

LEXINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE
Board Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2020

The Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees convened in executive session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 20, 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 for General Session in the Auditorium. 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 Cynthia Smith, Vice Chair Anne Marie Green, Secretary Brent Powers, Tim Oswald, Jada Garris and Kyle Guyton. Mike Anderson 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 to consider employment recommendations for 2020-2021 and receive an update regarding a pending legal settlement. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

| Motion | Second | Action |
|---------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Powers | Oswald | Approved Unanimously |

The board of trustees adjourned for executive session in the auditorium.

3.0 Adjourn Executive Session

Chair Smith called for a motion to adjourn executive session and begin the general session of the October 20, 2020 board meeting. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

| Motion | Second | Action |
|---------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Powers | Oswald | Approved Unanimously |

4.0 Call to Order General Session of the October 20, 2020 Board of Trustees Meeting

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

Chair Smith called to order the general session of the October 20, 2020 board meeting at 7:00 pm.

She said we are meeting in compliance with the Governor's orders, CDC recommendations and Town of Lexington ordinance. The auditorium has been thoroughly cleaned and sanitized before the meeting and will be after the meeting also. District staff will also sanitize the microphone before and after staff presentations or individuals speaking during Citizens' Participation. All board members, employees or other individuals in attendance are encouraged to social distance and must wear a face covering at all times.

There is limited seating to maintain social distancing. Once that seating is filled, attendees are asked to go to the Staff Development Room/Overflow Room, where they can watch the meeting while also observing social distancing guidelines.

The public is encouraged to watch the meeting on the district's YouTube channel. After the meeting, the district will follow its previously established process by posting a video of the meeting to the YouTube channel, LexOne Video site and our own website.

Board of Trustees Meeting – October 20, 2020

Page Two

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 Smith called on Dr. Kyle Guyton for the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

5.0 Approval of Agenda

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

| Motion | Second | Action |
|---------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Powers | Green | Approved Unanimously |

6.0 Approval of the Minutes of the September 15 and September 22, 2020 Board Meeting

Minutes of the September 15 and September 22, 2020 board meetings were included for approval. Chair Smith 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.

7.0 Report and Action Items from Executive Session

Employment Matters

Chair Smith called for a motion to approve three 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 |
|---------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Powers | Green | Approved Unanimously |

Chair Smith called for a motion to approve one administrative 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 |
|---------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Powers | Oswald | Approved Unanimously |

Discussion: Mr. Stacey reported there are currently 11 certified vacancies. There are an additional 11 FTE positions from this semester and 5 positions that were filled utilizing Interventionists who should transition back to their positions second semester. Human Resources anticipates hiring 27 budgeted positions in January. Dr. Powers asked if the attrition rate had slowed. Mr. Stacey reported it had but employees still continue to make employment decisions as the District adds more students back to school.

Pending Legal Settlement

Chair Smith reported that the Board did receive an update on a pending legal settlement. This was for information only and no action was required.

8.0 Citizens' Participation

Chair Smith read the guidelines for Citizens' Participation.

Ms. Debbie Gilley, Gilbert, SC, grandparent of children at Gilbert Middle, Gilbert High School and LOOLA. As a bus driver for the district, Ms. Gilley is concerned about the bus routes with middle and high school students. She is concerned because those students they take up more room in the seats, and, she doesn't feel there is protection for them. She is concerned that there will be no social distancing on bus routes. She shared a photo of a bus occupied by older students and a diagram of a 72 passenger bus such as the ones in Gilbert. With up to 47 children on a bus, she doesn't see how they can be protected. Additionally, students from different households could be sharing seats. She asked that the District consider these concerns. Chair Smith asked if the photo was a current photo. Ms. Gilley said it was a photo of a full bus from the internet, not a Lexington One bus; and, she has not had any occurrences of COVID-19 on her bus routes.

9.0 Special Recognitions

9.1 2020-2021 District Teacher of the Year - Ms. Dani Stroud

The Board of Trustees, Superintendent Little and Gilbert High School Principal, Jacob Nelson recognized Ms. Dani Stroud as Lexington District One's Teacher of the Year for the 2020-2021 school year. Ms. Stroud is a 13 year science educator and currently teaches AP Physics and essentials in science at Gilbert High School. The Board wished Ms. Stroud well as she goes on to compete at the state level in the Teacher of the Year process.

9.2 Retirement - Board Chair Cindy S. Smith

The Board of Trustees, Superintendent Little and esteemed guests recognized the 20 years of consecutive service to the Lexington One Board of Trustees. South Carolina State Representative Paula Calhoun presented a resolution from the S.C. House of Representatives and Representative Chris Wooten. Lexington County Council Members Kathy Maness, Ron Williams and Todd Carnes presented a proclamation from the Town of Lexington and a video message from U.S. Congressman Joe Wilson was played. Mr. Scott Price and Mr. Chuck Saylor representing the South Carolina School Boards Association also made comments. Ms. Smith was joined by her family and friends for this well-deserved celebration of service.

