July 27, 2023 - Board Brief

Gerrita Postlewait and Senior Leadership Team

Welcome Back, Lexington One Team!

Many teachers and support staff have been working throughout the summer, and teachers officially return for the 2023-24 school year on August 2. Students' first day is August 9. Central Services office hours for the public will return to 8:00-4:30, Monday through Friday, effective July 31.



FINANCE

Saxe Gotha Awarded Grant

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) announced this week that Lexington County School District One has been awarded another National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Subgrant for Saxe Gotha Elementary School. This award is based on our submission of a complete application, the school's participation in the National School Lunch Program, and our application receiving an acceptable score.

HUMAN RESOURCES



Induction Week

This week 90+ teachers who are new to Lexington One participated in a 4-day induction program led by the HR team. The week was a terrific success, with a new group of talented teachers learning more about the systems and programs in Lex One and, on the final day, working at their

assigned schools alongside their teacher mentor for the year.

SUPERINTENDENT

Proviso 1.24: Credit Card Transparency

"Each school district must ... maintain on its internet website a copy of each monthly statement for all of the credit cards maintained by the entity, including credit cards issued to its officers or employees for official use. The credit card number on each statement must be redacted prior to posting on the internet website. Each credit card statement must be posted not later than the thirtieth day after the first date that any portion of the balance due as shown on the statement is paid."

Proviso 1.82: Partisanship Curriculum

Here is a link to the 2023-24 one-year budget proviso that is the equivalent of last year's Proviso 1.105. The proviso begins, "For the current fiscal year, of the funds allocated by the Department of Education to school districts, no monies shall be used by any school district or school to provide instruction in, to teach, instruct, or train any administrator, teacher, staff member, or employee to adopt or believe, or to approve for use, make use of, or carry out standards, curricula, lesson plans, textbooks, instructional materials, or instructional practices that serve to inculcate any of the following concepts, . . ." and continues to list 8 categories. This year's proviso can be found by searching the 2023-24 SC Appropriations Act, Page 291. LCSD1 has begun re-briefing all school and district leaders and will ensure other employees are aware of this proviso.

Proviso 1.76: "Formative Tests" Three/Year

"For the current school year, districts must ensure all students in first through eighth grades are assessed using a state approved interim assessment tool during the fall, winter, and spring. School districts shall provide all interim and formative assessment data scores by grade and school to the Department of Education from the prior school year. The department is directed to compile the information received and submit a comprehensive report regarding performance on such assessments to the General Assembly by May 31 of the current fiscal year. Any school district failing to provide this data to the department shall have ten percent of their State Aid to

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Classrooms funding withheld until the data is provided." Funds are allocated to districts to purchase tests from a list created by the state. Lex One chose to use i-Ready assessments.

	BOARD WORK/ACTION
A U G U S T 2 0 2 3	 Opportunity to amend the operating budget Back-to-school updates Attend SCSBA school law conference 8/26-8/27 Attend school events and other community opportunities Attend New Employee Orientation - 8/1/23 Attend Adult Education graduation 8/10/23

FOIA REQUESTS RECEIVED

Erin Franey, 7/21/23: Electronic copies of certain public records that may be in the District's possession or control. These public records consist of any contract in effect after calendar year 2021 to date between Lexington County School District One and each of the following:

- 1. Catapult
- 2. Catapult Learning
- 3. Graduation Alliance
- 4. Stride K12
- 5. Academy of Creative Education (ACE)
- 6. Connections Academy
- 7. Fusion Academies
- 8. Ombudsman

Angela Still, 7/24/23: I am a parent of a Lexington one student and I would like to FOIA information relating to the book The Joyful Teacher by Berit. Gordon that was distributed to the teachers. I would like a contract between the district and Gordon, or Heineman, the number of copies that the district purchased, and the total cost of the books in the contract with Ms. Gordon.