

LEXINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE
Board Meeting Minutes
November 15, 2022

The Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees held a meeting on Tuesday, November 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 (Ms. Henson left during 9.1), Tim Oswald, and Vice Chair Dr. Brent Powers.

1.0 Call to Order 5:00 P.M.

Chair Green called the meeting to order.

2.0 Executive Session

Chair Green called for a motion to enter executive session. A motion was made to enter executive session to receive legal advice in the matter of Garris vs. Lexington County School District One and to discuss 2022–23 employment recommendations, personnel matters related to the district’s organizational structure and a contractual matter involving potential RFQ or RFP. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Anderson	Oswald	Approved Unanimously

Ms. Garris’ recusal statement as of December 4, 2018 was read into the record:

In accordance with Section 9-13-700(B), I hereby abstain from all votes, deliberations and other action on the following matter: Jada Garris, individually, and on behalf of all others similarly situated, vs. Lexington County School District One, Case # 2017-CP-32-0435. Reasons for disqualification is that I am a litigant in the above-described matter, who possesses a financial interest in its outcome.

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
Anderson	Oswald	Approved Unanimously

4.0 Call to Order General Session

Chair Green called to order the general session of the November 15, 2022, board meeting at 6:05 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. Ms. Kathy Henson 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
Guyton	Powers	Approved Unanimously

6.0 Approval of the Minutes

6.1 Approval of the Minutes of the October 4 and 18, 2022 Board Meetings

Minutes of the October 4 and 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.

6.2 Correction to June 14, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes

Chair Green called for a motion to approve the correction to the June 14, 2022, board meeting minutes. There was a clerical error in recording the first day of school for 2022-2023. It should be recorded that the first day of school for 2023-2023 is August 9, 2023. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Anderson	Guyton	Approved Unanimously

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

7.1 Chair Green called for a motion in the matter of Garris vs. Lexington County

Chair Green called for a motion in the matter of Garris vs. Lexington County School District One. A motion was made that the Board approve a payment of \$16,000 of fees and costs to Ms. Garris’ attorney in full and final settlement of this matter. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Guyton	Powers	Approved; Garris abstained

7.2. Employment Recommendations for the 2022-2023 Academic Year

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

Motion	Second	Action
Oswald	Anderson	Approved Unanimously

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

Motion	Second	Action
Oswald	Anderson	Approved Unanimously

Chair Green called for a motion to accept the newly hired support staff report for 2022-2023 as presented by administration. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Oswald	Anderson	Approved Unanimously

Chair Green reported that the board discussed personnel matters related to the district’s organizational structure with the Superintendent and discussed a contractual matter involving a potential RFQ or RFP. No action is necessary at this time.

8.0 Honors, Achievements and Special Recognition

The board recognized the thirty-one 2022-2023 school-level teachers of the year. Ms. Jamie Crumpton, Gilbert High School’s Career Specialist, was honored as the South Carolina Career and Technical Education 2022 Career Specialist of the Year. Ms. Julie Rojek, Career Services Coordinator received the 2022 Counseling and Career Development Professional of the Year. Dr. Natalie Osborne-Smith was recognized for leading the district in the Cognia review process. Lexington One was recognized as a 2022 Cognia System of Distinction in addition to receiving its accreditation in August 2022. Special recognition and honors were given to outgoing board members Mrs. Jada Garris, Dr. Kyle Guyton and Mr. Tim Oswald for their service and dedication to Lexington One for the past four years.

9.0 Superintendent's Report**9.1 Superintendent's Update — Superintendent Gerrita Postlewait, ED.D.****School Safety Training Center — Chief Mark Keel, South Carolina Law Enforcement Division**

Superintendent Postlewait introduced Chief Mark Keel of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED), his team and State House Representative Chris Wooten. Chief Keel presented the history of SC Center for School Safety and Targeted Violence initiative. SLED has provided active shooter training and school safety programs to hundreds of thousands of government officials, law enforcement, school staff, bus drivers and others. For over five years, SLED has utilized the old Gilbert Elementary School during the summers for SLED training. Chief Keel and State Superintendent Molly Spearman began discussing the prospect of a full-time, permanent center for the entire state of South Carolina with support from the Governor's Office and members of the SC General Assembly. Dr. Guyton has received support from Gilbert leaders and community members. Chief Keel began meeting with Superintendent Little, and subsequently Dr. Postlewait and district level administration regarding a partnership to create the SC Center for School Safety at the old Gilbert Elementary School. Lexington County Sheriff Jay Koon, Gilbert Mayor John Reeder, members of the Lexington legislative delegation and Gilbert principals have been included in discussions.

Mr. Wayne Freeman, Director of Active Shooter Training Unit for SLED presented the mission and benefits of the proposed SC Center for School Safety. The intent is to support the advancement of all forms of training that increase school safety across the state, to provide a training site for first responders, and to further threat assessment and behavioral intervention. Mr. Freeman shared the plans on how the Center would utilize the entire GES campus and plans for continuing community and school district activities on the campus. The Gilbert community would benefit by an increased law enforcement presence, conference and workshop space, continued community activity for Gilbert residents, and increased economic/commerce potential. The Center would house the SLED Active Violence Training Unit, and provide space for SC Behavioral Sciences, SC Department of Mental Health, SC Department of Education, the Lexington Sheriff's Department, as well as Lexington One staff.