10.0 Superintendent's Report

10.1 Superintendent's Update - Superintendent Gregory D. Little, ED.D

Superintendent Little introduced special guest, Angelle LaBorde, President and CEO of the Lexington County Chamber of Commerce. The Board welcomed her to the Lexington community.

Superintendent Little gave an update on Phase 2 school reentry. He reported that on October 5, 2020, Pre-K through 2nd grade students transitioned to the 4+1 model and on October 19, 2020, 3rd through 5th graders transitioned to this model. He reported that this transition has gone smoothly because of all the planning and deliberate steps taken with safety protocols. The Principals have stressed the importance of the virtual Fridays. Priority groups of students in 6th through 12th the grades have been identified by each school and are returning to the 4+1 model as well. Dr. Little reported that next steps depend on delivery of plexiglass for middle and high school as the district continues to monitor and measure COVID-19 data. The district continues to make plans for bringing back 6th through 12th grades students, prioritizing the youngest students first.

10.2 Phase Two Progress – Dr. Natalie Osborne-Smith, Professional Learning Coordinator

Dr. Osborne-Smith reported on the process of scheduling for second semester. Dr. Osborne-Smith reported that the Technology Department, LOOLA team, school administrators, counselors and Student Record Operators are working on preparations for second semester. This scheduling team is reviewing course requisites, coding, master scheduling, and individual scheduling. The most important step is determining if students will enroll in LOOLA or return to the face-to-face model. She rolled out the communication plan and survey that will be sent to families to determine their child's instructional model for second semester. On October 23, 2020, parents will receive second semester course catalogs and information on virtual learning. On October 29, 2020, families will receive a survey that will ask if their child will return for second semester in a face-to-face environment or the LOOLA online learning academy. Surveys will be due on November 4, 2020. She reiterated that this commitment is a semester long commitment. Responses are critical because it impacts teacher placement. Dr. Osborne-Smith addressed questions from the Board. Survey responses are required. If schools do not get a response from a family, they will make contact. The current models are continually being evaluated.

10.3 Operations Update - Jeff Salters, Chief Operations Officer

Mr. Salters reported to the Board that the State has agreed to reimburse the district with CARES Act funding for expenditures made due to COVID-19 requirements and safety protocols. Mr. Salters updated the Board on construction projects and renovations on several schools. He shared photos of Pelion Middle School and reported that completion of the building is ahead of schedule. He shared aerial photos of the new Lexington Middle School construction site. He updated the Board on projects nearing completion at Pelion High School athletic facilities and Gilbert Elementary School renovations. He shared additional updates on Lexington Elementary, Oak Grove Elementary, White Knoll Elementary, and the White Knoll High School renovations and additions. He updated the Board on a retaining wall repair/replacement necessary at River Bluff High School.

10.4 White Knoll Middle School Priority Report - Don Hardie, Principal

Mr. Hardie reported on the priority status of White Knoll Middle School. Staff and students have been working together and adapting to new norms with COVID-19 and continue to make academic progress regardless of the challenges this year. Due to the school closures and lack of SC Ready testing at the end of the 2019-2020 school year, STAR testing was conducted at the beginning of the 2020-2021 year to check on progress. He presented academic goals and progress for this school year. Students are on track to have 43.2% student proficiency in ELA and 49% proficiency in Math on the SC Ready by the 2022-2023 school year. He updated the Board on how priority funding is being utilized including a Math Instructional Coach, classroom libraries, summer enrichment camps, AVID implementation and math supplies. They are preparing for 2021 summer school to include a focus on career planning, social emotional learning as well as content. He discussed the success of push-in services for ESOL and special education, the pull-out model for students in LOOLA, and the workshop model for professional development for teachers. He discussed Read to Succeed and AVID initiatives and the focus on reading, writing and math. Mr. Hardie indicated they will do STAR testing again in December to continue to check progress and adjust initiatives if necessary.

11.0 Items for Board Information

Items presented are for information only.

12.1 Monthly General Fund Financial Report - September 2020

12.2 Monthly General Fund Budget Transfers - September 2020

12.3 Monthly Capital Projects Report - September 2020

12.4 Monthly Unauthorized Procurements Report - September 2020

13.0 Adjourn Open Session

Chair Smith called for a motion to adjourn general session. A motion was made, seconded and approved at 8:42 p.m.

| Motion | Second | Action |
|---------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Oswald | Green | Approved Unanimously |

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Brent Powers