

LEXINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE
Board Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2020

The Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees convened in executive session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, 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 in General Session in the Auditorium. A video of the meeting has been uploaded to our YouTube channel and our LexOne video website. It is also on the Board Meeting Agendas and Minutes webpage.

Board Members: Chair Cynthia Smith, Vice Chair Anne Marie Green, Mike Anderson, Jada Garris, Dr. Kyle Guyton and Tim Oswald. Dr. Brent Powers was not present.

1.0 Call to Order 6 p.m. Executive Session

Chair Smith called the meeting to order.

2.0 Executive Session

Chair Smith called for a motion to enter into executive session. A motion was made to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing employment recommendations for employment recommendations for 2020-2021. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Green	Anderson	Approved Unanimously

The board of trustees adjourned to the boardroom for executive session.

3.0 Adjourn Executive Session

Chair Smith welcomed every one to the March 17, 2020. She called for a motion to adjourn executive session and begin open session.

Motion	Second	Action
Anderson	Oswald	Approved Unanimously

4.0 Call to Order General Session

4.1 Notification of Compliance with S.C. Freedom of Information Act

Chair Smith said the district tapes the meeting for accuracy in preparing the minutes and is in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act as the district has notified the media of the date, time and place of the meeting. Chair Smith called on Mr. Timothy Oswald to give the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by board member Mike Anderson.

5.0 Approval of Agenda

Chair Smith called for a motion to amend the agenda. In light of the declaration by the Governor and the necessity to comply with the Governor’s order and recommendations, a motion was made to alter the action items on the agenda as follows:

- 10.1 Bond Resolution Authorizing Selling General Obligation Bonds Not to Exceed \$90,000,000 for the Purpose of Refunding the District’s Series 1023B to Achieve Savings in Debt Service Payments, Paying Installment Purchase Agreement Payment Due May 2020 and Paying the Cost of Issuance
- 10.2 Third Reading Centerville Elementary Zoning Plan
- 10.3 e-Learning Program
- 10.4 Second Reading GCK, GCK-R, GCO
- 10.5 Second Reading GCO, GCO-R
- 10.6 Second Reading GCOA Evaluation of Instructional Staff
- 10.7 Student Travel Requests
- 10.8 2019-2020 Instructional Materials Adoption

A motion was made to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded and carried.

Motion	Second	Action
Green		Approved Unanimously

6.0 Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the February 18, 2020, regular board meeting were included for board approval. Chair Smith called 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 from Executive Session

Employment Matters

Chair Smith called for a motion to approve five Senior Leadership positions for the 2020-2021 academic year. A motion was made to approve five Senior Leadership Members for the 2020-2021 academic year. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Motion	Second	Action
Green	Anderson	Approved Unanimously

Chair Smith called for a motion to approve 29 Principals/Directors for the 2020-2021 academic year. A motion was made to approve 29 school Principals and building Directors for the 2020-2021 academic year. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Motion	Second	Action
Green	Oswald	Approved Unanimously

Chair Smith called for a motion to approve 17 certified recommendations for the 2020-2021 academic year. A motion was made to approve the recommendations as presented. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Motion	Second	Action
Green	Anderson	Approved Unanimously

7.0 Reports and Action Items from Executive Session (continued)

Chair Smith said there were two administrative recommendations 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
Green	Oswald	Approved Unanimously

8.0 Honors and Achievements

Because of the pandemic and by order of the Governor to limit attendance, this portion of the meeting was cancelled.

9.0 Citizens' Participation

Chair Smith asked if any one wished to address the board of trustees. Brian Pena of 526 Crooked Pine Court, Lexington, completed a card but did not stay to address the board of trustees. Ms. Smith said that he wanted to address the board to thank them for all that they were doing during this time.

10.0 Action Items

- 10.1 Bond Resolution Authorizing Selling General Obligation Bonds Not to Exceed \$90,000,000 for the Purpose of Refunding the Districts' Series 2013B Bonds to Achieve Savings in Debt Service Payment, Paying Installment Purchase Agreement Payment Due May 2020 and Paying the Costs of Issuance.

Chair Smith called for a motion to adopt the resolution. A motion was made that the board adopt the Bond Resolution authorizing not exceeding \$90,000,000 general obligation bonds of the District for the purposes of (i) refunding the District's Series 2013B Bonds to achieve a savings in debt service payments, (ii) paying installment purchase agreement payments due May 2020, and (iii) paying costs of issuance. Board members heard a presentation by Mike Gallagher of Compass Financial regarding the current bond climate and the opportunity to sell bonds. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Motion	Second	Action
Anderson	Green	Approved Unanimously

Discussion: Chief Financial Officer, Jeff Salters, said this authorizes the district to move forward with this but does not bind us to move forward. Mike Gallagher with Compass Financial said the market has been changing and there is an opportunity to issue bonds at a savings. The interest rate is 4.27 percent. They have been monitoring the market and the rates have dropped. We hope to move forward if the market is good. The only cost is the rating fee. If the bids do not come in with a three percent savings, we would not move forward. We will monitor rates before sending the transaction to rating agencies.

10.2 Third Reading — Centerville Elementary Zoning Plan — Jeff Salters

Chair Smith called for a motion to approve the zoning plan for Centerville Elementary School. The motion was made seconded and carried.