Both Chief Keel and Representative Wooten spoke on the funding for the Center. They have received assurances from key state legislators and the Ways and Means Committee for funding. This includes funding to support Lexington One's initiative to develop an early childhood center in the Gilbert area. While the facility itself would not be turned into a center, the state would assist with funding to expand early childhood programming in the area. Dr. Postlewait will continue discussions with SLED and the legislative delegation and report to the board.

Dr. Postlewait later reiterated that there were no specific funds allocated in the bond referendum for preschool centers in the Gilbert and Pelion area. The allocation was for demolition of the two-story section of Gilbert Elementary. Remaining funds would have been considered for feasible preschool centers. SLED and the legislature have pledged to help with programming NOT an actual center. This may mean funding for portables or classroom space to increase capacity of preschool programming in the Gilbert and Pelion areas.

SC 2021–22 Legislative Budget Proviso 1.105

Dr. Postlewait provided background on the State Budget Proviso 1.105 and how the terms "social-emotional learning" became part of school districts' vocabulary. The 2018 Federal School Safety Commission, established by President Trump and led by Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, cited that "the development of social and emotional skills could lead to improved outcomes for educational attainment, employment and earnings." The term is very nebulous and can be interpreted differently. South Carolina took steps to further define its meaning and developed the Profile of the SC Graduate which includes life and career characteristics. The General Assembly took steps to further identify social-emotional learning practices in Proviso 1.105 by outlining things districts are prohibited to teach in order to receive state funding. The district is currently conducting an internal audit/evaluation of district curriculum and teaching practices. Once this is complete, the district will report back to the board and the Lexington delegation. She is also recommending an external curriculum audit to determine if the district is violating any of the provisions outlined in the proviso pertaining to the life, career and social supports.

Status Report — 45-day priorities and next steps

Department chiefs gave a 45-day update on the six strategic priorities laid out for the 2022-2023 school year. The board received an update on safety and security, instructional progress in ELA and Math, providing for social-emotional and mental health needs, human resources initiatives, communication initiatives and finance, operations and technological equipment refresh efforts. Dr. Postlewait reviewed the buckets for strategic planning priorities

for 2022-23. Priority #2 work includes analyzing programs to identify those that contribute to major student gains and Priority #6 includes longer-term financial and facilities needs as part of the new strategic plan. She will begin hosting listening sessions on various topics to hear from community stakeholders and she discussed plans for new board member orientation.

9.2 Operations Update — Matt Warren, Interim Chief Operations Officer

Mr. Warren provided an update on the 2018 building program. The district received occupancy for the new Gilbert High School athletic facilities. The new transportation facility construction continues on the bus garage and laying asphalt. He provided an executive summary of the four-classroom addition at Forts Pond Elementary. Progress on all projects can be tracked on the building plan page on the Lexington One website.

9.3 Capital Project Update — Jennifer Miller, Chief Financial Officer

Ms. Miller indicated the monthly capital report is being modified to include additional information for the board. This format change will include a transfer column and encumbrance column (encumbrances are expenditures that are committed but not actually spent at the time of the report). These will be estimates and will fluctuate regularly. It is normal for projects to come in over or under budget. Projects at the end of the five-year program will reflect what has been happening in the economy. The October and November reports, in the new format will be included at the December meeting.

9.4 Procurement Update — Jennifer Miller

Ms. Miller reported on her review of purchasing card (P-cards) procedures and controls. In her examination, she has found no fraudulent activity but has found opportunities to enhance P-card controls. The process is being streamlined and will include three new internal controls that will be implemented on December 1. She is holding training sessions with each school principal and department head to review guidelines. New controls include an Assistance Acknowledgement Form that will capture more detail on the use of donations, Gift Card Recognition Acknowledgement Form to enhance documentation on the purchase and distribution of gift cards, and, a State Contract Comparison Form. As a school district, Lexington One has the benefit to buy on state contract but is not required to do so. She explained the unauthorized procurement report from the month of October and the reasons they were deemed unauthorized. There was nothing wrong with the purchase but rather the procedure for the purchases.

10.0 Citizens' Participation

Chair Green reviewed the citizens participation guidelines.

Mariel Taylor, citizen of Lexington and former Lexington One teacher, addressed the board on literacy and the Lucy Calkins reading curriculum. She believes these are not proper literacy techniques and that students mimic reading and are not actually learning to read. She asked the board and district to consider early childhood literacy curriculum.

Emily Coppney, high school student, addressed the board on EL education. She gave her experiences of collaboration and relationship building in CREW, linking real world issues in the classroom and the benefits this curriculum has provided her. She advocated for keeping the EL curriculum.

Debbie Heim, citizen of Lexington, gave her view on the SLED training facility and the early childhood center that was promised, to make sure the finances were available to provide for it and the other construction increases on referendum projects.

