

**LEXINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**February 16, 2021**

The Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees convened in executive session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 16, 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 live streamed 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 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 2020-2021, 2021-2022 and to receive legal advice concerning pending claims and matters covered by attorney-client privilege. A motion was made, seconded and approved. The Board of Trustees adjourned for executive session in the auditorium.

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

**3.0 Adjourn Executive Session**

Chair Green called for a motion to adjourn executive session and begin the general session of the February 16, 2021 board meeting. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

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

**4.0 Call to Order General Session of the February 16, 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 February 16, 2021 board meeting at 7:11 pm. The meeting was held in compliance with the CDC COVID-19 guidelines and district precautionary measures. All attendees were encouraged to social distance and were required to wear a face covering at all times. 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 called on Ms. Kathy Henson for 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.

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

**6.0 Approval of the Minutes of the January 19, 2021 Board Meeting**

January 19, 2021 board meeting minutes were presented for approval. Chair Green called for any additions or corrections to the minutes, other than those already been received. Hearing none, the minutes were accepted as presented.

**7.0 Reports and Action Items, if Needed, from Executive Session**

**Employment Recommendations**

Chair Green called for a motion to approve one certified recommendation for the 2020-2021 academic year. A motion was made to approve the recommendation as presented. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Motion	Second	Action
Oswald	Powers	Approved Unanimously

Chair Green called for a motion to approve 28 certified recommendations for the 2021-2022 academic year. A motion was made to approve the recommendations as presented. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Motion	Second	Action
Oswald	Powers	Approved Unanimously

**Discussion:** Mr. Stacey reported that staff is still making decisions about retirement. Some of the positions approved this evening are being put in a pool placement as openings are finalized.

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

Motion	Second	Action
Oswald	Anderson	Approved Unanimously

**Receipt of Legal Advice Concerning Pending Claims and Matters Covered by Attorney-Client Privilege**

Chair Green said the Board did receive legal advice on pending claims and matters covered by attorney-client privilege.

**8.0 Citizens’ Participation**

Chair Green read the rules for Citizens’ Participation.

Rebecca Rider, Seventh grade teacher at Meadow Glen Middle School, addressed the board regarding recycling. She said the MGMS 7th grade students are being encouraged to come up with solutions to handle waste disposal and its impact on the environment and believe a recycling contract would help.

Jeff Eichhorn, Barr Road, Lexington, SC, parent of high school students, addressed the board with concerns regarding the district’s COVID-19 response and high school instruction. He asked the district to follow research from the Charleston public school system which has concluded students are safer in school. He said high school students are struggling academically and emotionally and he advocated for more face-to-face instructional time for high school students.

Debbie Heim, Lexington, SC, parent of high school students, addressed the board to advocate for five days face-to-face instruction for high school students. She referenced the Charleston public school research on their five day school model showing very low transmission between adults. She said we are doing all the same things that Charleston is doing so we should be able to implement five days quickly. *Correction - 4/19/21: Study was from the Medical University of South Carolina on Charleston County Schools (see March16, 2021 minutes for correction)*

Matthew Heim, Lexington, SC, parent of high school students, advocated for high schools students to return five days face-to-face. As a coach, he reported that students tell him they feel like they are in prison and the happiest part of their day is at the end of the day. He feels like parents are not being heard.

**Citizens’ Participation (continued):**

Aaron Chavis, Leesville, SC, parent of high school students, said he has been noticing changes at Gilbert High School to the logo and mascot. He feels the country’s current political climate is pressuring organizations to change names and mascots. He wants to make sure the Gilbert Indian does not disappear. He and his wife have over 1,000 signatures on petition to save the Indian.

**9.0 Action Items**

**9.1 Second Reading — 2021–2022 Academic Calendar — Clark Cooper, Student Administration Director**

Chair Green called for motion to approve the 2021-2022 academic calendar as presented by administration. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

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

**Discussion:** Mr. Cooper reported that since the first reading, administration has met with the Parent Advisory Council and received favorable support of the proposed calendar. There was feedback from the Parent Advisory Council to better explain the weather make-up days and e-learning days.

**9.2 Second Reading — 2021–2022 Board of Trustees Meetings Calendar — Mary Beth Hill, Chief Communications Officer**

Chair Green called for motion to approve the 2021-2022 Board of Trustees 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:** Ms. Garris prompted discussion that on the proposed calendar there were several months with two meetings, specifically three meetings within a four week period in April and May 2022. She proposed moving the May 17, 2022 meeting to May 10th and combining those agendas. There was discussion that the May 17th meeting was the board’s official meeting date, and Mr. Salters said there needs to be at least a three week period between the first and second reading of the budget to make adjustments as needed from board discussion. There was discussion about leaving the calendar as is, but more actively managing the calendar as the year unfolds to determine if all meetings are required. The calendar was approved as proposed, but will be reevaluated in September 2021.

