

**LEXINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**January 31, 2023**

The Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees held a board workshop on Tuesday, January 31, 2023, 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, Kathy Henson, Katie McCown, Vice Chair Brent Powers, Chris Rice, and Beth Shealy.

**1.0 Call to Order 5:30 p.m.**

Chair Green called the workshop and business meeting to order.

**2.0 Executive Session**

Chair Green called for a motion to enter executive session to discuss employment recommendations and other personnel matters.

Motion	Second	Action
Anderson	Shealy	Approved Unanimously

**3.0 Adjourn Executive Session**

Chair Green called for a motion to adjourn executive session and return to general session. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Anderson	Rice	Approved Unanimously

**4.0 Call to Order General Session**

Chair Green called to order the general session of the January 31, board workshop at 6:00 p.m. The district is in compliance with the 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. Mr. Mike Anderson 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 approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Rice	Shealy	Approved Unanimously

**6.0 Reports and Action Items, if needed, from Executive Session**

**Employment Recommendations**

Chair Green called for a motion to approve one certified recommendation for the 2022-2023 school year. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Rice	Anderson	Approved Unanimously

Chair Green called for a motion to approve ten certified recommendations for the 2023-2024 school year. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Rice	Henson	Approved Unanimously

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
Rice	Anderson	Approved Unanimously

**7.0 Overview of 2018 Bond Referendum and Capital Programs — Matt Warren, Interim Chief Operations Officer (Priority 6)**

Mr. Warren and Ms. Jennifer Miller, Chief Financial Officer, introduced attorney Theodore Dubose with Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd who serves as the district’s bond counsel to review the district’s bond guidelines and requirements. He explained that a bond referendum is permission to the board to exceed the district’s debt limit. SC Constitution authorizes local governments/school boards to issue bonds up to 8% of its assessed value without a voter referendum. A referendum is permission to exceed the 8% debt limit for a specified purpose. The board is not legally required to complete all of the projects in the referendum. Reasons for not following through for example are that there may not be enough funds due to inflation, or things change and a project is not needed. If the board decides not to complete a project, bonds for that project are not issued. The bond referendum that was passed by voters authorized the district to issue up to \$365 million in bonds. There is currently approximately \$50 million left to borrow. If this money is not borrowed, it will not need to be paid back through millage.

Mr. Warren provided an orientation on the River Bluff High School (RBHS) attendance area. He shared the feeder pattern of the RBHS attendance area which includes five elementary schools that feed into the two middle schools that feed into RBHS. Initially in planning for the bond referendum there was a need to build another school in the RBHS attendance area to alleviate enrollment at Meadow Glen Elementary (MGES) and Midway Elementary (MES). He explained the realignment history from 2017-2018 for those elementary schools prior to the referendum. Since 2018, enrollment at MGES and MES has declined, while enrollment at New Providence Elementary, Oak Grove Elementary and Lexington Elementary has increased. Additionally, he shared that the district’s K-5 projected enrollments through 2025-2026 for those five schools shows an overall decline in enrollments, especially for MES and MGES. He shared a map showing the pipeline of 2022 residential development which does not indicate major growth in that area. 2020 and 2021 development was reviewed as well and did not show substantial growth.

Mr. Warren reviewed district vacant property holdings. There are three properties: 1) property at Calks Ferry Road and Boiling Springs purchased using general obligation bond and zoned for the Gilbert area; 2) a house/property by the old Lexington Middle School purchased in 2002 with general obligation bond for future LMS expansion, that can be sold; and 3) a parcel on North Lake created through the Harmon Street extension that the district owns that can sold. There are two additional properties - the old Gilbert Elementary campus and the old Pelion Middle campus. A deal may be forthcoming on the vacant GES site with the State of SC and SLED for a statewide school safety center. At the board’s discretion, these properties can be repurposed, held or sold.

Ms. Miller provided an overview of funding options should the board decide to move forward with ES #18 (RBHS attendance area elementary). Historically when there was a general fund balance left at the end of the fiscal year, the district has moved funds over to the capital project fund to cover expenditures to offset capital improvements. There is approximately \$8 million remaining from FY22 general fund balance that could be moved to capital funds. She explained the two different debt options - 8% debt bonds versus bond referendum debt. The district can borrow up to 8% of the assessed value of all property in the district (currently approximately \$55.8 million could be borrowed). This is short term issuance paid back annually

through property taxes. Bond referendum is long term debt paid back over a longer period of time (20-30 years). Through the current bond referendum, the district is able to spend the \$365 million for the approved projects but is not required to complete every project. Funding in the referendum can be used to cover cost increases or changes to projects listed in the referendum. If the board were to choose to issue the remaining \$50 million, along with the 8% annual debt that we have historically done, the financial advisors do not forecast an increase in the debt millage. It would remain at 90 mills.

Ms. Miller laid out action steps for the board. The board will need make a decision as to whether to proceed with ES #18. If the board chooses to proceed, land would need to be acquired by July 2023 in order to draw the remaining bond referendum fund no later than September 2023. Dr. Postlewait closed by asking the board to forward any remaining questions that would help them make an informed decision. Two action items will be placed on the February 28, 2023 board agenda. The first would be consideration of ES #18, and the second would be consideration of the sale of surplus property.

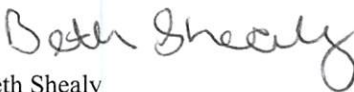
**9.0 Adjourn**

Before adjourning, Chair Green mentioned the community meetings to gather feedback in the strategic planning process and the next regular board meeting.

Chair Green called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made, seconded and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Motion	Second	Action
Anderson	McCown	Approved unanimously

Respectfully submitted:

  
Beth Shealy  
Secretary

Prepared by:

  
Tracy Halliday  
Executive Administrative Assistant