11.0 New Business

11.1 Ad Hoc Committee Status Report — Committee Chair Kyle Guyton

Committee Chair Guyton gave a review of the work of the ad hoc committee on B policies. While all B policies have not been reviewed, the committee has done quality work. He encouraged the new board to continue the work and would like to see Ms. Henson continue to serve on the committee as Chair.

11.2 Explanation of certification of board election and oath of office (Policy BBB)— Board Chair Green

Chair Green explained that the Board of Trustees election results had not yet been certified but the county hopes to have the election certified by November 18. New board member activity would not commence until one week after certification.

12.0 Action Items

12.1 Student Travel Request(s) (Policy IJOA) — Mary Gaskins, Chief Academic Officer and Clark Cooper, Interim Chief Student Services Officer

Chair Green called for a motion for the board to approve nine student travel requests. The travel requests were reviewed by administration and are in compliance with Board Policy. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Anderson	Oswald	Approved Unanimously

12.2 Recommendations from Ad Hoc Committee on B Policy Revisions

12.1.1 Second Reading — Policy BD, BD-R Organization of the Board

Chair Green called for a motion to approve the second reading of Policy BD, and BD-R Organization of the Board.

Main Motion	Second	Action
Guyton	Oswald	Tabled

Dr. Guyton made a motion to amend and adopt new language in Policy BD. The second reading included language on disciplinary action of board members. After first reading and board discussion, he drafted this alternative language: Removal of Board Officers: As board officers are duly elected by a majority vote of the board, the board may act to remove a board officer in the event of an officer’s willful and/or continuing violation of policy by a super-majority (75%) vote of the board. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion to Amend	Second	Action
Guyton	Garris	4 in favor; 2 opposed (Anderson, Powers)

Discussion: This language would replace the language from the first reading under disciplinary action of board members stemming from discussion at the last board meeting. There is clear policy on how the board installs, therefore, there should be a mechanism to remove an officer for misconduct or neglect of office. Vice Chair Powers suggested feedback from SCSBA or external review. Dr. Guyton indicated the committee reviewed language from other districts.

After the vote, Mr. Anderson suggested that this policy be tabled due to the late change and be sent back to the ad hoc committee for further work. Ms. Garris made a motion to recall the vote.

Motion to Recall Vote	Second	Action
Garris	Anderson	5 in favor; 1 opposed (Guyton)

The board voted on Mr. Anderson’s motion to table.

Motion to Table Policy BD	Second	Action
Anderson	Garris	5 in favor; 1 opposed (Guyton)

Committee Chair Guyton motioned to split the vote of Policy BD and BD-R administrative Rule and called to approve BD-R. There was no second, the motion failed.

Motion Approve BD-R	Second	Action
Guyton	None	Failed

12.2.2. Second Reading — BBAA-R Administrative Rule Board Member Authority and Responsibilities

Chair Guyton motioned for an amendment to be presented with second reading acknowledging that language that was initially presented in the previous reading of the policy inadvertently left out of the second reading. He reviewed the paragraph that had been omitted in this copy regarding the board chair’s ability to seek legal advice. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion to Insert Amendment	Second	Action
Guyton	Garris	Approved Unanimously

Mr. Anderson made a motion to table the policy with the amendment due to the late change. Dr. Powers seconded in order to review the policy language concerning agenda setting)

Motion to Table	Second	Action
Anderson	Powers	2 in favor (Anderson, Powers); 4 opposed

The board continued discussion of BBAA-R with the amendment. There was discussion on the section pertaining to adding agenda items to the board agenda. The new language provides an avenue for a board member to request an agenda item and for the district to be able to provide feedback on the request prior to the board voting to place it on the agenda. Dr. Powers did not believe the language was necessary as any agenda items should be pertinent to and align to the strategic plan.

Chair Guyton made motion to approve Policy BBAA-R with the amendment. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Guyton	Garris	5 in favor; 1 opposed (Powers)

12.3 Proposed SCSBA 2023 Officers and Directors, Legislative Resolutions, and Constitution and Bylaws Changes — Board Chair Green

Chair Green called for a motion to approve the recommendations in the SCSBA Delegate Assembly Handbook that the Lexington One board delegates would be voting on at the SCSBA meeting on December 3. A motion was made that the board authorize its delegates to vote in favor of the SCSBA’s Nominating Committee recommendations for SCSBA’s 2023 Officers and Directors, the SCSBA’s Legislative Committee’s recommendations for SCSBA’s 2023 Legislative Resolutions and SCSBA’s Policy and Constitution Committee recommendations for Constitution and Bylaws changes. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Anderson	Guyton	Approved Unanimously

13.0 Items for Board Information (for information only)


- 13.1 Monthly General Fund Financial Report — October 2022
- 13.2 Monthly General Fund Budget Transfers Report — October 2022
- 13.3 Monthly Unauthorized Procurements Report — October 2022

14.0 Adjourn

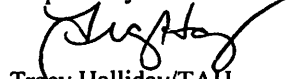
Chair Green called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Anderson made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Motion	Second	Action
Anderson	Powers	Approved Unanimously

Respectfully submitted:


 Michael Anderson/MEA
 Secretary

Prepared by:


 Tracy Halliday/TAH
 Executive Administrative Assistant