**9.3 Second Reading — Policy GCF, GCF-R Professional Staff Hiring — Mike Stacey**

Chair Green called for a motion to untable the second reading of Policy GCF and GCF-R Professional Staff Hiring. Dr. Guyton motioned to leave the policy on the table in lieu of the development of an ad-hoc committee to formulate the policy revision of GCF and GCF-R. This committee would be comprised of three board members nominated by the Board Chair and approved by the board to consist of not more than one board officer. The ad-hoc committee will designate its operating procedure in accordance with South Carolina law and procedures for the specific purpose of policy revision. Upon conclusion, the committee will report back to the entire board for second reading and vote. This motion is in compliance with Board Policy BBC - Board Committees. The motion was seconded and approved.

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Action</b>
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Guyton	Garris	Approved Unanimously
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**Discussion:** Dr. Guyton said that this policy has generated much discussion. He would like for the board to have a better understanding of this policy and to implement a sound policy that works best for  
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**Second Reading Policy GCF, GCF-R (continued):**

the operational needs of the district. Chair Green asked the board to let her know if they were interested in serving on the committee. Under Policy BBC, the committee needs approval, which this motion does, but does not require approval of board members to serve on the committee.

**9.4 Second Reading — Policy GDF, GDF-R Support Staff Hiring — Mike Stacey**

Chair Green called for a motion to untable the second reading of Policy GDF and GDF-R Support Staff Hiring. Dr. Guyton motioned to leave the policy on the table in lieu of the development of an ad-hoc committee to formulate the policy revision of GDF and GDF-R. This committee would be comprised of three board members nominated by the Board Chair and approved by the board to consist of not more than one board officer. The ad-hoc committee will designate its operating procedure in accordance with South Carolina law and procedures for the specific purpose of policy revision. Upon conclusion, the committee will report back to the entire board for second reading and vote. This motion is in compliance with Board Policy BBC - Board Committees. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Guyton	Anderson	Approved Unanimously

**Discussion:** The board clarified that there will be one ad-hoc committee that will review both policies.

**10.0 Superintendent’s Report**

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

Superintendent Little thanked parent attendees for their feedback. He reported that the district has successfully brought elementary and middle school students back to the 4 + 1 model since the post-holiday surge. The district is monitoring a downward trend of positive cases and quarantines. He said it has been the operating standard all along this year to take deliberate steps with safety checks along the way. The district is now working on plans for the high schools to gain more in-person instruction and will move forward in the safest way possible.

**10.2 Report — Operations Update — Jeff Salters, Chief Operations Officer**

Mr. Salters reported two facilities incidents at schools today: a fire in a portable classroom at Pleasant Hill Elementary School early in the morning; and, a water main break at Pelion High School. Mr. Salters showed photos of the new Lexington Middle School site and reported construction progress. He projected an August 2022 move-in due to road improvements that need to be completed through the Department of Transportation. He showed photos of the kindergarten classroom addition at White Knoll Elementary which is close to completion. He shared photos and a progress update on the White Knoll High School new classroom wing and the new performing arts center. Building progress can be tracked on the Lexington One website under Building Plan Progress.

**10.3 Report —White Knoll Middle School Priority School Update — Donald Hardie, Principal**

Principal Don Hardie gave the board a priority school update. He reminded the board that White Knoll Middle was placed on priority status two years ago due to being in the lowest 20 % based on test scores. He indicated that since there was no state testing last year due to COVID-19, the school will remain a priority school and be able to build their success through the end of 2022. Mr. Hardie shared the ELA and Math goals that were set for this year and reported progress toward achieving those. The ELA proficiency goal of 39.2% is achievable despite a normal dip reflected in winter STAR testing.

The math proficiency goal is set at 43% which may be difficult to meet this year since winter STAR results reported only a projected proficiency of 21.9%. Mr. Hardie shared plans to improve those scores. Mr. Hardie reported that 25% of the students failed one or more core classes first semester and explained that many of these are LOOLA students; and, many students are struggling at home and

**White Knoll Middle School Priority Report (continued):**

academically due to COVID related learning hindrances. They are focused on working with families to bring struggling LOOLA students back to face-to-face. They are utilizing academic and social emotional strategies to assist students. He reviewed the use of the priority school funding.

