

**LEXINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**March 15, 2022**

The Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees held a meeting on Tuesday, March 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, Jada Garris, Dr. Kyle Guyton, Kathy Henson, Tim Oswald, Vice Chair Dr. Brent Powers and Secretary Mike Anderson (Mr. Anderson left the meeting at agenda item 10.0).

**1.0 Call to Order 6:00 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 for discussion of 2021–22 and 2022–23 employment recommendations and to discuss proposed property contractual arrangements for the purchase of land for a new River Bluff Area Elementary School. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

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

The Board of Trustees adjourned to the boardroom for executive session.

**3.0 Adjourn Executive Session**

Chair Green called for a motion to adjourn executive session and return to general session of the March 15, 2022, board meeting. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

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

**4.0 Call to Order General Session of the March 15, 2022 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 March 15, 2022, board meeting at 7:00 p.m. 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. Dr. Kyle Guyton led 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	Oswald	Approved Unanimously

**6.0 Approval of Board Meeting Minutes**

**6.1 Approval of the Minutes of the February 15, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes**

Minutes of the February 15 board meeting 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.

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

**Employment Recommendations for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 Academic Year**

Chair Green called for a motion to approve 29 certified recommendations for the 2022-2023 academic year. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Oswald	Henson	Approved Unanimously

**Discussion:** Ms. Devona Price, Chief Human Resources Officer, gave an update on recruiting and hiring.

Chair Green called for a motion to approve one administrative recommendation for the 2021-2022 academic year and 2 administrative recommendations for the 2022-2023 academic year. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Oswald	Powers	Approved Unanimously

**Discussion:** None

Chair Green called for a motion to approve 55 administrative renewals for the 2022-2023 academic year as presented by administration. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Oswald	Powers	Approved Unanimously

**Discussion:** Dr. Powers thanked the Superintendent and senior leadership for the impressive roster of leaders across the district.

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

Motion	Second	Action
Oswald	Powers	Approved Unanimously

**Discussion:** None

**Discussion of Proposed Property Contractual Arrangements for the Purchase of Land for a New River Bluff Area Elementary School**

Chair Green called for a motion that the board authorize administration to enter into option agreements for the purpose of building a new elementary school in the River Bluff attendance area. Vice Chair Powers moved that the board authorize the administration to enter into four option agreements related to parcels, known by Lexington County as:

**#1 TMS #003500-01-014** containing approximately **30 acres** with **Beverly G. Kleckley** for the purpose of building a new elementary school in the River Bluff attendance area.

**#2 TMS #003500-01-012** containing approximately **2.26 acres** with **Riverlee Associates, LLC** for the purpose of building a new elementary school in the River Bluff attendance area.

**#3 TMS #003500-01-099** containing approximately **9.5 acres** with **Joseph L. Kleckley** for the purpose of building a new elementary school in the River Bluff attendance area.

**#4 TMS #003500-02-165** containing approximately **0.04 acres** with **River Gate and Associates, LLC** for the purpose of building a new elementary school in the River Bluff attendance area.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Powers	Henson	6 in favor; 1 opposed (Garris)

**Discussion:** Mr. Jeff Salters reviewed the proposed property purchase for the construction of a new River Bluff area elementary school which was part of the of the 2018 bond referendum approved by Lexington voters. He reviewed the potential growth and enrollment explaining where the students are located for the current Meadow Glen and Midway elementary schools. The recommended property is adjacent to Saluda River Club and Woodmill neighborhoods. The district will look to provide connectivity to adjacent neighborhoods so those students are not having to access the school from the main road. He showed a conceptual plan of what the potential school grounds would look like which consists of approximately 40 acres of land including roadway and parking areas. The school would be a prototype of Rocky Creek Elementary with some adjustments. He reviewed traffic considerations. All of the students for the proposed school are currently traversing these roadways. By locating a school in the proposed location it localizes some of the traffic so that cars are not traveling over to MGES or MES. Mr. Salters explained the land purchase process. The first step is for the board to authorize administration to look for property. The second step is to sign options agreements. The district would then contract with two independent appraisers to value the parcels to determine property purchase price and obtain board approval on the purchase price. The district would complete due diligence including environmental studies, then bring back information on due diligence. The board would vote to authorize the district to proceed with the purchase.

