

# Minutes

5:30 p.m., April 26, 2022, Regular Monthly Meeting

## Lancaster County School District Board of Trustees Regular Monthly Meeting

### In attendance

#### Board members present-

Ken Buck (Secretary), Janice Dabney (Chair), Tyrom Faulkner, Margaret Gamble, Bobby Parker, Brad Small (Vice Chair), and Melvin Stroble

#### Board members absent-

Ken Buck (present for executive session and discussion information items)

#### District personnel-

Linda Blackwell (Elementary Director), Tim Bowers (Facilities), Rachel Bradley (Superintendent's Assistant), Rick Chandler (Attorney), Michelle Craig (Public Information Specialist), John Duke (Facilities), Butch Dutton (Secondary Director), Trevor Hammond (Procurement Director), Nicki Letterman (Public Information Assistant), Jonathan Phipps (Superintendent), Lydia Qunn (Chief Operations Officer), David Small (Facilities Director), Blake Stacks (IT Director), Ray Sapp (Security Guard), Bryan Vaughn (Safety & Communications Director), Jennifer White (Chief Financial Officer), Keishea Mickles (NES Principal), Brooke Griffin (NES Teacher), Ashley Hoyle (Teacher), Chucky Rivers (Discovery School Site Manager), Avery Faile (Teacher), Samantha Saglimbeni, Andrea Ribelin (BES Principal), Kristin Bowers (Teacher), Crystal Stevens (Teacher), Cory Hyslop (EES Principal), Katie Gravitt (Teacher), Raney Altman (Teacher), Chris Thorpe (ILMS Principal), Danielle Payne (Teacher), Amanda Gyemant (Teacher), Michael Belk (BHS Principal), Pam Langley (Teacher), NeTorrian Patton (Teacher), Chris Timmons (AJMS Principal), Tonya Rape (Teacher), Robin Hodnett (Teacher), Shuntay Miller (AJHS Principal), Hunter Cox-(Teacher), Nicole Gates (Teacher), Michael Pratt (BSE Principal), Emily Jackson (Teacher), Jane "Sissy" Poovey (Teacher), Sarah Deason (ILES Principal), Kate Noblett (Teacher), Terri Nowinski (Teacher), Keisha Witherspoon (CES Principal), Cassidy McKittrick (Teacher), Savannah Payne (Teacher), Michelle Crosby (ARRMS Principal), Jamilia Brevard (Teacher), Jessie Green (Teacher), Brent Chavous (SMS Principal), Taylor Eudy (Teacher), Ronnie Robinson (Teacher)

#### Guests-

Alex Sherhard (White & Story, LLC)

#### Press-

Mac Banks (The Lancaster News)

#### Citizens-

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## Open session

Call to order and invocation-  
BABA

At 5:30 p.m., the chair called the meeting to order. Ms. Dabney gave the INVOCATION.

Notice to media-  
BCBB

In accordance with the SC Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(d), as amended, Cable 2, The Herald, the Kershaw News Era, The Lancaster News, WBTV, WRHM and WSOC were notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting.

## Executive session

Executive session-  
BCBK, GBC/D, GBO, GBN, DFN, FGB

The chair announced the purpose for executive session was to receive resignations/retirements/terminations, 2022-2023 certified employment recommendations.  
The MOTION to enter executive session was made and seconded. The motion PASSED unanimously (6-0).

## Open session

Welcome & Pledge of Allegiance -  
BCB  
Approval of meeting agenda-  
BCBD

At 7:08 p.m., the chair welcomed the public on behalf of the board.

The chair called for approval of the agenda as emailed. In open session, a MOTION was made by Mr. Small and seconded by Mr. Stroble to move I2, I3, and I5 from Consent Action Items to Discussion Action Items.

The motion PASSED unanimously (6-0).

In open session, a MOTION was made by Mr. Small and seconded by Mr. Faulkner to approve the agenda as amended. The motion PASSED unanimously (6-0).

Executive session action-  
BCBK

The chair noted that the board held an executive session at 5:35 p.m.

- In open session, a MOTION was made by Mr. Parker and seconded by Mr. Faulkner to accept resignations/retirements/terminations.

