

LEXINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE
Board Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2023

The Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees held a meeting on Tuesday, February 28, 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, Vice Chair Kathy Henson, Katie McCown, Brent Powers, Chris Rice, and Secretary Beth Shealy. Mike Anderson was not present.

1.0 Call to Order 5:30 P.M. Chair Green called the meeting to order.

2.0 Executive Session

Chair Green called for a motion that the board enter executive session. A motion was made to enter executive session to discuss employment recommendations and other personnel matters and to receive legal advice in the matter of the S.C. Freedom Caucus vs. Lexington County School District One. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Rice	Henson	Approved Unanimously

3.0 Adjourn Executive Session

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

Motion	Second	Action
Rice	Shealy	Approved Unanimously

4.0 Call to Order General Session

Chair Green called to order the general session of the February 28, 2023 board meeting at 6:14 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. Secretary Beth Shealy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5.0 Approval of the Agenda

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

Motion	Second	Action
Rice	Henson	Approved Unanimously

6.0 Consent Agenda

6.1 Approval of Minutes of January 10, 24 and 31, 2023 Board Meetings

6.2 Student Travel Requests (Policy IJOA, Student Travel)

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

Motion	Second	Action
Rice	Henson	Approved Unanimously

7.0 Reports and Action Items, if needed, from Executive Session

Employment Recommendations for the 2022-2023 Academic Year

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

Motion	Second	Action
Rice	Henson	Approved Unanimously

Chair Green called for a motion to approve four administrative recommendations for the 2022-2023 academic year. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Rice	Henson	Approved Unanimously

Chair Green called for a motion to approve 36 certified recommendations for the 2023-2024 academic year. The 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. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Rice	Henson	Approved Unanimously

Chair Green called for a motion in a personnel matter regarding Employee A. A motion was made that the board accept the Superintendent’s recommendation that the employment of Employee A, an Induction contract teacher, be terminated immediately for the reasons set forth in a letter dated February 24, 2023, and pursuant to policy GCQF Discipline, Suspension and Dismissal of Professional Staff. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Rice	McCown	Approved Unanimously

The board received legal advice in the matter of the S.C. Freedom Caucus vs. Lexington County School District One. No action is required at this time.

8.0 Honors, Achievements and Special Recognition

Dr. Postlewait and the Board of Trustees recognized two Lake Murray Elementary students who earned first place awards at the SC Poetry and Art Contest - Gracelan Hardin for the Grades K-2 Art 1 category and Loralai Rittermeyer for the Grades 3-5 Art 1 Category. The board also recognized five educators who earned their National Board Certification for the first time and 40 educators who have maintained their certification. Board Chair Anne Marie Green was recognized for reaching the highest level of training (Level 6) of the SC School Boards Association’s Boardsmanship Institute. Later, Dr. Postlewait recognized Megan Moore, Communications Director, for being named among the top “35 under 35” in the National School Public Relations Association.

9.0 Citizens' Participation

Mariel Taylor, resident of Lexington, addressed the board regarding teacher credibility, teacher's agency and flexibility for professional development.

10.0 New Business

10.1 First Reading — Policy JICJ, JICJ-R Use of Personal Communication Devices — Clark Cooper, Interim Chief Student Services Officer

Mr. Cooper reviewed the first reading and revisions to the district's cell phone policy. No changes were made to the policy itself. There were changes made to the administrative rule on the consequences and progression for multiple offenses.

10.2 First Reading — Policy GCQE Retirement of Professional Staff — Devona Price, Chief Human Resources Officer

Ms. Kimberly Freeman, Human Resources Director, presented the first reading of policy GCQE Retirement of Professional Staff. The policy presented is an updated model policy. The policy outlines the responsibility of PEBA in the retirement determinations. The changes to policy GDQC Retirement of Support Staff is drafted similarly. The only difference lies in the language for re-employment of retirees. In GCQE, the board must approve the re-employment, in GDQC, the board ratifies the re-employment of support staff. Approval is required for employees under contract; ratification is for employees that do not require a contract.

10.3 First Reading — Policy GDQC Retirement of Support Staff — Devona Price

See 10.2.

10.4 First Reading — Policy BD, BD-R Organization of the Board — Board of Trustees

Ms. Henson reviewed policy BD and BD-R which are being reintroduced as first reading. Language was added to policy BD to provide for removal of board officers. The administrative rule added the parliamentary duties to the Vice Chair position.

10.5 Introduction — Policy BE Board Meetings — Board of Trustees

Chair Green reviewed updates for the board policy to establish the time of the meetings. Meetings are generally at Central Services but the board will begin having meetings occasionally at other locations in the district. General session begins at 6:00 pm with executive session beginning in time to occur prior to the 6:00 p.m. general session.