**8.0 Honors and Achievements**

Chair Green, Superintendent Gregory Little and school board members recognized honorees present to receive state and national awards. White Knoll Middle School was spotlighted for its’ student engagement and AVID program; and, Arts in Our Schools month was recognized.

**9.0 Superintendent’s Report**

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

Superintendent Little said that it had been two years to the day that the governor closed schools due to the COVID-19 outbreak and shared how far the district has come since then. He reported that since March 1 the district was operating under the new DHEC guidelines which essentially stopped close contact tracing. Schools are beginning to operate under more normal practices. He gave the board a brief glance into some of the projects and programs that are filling up the new Superintendent evaluation tool.

**9.2 Report — White Knoll Middle School Priority School Update — Donald E. Hardie, WKMS Principal**

Mr. Hardie presented a priority school status update to the board. The goal is to grow students 3% each year in SC Ready Math and 2% percentage points in SC Reading. Programs such as Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID), Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) core content learning and a positive referral system have helped students with confidence and opportunities to grow. Mr. Hardie reviewed math and literacy initiatives to work on proficiencies. The SOAR elective is designed to increase achievement and includes tutoring and guided reading groups and there is a dedicated after-school program for English Language Learners. The Terrace Metrics SEL screener identified a large number of students in distress. The school is working on initiatives and opportunities to assist students and increase social emotional health. Priority funding will continue to be used for summer camp enrichment.

**9.3 Report — ESSER In-Action Video — Jessica Buzhardt, Academic Assistance, Early Childhood and Title I Coordinator**

Ms. Buzhardt reported on the district’s \$27,286,904 ESSER III funding available through the American Rescue Plan. The district will be releasing a series of videos to showcase the use and impact of these funds. Some of the upcoming videos will feature Cognition math tutoring, high dosage literacy tutoring, and an extended day program and summer camps. The first video from Special Services showcased professional learning for teachers and strategies for dyslexia and reading deficiencies.

**9.4 Update — Strategic Plan — Shane Phillips, PH.D., Accountability and Assessment Director**

Dr. Phillips presented a strategic plan update and outlined steps to develop the next strategic plan. Dr. Phillips reported on mid-year formative assessment data. Formative assessments are meant to assist teachers and staff on how to adjust instruction based on the responses. He reviewed English Language Arts (ELA) and Math data and analysis of the data. The data correlates to the measures in the district's Academic Recovery Plan. In examining the strategic plan earlier this year, the district decided to leave the strategic plan measures as-is instead of rewriting them due to dramatic pandemic learning challenges. Measures would be compared to previously established pre-pandemic goals. Lessons learned from the Academic Recovery Plan would be used to implement new goals and measures for the next strategic plan implementation. Dr. Phillips addressed questions and comments from the board.

**9.5 Report — PowerSchool Parent Portal and Online Registration — Thomas E. Rivers Jr., PH.D, Chief Technology and Innovation Officer**

Dr. Rivers presented information on PowerSchool and online registration. Efforts began in 2014 to move toward contactless registration and online payment. Progress has been made each year to move to 100% online registration and to increase the amount of forms and information available electronically. Approximately 90% of families completed online registration this year. A group of district and school level staff are evaluating data and the registration process to continue to make improvements. Enhanced marketing is targeted to increase online participation.

Dr. Rivers presented the PowerSchool Parent Portal which is designed to check grades, attendance and update information. The goal is to have at least one parent portal account per family. Approximately 13,000 families do not have an account. The district is starting a campaign to increase Parent Portal awareness and participation. He reviewed the process for registering for an account. Schools will be able to utilize the Portal for forms and surveys. Dr. Rivers took questions and suggestions on forms and ability to upload forms.

**9.6 Report — Operations Update — Matt Warren, Operations Director**

Mr. Warren gave an update on facility and bond referendum projects. He gave an update on Gilbert Middle and Carolina Springs Middle schools classroom additions, the Gilbert High School performing arts and athletic facility additions, the transportation facility site work and storage buildings at several elementary schools. He reported that the White Knoll High School performing arts center was nearing completion. He gave an update on the widening of Old Cherokee Road and progress on Lakeside Middle School.