The motion PASSED unanimously (6-0).

- In open session, a MOTION was made by Mr. Faulkner and seconded by Mr. Parker to accept the superintendent's certified employment recommendations for the 2022-23 school year.

The motion PASSED unanimously (6-0).

- In open session, a MOTION was made by Mr. Small and seconded by Mr. Faulkner to approve the superintendent's recommendation to extend the following contract for the FY 2022-2023?

- Online Internet Auction Service

**GovDeals of Bethesda, MD** (FY21/22 Expenditures \$0.00)

The motion PASSED unanimously (6-0).

- In open session, a MOTION was made by Ms. Gamble and seconded by Mr. Parker to approve the superintendent's recommendation to extend the following contract for FY 2022-2023?

- Lease of Modular Classrooms

**Vanguard Modular Systems of Philadelphia, PA** (FY21/22 Expenditures \$253,058.24)

The motion PASSED unanimously (6-0).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In open session, a <u>MOTION</u> was made by Mr. Small and seconded by Mr. Stroble to approve the superintendent's recommendation to move forward with a contract for CM@Risk Services to <b>Thompson Turner Construction</b> limited to the scope of work in the bid. The motion <u>PASSED</u> unanimously (6-0).</li></ul>
<p><b>School Level Teachers of the Year Recognition -</b></p>	<p>The board chair introduced the principals from the following schools who recognized their school's Teacher of the Year and Beginning Teacher of the Year:</p> <p>Andrew Jackson High Andrew Jackson Middle AR Rucker Middle Brooklyn Springs Elementary Buford Elementary Buford High Clinton Elementary Discovery School Erwin Elementary Indian Land Elementary Indian Land Middle North Elementary South Middle</p>
<p><b>Public forum- BCBI</b></p>	<p>The chair outlined the procedures for addressing the board and invited any member of the audience to come forward. Seven members of the public came forward. Liz James came forward to speak about South Middle School and its administration. Demetra Cornwell spoke about accountability and the district's fiscal health. Steve Giagiakos about his concerns regarding education and the district. Tonya Ross spoke about her concerns regarding education and fiscal management in the district. Yvonne Johnson spoke about her concerns with the pay of teachers and increasing their supply budget. Charlene Hunter came forward to speak about updates to the LHS Rice building and to request reports on ESSER funds updates. Solomon Goldiamond spoke about the relationship between Indian Land and the school district.</p>
<p><b>Approval of consent action items- BCBD</b></p>	<p>The chair called for approval of consent action items below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minutes of <b>March 10th</b> called meeting and <b>March 15th</b> regular meeting (BCBH)</li><li>• Recommendation to approve second reading of <b>Board Policy JCDAB - Weapons in School</b> and <b>Memo</b></li><li>• Approval of new <b>science curriculum</b></li><li>• Approval of <b>audit firm</b></li></ul> <p>A <u>MOTION</u> to approve the items was made by Mr. Faulkner and seconded by Mr. Parker. The motion <u>PASSED</u> unanimously (6-0).</p>

**Recommendation to approve regular monthly financial report-**

DCH

**Recommendation to approve Food Service accounting method change -**

**Recommendation to approve first reading of revisions to Board Policy Section I- Instructional Program and Memo -**

**Recommendation to approve 2023-2024 school year calendar -**

**Recommendation to approve to continue the alignment of school district zoning lines with County Council election district lines-**

**Early Head Start/Head Start continuation grant applications -**

Dr. Phipps referred board members to appropriate agenda pages and recognized Ms. White, who reported expenditures and revenues were in line with the budget. Ms. White also gave an update on impact fees for the district.

A MOTION to approve the report was made by Mr. Parker and seconded by Mr. Stroble.

The motion PASSED unanimously (6-0).

Dr. Phipps referred board members to appropriate agenda pages and recognized Ms. White, who explained the proposal to change the Food Service operations Proprietary fund to a Special Revenue fund. This is to help simplify the accounting process.

A MOTION to approve the report was made by Mr. Faulkner and seconded by Mr. Parker.

The motion PASSED unanimously (6-0).

