and rank of feedback. Ms. Buzhardt reviewed the budget planning process, evaluation of all feedback and budget requests and development of a draft of the budget. She shared the draft of the budget. The budget is due to the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) on August 24, 2021.

**11.3 Back-to-School Update — Zan Tracy Pender, School Counseling and Advisement Director; Howard Bissell, Instructional Technology Director; Chris Rabon, Personalized Learning Pathways Director; Amy Wood, Nursing and Health Services Director**

Mr. Pender provided an explanation of how Social Emotional Learning (SEL) has evolved over the last three decades and that SEL is a process of self-awareness, self-control and interpersonal skills vital for school work and life success. He reviewed the SEL programs the district has implemented and new programs for the 2021-2022 school year including a voluntary screening tool for students and staff called Terrace Metrix. Mr. Pender explained the difference between SEL and Critical Race Theory. Ms. Gaskins explained that Lexington One uses the South Carolina College and Career Ready curriculum and embeds power skills. CRT is not in SCDE standards, and not part of Lexington One’s curriculum.

Mr. Howard Bissell and Mr. Chris Rabon gave an update on LOOLA and virtual learning. Mr. Bissell reported enrollment at 507 elementary students and reviewed the daily elementary schedule. Mr. Rabon reported on secondary LOOLA programs. Middle school has 187 students enrolled and the program hub is Lexington Middle School with 10 teachers. The high school program has 295 enrolled in grades 9- 12. Eighteen teachers across the district serve the high school students.

**Back to School Update (continued):**

Amy Wood, Director of Nursing and Health Services gave an update on COVID-19 quarantine guidelines. She explained that contact tracing is embedded in law and authorizes DHEC to enforce rules and regulations on communicable diseases and which diseases need action. She reviewed the district’s quarantine guidelines on school close contact, the 14 day standard quarantine and explained the early return option of 7 or 10 days. The early return option is case by case at the school level and includes masking, social distancing and symptom screening. It is at the school’s discretion to authorize early return depending on the school and students ability to comply with those required protocols for the remainder of the 14 days.

**11.4 Report — Operations Update — Matt Warren, Director of Operations**

Mr. Warren gave an update on bond referendum projects. Of 41 total projects, 18 are complete, 15 have started and eight projects yet to begin. He gave an update and shared photos of Lakeside Middle School construction. He reported that the 32 classroom wing at White Knoll High School is complete and open and reviewed progress on the performing arts center. He reported on projects at Gilbert High School athletic facility expansion, Lake Murray Elementary, Lexington Elementary White Knoll Middle School, Gilbert Middle School and Saxe Gotha Elementary. Oak Grove Elementary opened their new classroom wing. Forty-four new classrooms opened across the district on August 17, 2021.

**12.0 New Business**

**12.1 First Reading — Policy BBAA-R Board Member Authority and Responsibilities — Kathryn McPhail, Chief Communications Officer**

Chair Green called for a motion to untable the First Reading of Policy BBAA-R Board Member Authority and Responsibilities. The first reading was tabled at the July 20, 2021 so that it could be read and discussed when all board members were present. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Garris	Powers	Approved unanimously

**Discussion:** Ms. McPhail reviewed the first reading. This is in response to the absence of an administrative rule for policy BBAA Board Member Authority and Responsibilities.

Ms. Garris made a motion that the board form an ad hoc committee to review Administrative Rule BBAA-R. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Garris	Guyton	Approved unanimously

Chair Green moved for the committee to consist of Dr. Guyton as committee chair, Mr. Oswald and Ms. Henson. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Green	Anderson	Approved unanimously

**13.0 Items for Board Information**

- 13.1 Monthly General Fund Financial Report — July 2021
- 13.2 Monthly Capital Projects Report — July 2021
- 13.3 Monthly Unauthorized Procurements Report — July 2021
- 13.4 Sole Source and Emergency Procurement Annual Report — 2020–2021
- 13.5 Minority Business Enterprise Annual Report — 2020–2021



**14.0 Adjourn**

Chair Green called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made, seconded and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 10: 57 pm.

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Action</b>
Anderson	Guyton	Approved unanimously

Respectfully submitted:

Prepared by:

Mr. Mike Anderson/MEA  
Secretary

Tracy Halliday/TAH  
Executive Administrative Assistant

# **Lexington County School District One Board Resolution**

Supporting and Encouraging Respect and Collaboration in the Lexington District One Family

We, the undersigned members of Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees, pass the following resolution to our students, parents, staff, community and ourselves:

**Whereas**, the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) virus has caused significant interruption in traditional instruction models requiring significant, and often unexpected and immediate, adjustment by our students and faculty; and

**Whereas**, the COVID-19 virus has caused significant interruption in extracurricular activities requiring significant, and often unexpected and immediate, adjustments by our students and coaches/leaders; and

**Whereas**, the COVID-19 virus has caused significant emotional and physical stress and harm to our students, families, faculty, staff and leadership teams; and

**Whereas**, the COVID-19 virus has led to conflict within our families, our schools, our district and our community; and

**Whereas**, Lexington District One continues to offer a state-of-the-art, world class education that attracts both students and educators to the area; and

**Whereas**, this strong educational offering of Lexington District One results in residential and business growth in its attendance area.

**Therefore, be it resolved that we**, as undersigned members of the Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees, shall:

- Focus on governance (and not management) of Lexington District One operations, acting as an advocate for students and public education and an ambassador for the district;
- Respect the Office of the Superintendent and defer day-to-day operations to the Office of the Superintendent and Senior Leadership Team;
- Hold each other accountable when/if we do not conduct ourselves accordingly; and

**Be it further resolved** that we, as undersigned members of the Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees, ask our staff to continue to:

- Focus on closing any instructional gaps caused by the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Focus on the emotional well-being of our students; and

**Be it further resolved** that we, as undersigned members of the Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees, ask our parents and caregivers to:

- Communicate to our teachers, coaches and staff any academic and/or emotional needs of their children;
- Be patient with their teachers as they continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic and associated adjustments; and

**Be it further resolved** that we, as undersigned members of the Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees, ask our community to be active in our schools and to:

- Communicate with Lexington District One teachers, staff and administration their appreciation for their daily work;
- Offer grace to the school and district administrators as they navigate an ever-changing landscape; and

Finally, **be it further resolved** that we, as undersigned members of the Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees, remind our students, our parents, our staff, our communities, and ourselves that:

- We are one family and community, and we will model servant leadership by being active in our community.
- We will partner with essential workers, business owners, craftsmen, teachers, coaches, law enforcement, emergency workers and military personnel and work together to educate our future leaders.

Approved by the Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees at its August 17, 2021 Board Meeting.

Anne Marie Green, Chair

Dr. Brent M. Powers, Vice Chair

Michael E. Anderson, Secretary

Jada. B. Garris

Dr. R. Kyle Guyton

Kathryn W. Henson

Timothy F. Oswald