Motion	Second	Action
Anderson	Green	5 in favor, 1 opposed (Garris)

10.0 Action Items (continued)

10.2 Third Reading — Centerville Elementary Zoning Plan — Jeff Salters

Discussion: Chief Operations Officer, Jeff Salters, presented the third reading of attendance lines for Centerville Elementary (CES). CES will open in August 2020 as a K-5 school. Feedback sessions during the process yielded concerns about daycare, language immersion and travel time to the schools. The administration recommended that the district offer 10 school choice slots at each school reserved for Gilbert families to address the travel concerns. Regarding the after school daycare, Centerville Elementary will have an afterschool program. In addition, the existing day care programs are located on Broad Street in Gilbert. Buses will travel down Broad Street addressing the concern regarding day care transportation. The administration recommends an immersion program at both Centerville Elementary and Gilbert Elementary Schools. The administration recommended no changes in the zoning lines from second to third readings. If the lines are approved as recommended, projected enrollment for Centerville Elementary would be 705 students K4-5 and for Gilbert Elementary would be 816 grades K3-5. Mr. Salters said the zoning process began in January for the first reading. Community meetings were held and a second reading in February. The administration recommended attendance lines for Centerville Elementary as presented for third reading.

Ms. Garris said she would have liked to see rationale of how decisions are made regarding zoning. She felt that the administration should consider a committee made of up teachers, bus drivers and parents to discuss zoning before coming to the board with recommendations.

Motion	Second	Action
Oswald	Green	Five in Favor, One Opposed (Garris)

10.3 e-Learning Program – Howard Bissell, Instructional Technology Director

Dr. Little said that the district had presented the e-Learning Program with the idea of taking five months to plan for five days capacity for e-Learning for weather make-up days. Instead, we are faced with about 48-72 hours of planning for up to 12 days of e-learning or more. We are proud and pleased with how our schools and staff are tackling this challenge and what our schools are accomplishing. Teachers have worked tirelessly to get materials ready with professionalism.

Howard Bissell presented a summary of what the district has done to prepare for e-learning during the pandemic announcement. The type of e-learning we are doing now is more than an e-learning experience for a weather make-up day. Principals, coaches and instructional leaders met to develop a structure and approach to launch for our students. For elementary students, we will provide packets of work for pick up for those who do not have means to access assignments digitally. For the middle and high school students, we are taking a digital approach and have the software in place to make instruction happen. This digital instruction is not tied to attendance but geared to the instructional continuity students need through a digital platform. Our communications, technology and instruction departments are working together to provide engaging material for students. We have surveyed families regarding their access and connectivity to technology so that we can close that gap and provide resources. The district has submitted an emergency distance learning plan. The plan includes assurances like constant monitoring of students' work. That plan was approved and we are being held accountable for continuous learning.

Chair Smith called for a motion to approve the e-Learning Program as presented. A motion was made that the board approve the e-Learning Program as presented.

Motion	Second	Action
Green	Anderson	Approved Unanimously

10.0 Action Items (continued)

10.4 Second Reading Policy GCK, GCK-R Professional Staff Assignments and Transfers – Mike Stacey

Chair Smith called for a motion to approve policy GCK, GCK-R Professional Staff Assignments and Transfers. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Green	Oswald	Approved Unanimously

Discussion: Mr. Stacey said this policy was updated to include language about electronic transfers.

10.5 Second Reading Policy GCO, GCO-R Evaluation of Administrators – Mike Stacey

Chair Smith called for a motion to approve policy GCO, GCO-R Evaluation of Administrators. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Oswald	Anderson	Approved Unanimously

Discussion: Mr. Stacey said the change making more in line with the State Department of Education's PADEPP process and added District Office administrators and administrators other than principals.

10.6 Second Reading Policy GCOA Evaluation of Instructional Staff – Mike Stacey

Chair Smith called for a motion to approve policy GCOA, Evaluation of Instructional Staff. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Anderson	Green	Approved Unanimously

Discussion: Mr. Stacey said the policy was revised to add teachers that might be on an annual contract in fourth or fifth year can be evaluated using the GBE process.

10.7 Student Travel Requests – Gloria Talley, Chief Academic Officer

This is not an action item. Student travel will not be presented for approval at this time. Dr. Talley said that principals were asked to cancel and reschedule student travel plans. As things began to unfold before the pandemic, we began to call vendors to talk about trips asked them to work with us. Some trips have been cancelled and rescheduled. Principals were provided a letter so that vendors would allow vouchers or reschedule trip. Some competitions were cancelled by the organizers.

10.0 Action Items (continued)

10.8 2019-2020 Instructional Materials Adoption Recommendations – Gloria Talley, Chief Academic Officer

Chair Smith called for a motion to approve the district instructional materials. A motion was made that the board approve the recommendations of the district instructional materials adoption committees as district-adopted instructional materials for 2020-2021 – Social Studies grades 3-5, Social Studies Grade 7, Mathematics Grades K-5, Mathematics Grades 6-8.

Motion	Second	Action
Guyton	Green	Approved Unanimously

Dr. Talley said these adoptions of new materials and the materials are contingent on state funding. If the money is available we will purchase the instructional materials. Coordinators reviewed the materials available for adoption. School representatives review the materials with teachers. Teachers reach consensus for adoption of the materials. All materials have online components.

11.0 Superintendent Report – Gregory D. Little

No report at this time

12.0 Items for Board Information

The remaining items were for board information only.

13.0 Adjourn Open Session

Chair Smith thanked the health care workers who were on the front lines serving communities, especially our board members Dr. Kyle Guyton and Dr. Brent Powers. Because it was St. Patrick's Day Ms. Smith read an Irish Blessing:

*May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind always be at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
And the rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand.*

She called for a motion to adjourn open session. A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

Motion	Second	Action
Anderson	Oswald	Approved Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Marie Green
Substituting for Brent M. Powers