10.6 Introduction — Policy GCLE, GCLE-R Unencumbered Time — Mary Gaskins, Chief Academic Officer

Ms. Gaskins reviewed the model policy pursuant to a new SC statute that requires 30-minutes of duty free time for all elementary teachers, and special education teachers in secondary schools that may not have a planning period. This allocation must be within the regular work day. There is a committee of teachers and administrators that are looking at strategies for schools to implement this statute. All strategies will need to account for the staff necessary to keep students safe and continue instruction while honoring the unencumbered time. There may be budget considerations necessary to provide staff appropriately.

11.0 Action Items (10 minutes)

11.1 Approval of JUUL Labs, Inc. Settlement — David Duff, Duff Freeman Lyon, LLC

Chair Green called for a motion to approve a settlement in the JUUL Labs, Inc. litigation. A motion was made that the Board approve the settlement offer it has received, in the gross amount as set forth in the settlement documents, as its part of the settlement reached on behalf of all Government Entities in their claims against JUUL Labs, Inc.; and further moved that the board authorize the Board’s Chair, Ms. Green, to execute the necessary settlement documents on behalf of the District and the Board. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Powers	Rice	Approved Unanimously

Discussion: Attorney Dave Duff provided the settlement information regarding the national class action multi-district lawsuit against JUUL Labs, Inc. The district as a plaintiff, prevailed in the causation against JUUL Labs. The district became one of 1,400 plaintiffs in October 2022 to serve the best interests of the district’s students in regards to vaping epidemic and nicotine addiction. The district will receive 65% of the net recovery this calendar year. The settlement may be used to address issues related to the vaping epidemic.

11.2 Second Reading — Policy JICA, JICA-R Dress Code — Clark Cooper

Chair Green called for a motion to approve Policy JICA, JICA-R Dress Code. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Henson	Shealy	Approved Unanimously

Discussion: Mr. Cooper reviewed the policy revisions. If approved, the dress code will be instituted in the fall of 2023.

11.3 Second Reading — Policy GBEA, Staff Ethics/Conflict of Interest — Devona Price

Chair Green called for a motion to approve Policy GBEA, Staff Ethics/Conflict of Interest. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Henson	Rice	Approved Unanimously

Discussion: Ms. Kimberly Freeman, Human Resource Director, reviewed the policy revisions pertaining to the nepotism section of the policy which allows for changes in the familial relationships in school buildings in order to address staffing shortages.

11.4 Second Reading — Removal of Policy GBEEA-R — Identification Procedures — Devona Price

Chair Green called for a motion to remove the Administrative Rule GBEEA-R Identification Procedures. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Rice	Shealy	Approved Unanimously

Discussion: Ms. Freeman said this administrative rule duplicates procedures outlined in a student policy and it is not related to personnel.

11.5 Second Reading — Policy DB Annual Budget — Jennifer Miller, Chief Financial Officer (Priority #6)

Chair Green called for a motion to approve Policy DB Annual Budget. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Shealy	Rice	Approved Unanimously

Discussion: Ms. Miller reviewed the policy revisions which update the percentage of unassigned fund balance.

11.6 Second Reading — 2023–24 Board of Trustees Meeting Dates — Libby Roof, Chief Communications Officer

Chair Green called for a motion to approve the 2023-2024 Board of Trustees meeting dates. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Henson	Shealy	Approved Unanimously

Discussion: Ms. Roof indicated there were no changes made since first reading.

11.7 March 21 and April 25, 2023 Board Meetings Change of Location (per Board Policy BE) — Board of Trustees

Chair Green called for a motion to change the location of the March 21 and April 25, 2023 Board of Trustees meetings. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Shealy	McCown	Approved Unanimously

Discussion: Chair Green indicated that according to the current Policy BE, approval of a change in location was recommended. The board is excited to take the meetings out to the community.

11.8 Comprehensive Health Education Act Advisory Committee Slate — Mary Gaskins, Chief Academic Officer (Priority #1)

Chair Green called for a motion to approve the committee slate for the Comprehensive Health Education Act Advisory Committee. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Rice	Henson	Approved Unanimously

Discussion: Ms. Gaskins said that under the Health Education Act local boards are required to approve the materials to teach health education and appoint a 13 member advisory board to study the materials and make recommendations. Once approved, they are accessible on the district’s website for anyone to review.