**10.4 Update — Lexington District One 2018–2021 Strategic Plan — Mary Gaskins, Leadership Development and Continuous Improvement Director, Shane Phillips, PH.D., Accountability and Assessment Director, Brandon Baskett, Dean for Higher Education Services, The College Center, and Albert Robertson, Social Studies Coordinator**

Ms. Gaskins gave the board an overview of portfolio projects which are high priority initiatives that help move the strategic plan along quickly. As portfolios become standard operating procedure, new projects are added. In the fall, the district introduced two new projects - the All Means All portfolio and Power Skills portfolio.

Mr. Brandon Baskett, co-chair for All Means All, introduced the project. The goal of the project is to better meet the objective of our mission and vision for all students and how we fine tune our processes to better serve all. Through this audit, the committee will gather data, identify policies, practices and behaviors to address gaps in student outcomes, diagnose the current state of equitable practices and recommend strategies for improvement. The committee will make recommendations for a plan of action by May.

Dr. Shane Phillips reviewed the Power Skills Portfolio. As this portfolio was developed, the district identified eight crucial skills that students should learn in school that will take them through life. The goal of the project is to develop a means to evaluate opportunities for students to develop power skills. The committee will look at identifying and classifying available opportunities for developing power skills and will identify already existing tools within the schools for skill development.

Mr. Albert Robertson gave an update on SELF (Supportive Enrichment for Lexington One Families). The goal of SELF is to cultivate relationships with support staff members and their families and provide their children with career readiness opportunities, academic and social emotional enrichment and access to services, learning experiences and programs. Recruiting for the first cohort targeted students in 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade who are children of food service, maintenance and transportation staff. The first cohort beginning summer of 2021, will consist of 27 rising 6th through 12th graders - seven middle school and 20 high school students (nine of which will be seniors). Students will have personalized support, an after-school academic coach and will have summertime opportunities for enrichment. Parents and families will be supported and encouraged to take advantage of district services and support.

**10.5 Update — Lexington District One Online Learning Academy 2021–2022 — Howard Bissell, Instructional Technology Director**

Mr. Howard Bissell began by recognizing the teachers and staff of LOOLA who have adapted and grown to provide a new platform of teaching and learning for our students. Teachers have learned how to do jobs differently by keeping the students interests at the forefront. A survey was conducted to determine demand for an online learning academy in 2021-2022 for 6th through 12th grade students. 35% of the responses indicated that parents wanted an alternative means for education. Parents of 300 middle school and 414 high school students indicated they would choose LOOLA again next year. The LOOLA experience will include core and exploratory classes, career readiness courses and dual enrollment courses while allowing students to maintain a relationship with their home school for athletic and extracurricular activities. There would not be an immersion program offered. LOOLA will

function independently and will be supported by teachers and staff designated specifically to the LOOLA program. A location for the program has yet to be determined. He shared staffing projections and laid out the timeline and steps necessary to identify LOOLA student so that staffing needs can be determined and included in the budget.

**11.0 New Business**

**11.1 First Reading — Lexington Middle School Renaming Considerations — Jeff Salters**

Mr. Salters and Lexington Middle School Principal Casey Calhoun addressed the board with a rebranding opportunity for the future Lexington Middle School site. Mr. Salters referenced Board Policy FF, FF-R Naming Schools that gives the board approval of school names. Mr. Calhoun presented feedback collected from stakeholders including community members, students, families and staff on rebranding the school. He reminded the board that LMS now solely feeds into River Bluff High School. The connection to Lexington High School and the Wildcat mascot no longer fit with LMS. Eighty percent of the feedback received supports a new vision and brand for LMS. They surveyed stakeholders for potential new names. The most prevalent names that were submitted were Lake Murray Middle School, Lakeside Middle School, North Lake Middle School and River Bluff Middle School. Mr. Salters shared the rationale for proposing Lakeside Middle School as the new name. The rebranding would include new athletic colors and mascot. Mr. Salters encouraged feedback from the board prior to the second reading at the March 16, 2021 board meeting.

**12.0 Items for Board Information**

Items are for information only.

**12.1 Monthly General Fund Financial Report — January 2021**

**12.2 Monthly General Fund Budget Transfers — January 2021**

**12.3 Monthly Capital Projects Report — January 2021**

**12.4 Monthly Unauthorized Procurements Report — January 2021**

**13.0 Adjourn**

Chair Green addressed the board with an opportunity to serve on the Lexington One Educational Foundation. Foundation bylaws reserve three seats on the Foundation board for members of the Board of Trustees. There is one open seat and two other board members would be willing to give up their seat to give another Trustee an opportunity to serve.

Chair Green called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made, seconded and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 9:37.

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

Respectfully submitted:

Prepared by:

Mr. Mike Anderson  
Secretary

Tracy Halliday  
Executive Administrative Assistant