**10.0 Citizens' Participation**

Chair Green read the citizens' participation guidelines. Mr. Anderson again mentioned the board policy BCBI which only allows for fifteen minutes of Citizens Participation. Regardless of the custom of permitting additional time, the board should enforce the policy if disputed. Chair Green indicated the board would continue to allow the custom of allowing all citizens to speak and that the policy would be reviewed during the work of the Ad Hoc Committee for B Policy revisions.

Aaron Granade, Lexington, SC, parent of elementary student, addressed the board about parents' rights to speak about their concerns.

Kathryn Reynolds, resident of Lexington, SC, read a statement from another citizen about EL education.

Dana Homesley, Lexington, SC, parent of an elementary student, addressed the board about board accountability.

Katie Carter-Jeffcoat, Lexington, SC, parent of elementary students, addressed the board about accountability.

Murry Kinard, resident of Lexington, SC, discussed the board's voluntary status and the reputation of the district.

Debbie Heim, Lexington, SC, parent of a high school student, addressed the board about credit card statements.

Matt Heim, Lexington, SC, parent of a high school student, addressed the board about board member rights and board accountability.

**11.0 New Business****11.1 Introduction — Policy JICA Dress Code, Administrative Rule JICA-R — Clark Cooper, School Administration Director, and Luke Clamp, ED.D., Secondary Schools Director**

Dr. Clamp and Mr. Cooper reviewed the process for revising the dress code policy. The current policy has not been updated since 2004. The district began gathering information from principals and administrators, and feedback from the district's teacher, student and parent advisory councils. The content and expectations primarily remain the same regarding what is expected and what is allowed. Students contributed feedback on how the policy is enforced with dignity, discretion and respect. The administrative rule was updated to be more specific and to reflect how times and society have changed. There was support from each focus group that hats/head coverings be allowed with guidelines on how they can be worn. Dr. Clamp and Mr. Cooper took questions and comments from the board regarding head coverings, administrative discretion, and consequences. The policy is not in place to be punitive but to provide the least disruptive learning environment.

**11.2 Introduction — State Procurement Code Adoption — Jeff Salters, Chief Operations Officer**

Mr. Salters gave an overview of the SC Procurement Code and the School District Model Code. The SC Division of Procurement Services published the 2021 School District Model Code which largely mirrors the state's code as required by law. The district's procurement code was last updated in 2008. Mr. Salters provided the board with a summary of significant changes that the district has included in a draft of the new district code. Many of the changes relate to thresholds for solicitations. Mr. Salters said that the district must adopt all of the code or none of the code per the SC Division of Procurement. There are a few exceptions to that that can be left up to the district as local choice such as where to advertise solicitations. Once the draft is adopted, the district will look at its operating procedures. The code will be submitted to the state for approval, and the district would implement the new code in July at the beginning of the fiscal year. Administration will bring the model for adoption at the April 26, 2022 board meeting. Mr. Salters took questions and comment from the board. There was discussion about the appellate panel.

**11.3 2022–23 Budget Priorities — Jeff Salters**

Mr. Salters gave a presentation on the 2022-2023 general operating fund budget priorities and the State Appropriation Act - H5150 which is in the General Assembly now. The bill includes a \$4,000 per cell increase to the state minimum teacher salary schedule, an increase of 18.01% to the employer portion of health insurance, a 1% increase to the employer portion of retirement and a 5% increase per cell for bus drivers. Governor McMaster's new proposed funding formula, Aid to the Classrooms, bases funding on a classroom student/teacher ratio of 11:2. State funds will be allocated based on a weighted pupil unit and Index of Taxpaying Ability in the district. Lexington One is one of five districts in state that will get a decrease in funding. The revenue the district would receive does not make up for the estimated impact of additional costs proposed in the Bill. Administration and the board need to address the district's legislative representatives to recommend changes to the funding formula. Mr. Salters reviewed the 2021-2022 budget revenues and expenditures. The budget would come up with a deficit of \$18,059,778. Salaries and related costs make up 88.30% of the operating expenditures; programs and services 7.11% and utilities and maintenance 4.59%. Shortages in funding will need to be made up by the district. Mr. Salters reviewed options including a millage increase. With the implications from Act 388 on local businesses, the district would like to avoid a millage increase. Mr. Salters reviewed administrative and school leadership priorities for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. He received feedback from the board and suggested budget priorities from individual members. The first reading of the budget will be at the April 26, 2022 board meeting.