11.9 Authorize Sale of Vacant Property — Matt Warren, Interim Chief Operations Officer (Priority #6)

Chair Green called for a motion regarding the sale of vacant property. A motion was made that the board authorize administration to proceed with the sale of the property by North Lake Community Learning Center, formerly Lexington Middle School and the North Lake parcel and that the proceeds of such sale will be utilized for capital improvements. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Henson	Shealy	Approved Unanimously

Discussion: Mr. Warren reviewed the information from the January 31 board workshop. The district is recommending the board authorize the administration to begin the process of selling the parcel of land created through the Harmon Street extension which is still being ratified by the SCDOT and Town of Lexington to finalize a platt, and 205 Dreher Street which is 1.44 acres near North Lake Community Learning Center. The district is not recommending the sale of the Calks Ferry parcel due to potential growth in the district. Once a sale is eminent on the properties, the board would approve the sale. Proceeds from the sale must be used for capital improvements.

12.0 Superintendent’s Report

12.1 Superintendent’s Update — Superintendent Dr. Gerrita Postlewait

- Annual Board Work Calendar (Priority #6)
- Mid-year Student Achievement Data (Priority #2)
- Superintendent Job Performance: Mid-year Review (Priorities #1-6)
- Consideration of Elementary School #18 (Priority #6)
- Process for Reviewing Policy Manual
- Other Items — 90-day deliverables status, second semester deliverables report, agenda management system update, Key Performance Indicators, other timely updates (Priority #6)

Dr. Postlewait thanked this district’s leadership team and the team who makes the meetings run smoothly. She also recognized that the Finance team who was awarded the ASBO International’s Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting Award (COE) for the FY2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

Dr. Postlewait reviewed the annual board work calendar and the work that is complete or due to be discussed. She indicated that she could not give a full Expeditionary Learning (EL) report due to the pending lawsuit; however, she reported that the district is able to utilize ESSER funds to do an external audit in addition to the internal audit that has been conducted.

Ms.Gaskins gave a report on mid-year student growth indicators. She provided a high level overview of data on i-Ready benchmark assessments for grades K-8 in math and reading. The overview compared Lexington One against state and national norms. She reported the on-track percentages for the class of 2024 and class of 2025 and indicated that schools are identifying ways to increase that compliance.

The board provided Dr. Postlewait feedback on her job performance. This was a mid-year touch point on four of six performance standards - Policy and Governance, Planning and Assessment, Community Relations and Communications and Professionalism. Board feedback was positive. The last two performance standards will be reviewed in March.

Mr. Warren and Ms. Miller addressed questions that administration received from the board in consideration of moving forward with Elementary School #18 (ES #18). They explained that the district does have the resources to build ES #18 through the remaining \$33.5 million borrowing ability from the bond referendum, using 8% bond issuances in 2023 and 2024 and a portion of the unassigned general fund balance. Mr. Warren reviewed

the changes in enrollment, future enrollment and growth in the River Bluff attendance area which show where future growth lies. He provided numbers to the board on locations and quantities of portables across all attendance areas in relation to the capacity of the schools. Mr. Warren indicated the district is in the process of obtaining a real estate agent to support the district in land acquisitions not only for ES #18 but potentially for other future sites. If the board does not vote to move forward with ES #18 at this time, the district would lose the ability to borrow the \$33.5 million. The board discussed the options of future expansion of current schools and possible attendance lines.

Dr. Postlewait clarified the process for reviewing policies, sharing that the process starts with staff reviewing their applicable policy sections, presenting recommendations to the board with feedback, input and final approval made by the board.

13.0 Items for Board Information (Policy DA) (Priority #6)

13.1 Monthly General Fund Financial Report — January 2023

13.2 Monthly General Fund Budget Transfers Report — January 2023

13.3 Monthly Capital Projects Report — January 2023

13.4 Monthly Unauthorized Procurements Report — January 2023

Ms. Miller referenced the unauthorized procurements report. Unauthorized procurements decreased since last month largely due to compliance with the enhanced procurement procedures.

Ms. Miller addressed the board on the significance of the State’s funding formula and its impact on the district’s budget. The funding hinges on the accuracy of the student enrollment projections from all districts throughout South Carolina. With the way the formula is structured now, the district’s hold harmless status decreased using the 45th day student enrollment, yet no additional revenue will be received for the new growth. With the current formula, districts can have growth, yet lose funding. Ms. Miller is working with other CFOs across the state to address these concerns.

13.5 Update on the 2023 South Carolina School Boards Association Annual Convention

Chair Green, Vice Chair Henson, Secretary Shealy, Mrs. McCown and Mr. Rice gave a short report on their sessions at the SCSBA Annual Convention.

14.0 Adjourn

Chair Green called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made, seconded and approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Motion	Second	Action
Rice	Shealy	Approved Unanimously

Respectfully submitted:

Prepared by:

Beth Shealy
Secretary

Tracy Halliday
Executive Administrative Assistant