**11.4 Recommendations from Ad Hoc Committee on B Policy Revisions****11.4.1 First Reading — Policy BA Board Operational Goals****11.4.2 First Reading — Policy BAA Board Self-Evaluation****11.4.3 First Reading — Policy BB Board Legal Status****11.4.4 First Reading — Policy BBA Board Powers and Duties**

**Discussion:** Committee Chair Guyton indicated the ad hoc committee was bringing the first reading of four policies based on their committee work. Their work was very deliberate and emphasized their interpretation

of the best intention of the policies. The board discussed the policies. Chair Guyton indicated recommendations could be considered during second reading next month.

## 12.0 Action Items

### 12.1 Student Travel Request(s) — Mary Gaskins, Chief Academic Officer and Jeff Caldwell, Chief Student Services Officer

Chair Green called for a motion for the board to approve eleven field trip requests. A motion was made for the board to approve eleven field trip requests. The field trip requests were reviewed and are in compliance with Board Policy. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Guyton	Henson	Approved unanimously

**Discussion:** Ms. Gaskins indicated all trips have been reviewed and are in compliance with board policy.

### 12.2 Regular Board of Trustees Meeting Time – April, May and June 2022 — Chair Anne Marie Green

Chair Green said that at the February 15 board meeting, the board discussed changing the start time of the April, May and June 2022 board meetings on a trial basis. She called for a motion that the board approve the change in time to begin General Session at 6:00 p.m. for the April, May and June 2022 regularly scheduled board meetings. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

Main Motion	Second	Action
Oswald	Henson	Approved unanimously

**Discussion:** There was discussion on the interpretation of stating the general session opens at 5:00 p.m. versus 6:00 p.m. An alternative strategy would be to say the general session resumes immediately after executive session. Current policy allows for flexibility to adjust executive session when there is a short or lengthy session. If the meeting notice stated 5:00 p.m. the board would not be able to alter executive session start time. Setting the general session time allows for courtesy to the public that the time is always the same.

Dr. Guyton moved that the motion be tabled for clarity on the rules of setting the meeting time. The motion was seconded. The vote was a tie therefore the motion failed. The board took up the main motion.

Secondary Motion	Second	Action
Guyton	Garris	3 approved; 3 opposed; upon a tie the motion fails

### 12.3 2022–23 Academic Calendar Amendment — Clark Cooper

Chair Green called for a motion that the board approve the amendment to the 2022-2023 Academic Calendar as recommended by Administration. The motion was made seconded and approved.

Motion	Second	Action
Powers	Henson	Approved unanimously

**Discussion:** Mr. Cooper indicated there was interest from the Teacher Leadership Council in building a fall break into the 2022-2023 academic calendar. A group of TLC members worked on a proposal and recommended a minor change to accommodate a fall break. This proposal was reviewed with the principals and the calendar committee. Monday, October 10, would be a holiday for students and staff making a four day weekend for students and a three day weekend for staff. To accommodate that change, it extends the school year by one day making June 2 the last day of school for students and June 5 the final day for teachers. The calendar also becomes a true balanced calendar with 90 day semesters and 45 day quarters.

**13.0 Items for Board Information**

Items 13.1 - 13.5 were for information only.

**13.1 Monthly General Fund Financial Report — February 2022**

**13.2 Monthly General Fund Budget Transfers — February 2022**

**13.3 Monthly Capital Projects Report — February 2022**

**13.4 Monthly Unauthorized Procurements Report — February 2022**

**13.5 Quarterly Grants Report**

**13.6 Board of Trustees Meeting for Employment Approvals — April 5, 2022**

Chair Green set the time for the April 5 meeting to begin at 8:00 a.m. This meeting will be for Human Resources employment recommendations only.

**13.7 Board Update — South Carolina School Boards Association 2022 Convention**

Chair Green, Dr. Guyton, Ms. Garris and Ms. Henson attended.

**13.8 Board Update — Legislative Breakfast**

Chair Green and Ms. Henson attended.

**14.0 Adjourn**

Chair Green called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made, seconded and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 pm.

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Action</b>
Powers	Oswald	Approved unanimously

Approved by the Board of Trustees:

Prepared by:

Michael E. Anderson/MEA  
Secretary

Tracy Halliday/TAH  
Executive Administrative Assistant