Dr. Phipps referred board members to appropriate agenda pages and recognized Ms. Quinn who explained to the board the details of Board Policy Section I - *Instructional Program*. A MOTION to approve the first reading of Board Policy Section I - *Instructional Program* and Memo was made by Ms. Gamble and seconded by Mr. Parker.

The motion PASSED unanimously (6-0).

Dr. Phipps referred board members to appropriate handouts and recognized Ms. Craig who discussed the two options for the 2023-2024 school year. Ms. Craig explained that there are state laws that set rules for how a school year calendar is created and showed the board the results of the employee survey. The board decided to table the motion to approve the 2023-2024 school year calendar until the May board meeting once the survey was resent to employees to garner more votes and responses.

A MOTION to table the vote on the 2023-2024 school year calendar was made by Mr. Stroble and seconded by Mr. Small.

The motion PASSED unanimously (6-0).

Dr. Phipps referred board members to appropriate agenda page and explained to the board that Rick Crimminger requested that the board vote to continue to have school district and County Council election district lines align. Mr. Stroble informed the board of the 1992 bill to amend Act 777 of 1988 that sets this alignment of school district and County Council election lines. A MOTION to approve to follow the statute and mirror the voting districts of the County Council was made by Mr. Stroble and seconded by Mr. Faulkner.

The motion PASSED unanimously (6-0).

Dr. Phipps referred board members to appropriate agenda pages and recognized Dr. Blackwell and Ms. Richardson who informed the board about the Early Head Start and Head Start continuation grant applications. Ms. Richardson briefly explained the applications and the funding for the programs.

**Early Head Start** monthly financial report (DC, IDDH)

A **MOTION** to approve the continuation of the Early Head Start and Head Start grant applications was made by Ms. Gamble and seconded by Mr. Parker.

The motion **PASSED** unanimously (6-0).

Dr. Phipps referred board members to appropriate agenda pages and Mr. Small asked for clarification on two accounts in the Early Head Start monthly financial report. Ms. White explained that the negative amounts in these accounts can and will be corrected by moving money within the fund to cover the expenses.

A **MOTION** to table the vote for the approval of the Early Head Start monthly financial report was made by Mr. Small and seconded by Mr. Stroble.

The motion **PASSED** unanimously (6-0).

**Head Start** monthly financial report (DC, IDDH)

Dr. Phipps referred board members to appropriate agenda pages and Mr. Small asked for clarification on two accounts in the Head Start monthly financial report. Ms. White explained that the negative amounts in these accounts can and will be corrected by moving money within the fund to cover the expenses.

A **MOTION** to table the vote for the approval of the Head Start monthly financial report was made by Mr. Small and seconded by Mr. Stroble.

The motion **PASSED** unanimously (6-0).

**Add Promise Neighborhood positions to salary scale -**

Dr. Phipps referred board members to appropriate agenda page and recognized Ms. Quinn who explained the need to add the Promise Neighborhood positions to the district's classified salary schedule. The district is not funding the Promise Neighborhood program and will only help facilitate processing checks for the employees. This district is not responsible for providing the funds to pay employees.

A **MOTION** to approve to add Promise neighborhood positions to the salary scale was made by Mr. Faulkner and seconded by Mr. Parker.

The motion **PASSED** unanimously (6-0).

**Discovery School** expansion request -

Dr. Phipps referred board members to appropriate agenda pages and recognized Dr. Blackwell and Mr. Rivers who answered Mr. Small's question regarding the Discovery School expansion. The expansion will be over a 7 year period and will increase the total students to 288, total teachers to 12, total assistants 2.

A **MOTION** to approve the Discovery School expansion request was made by Mr. Small and seconded by Mr. Parker.

The motion **PASSED** unanimously (6-0).

**Receipt of consent information items- BCBD**

The board agreed to receive without discussion the reports below as consent information items. The reports were emailed to board members before the meeting.

• **School Library Month** - April

- Early Head Start/Head Start director's monthly **report**
- Early Head Start/Head Start March Policy Council **Minutes**
- Early Head Start/Head Start monthly federal progress **summary**
- Early Head Start/Head Start monthly enrollment & **attendance**

**Facilities Update -**

Dr. Phipps referred board members to appropriate agenda pages and recognized Mr. Small and Mr. Duke. Mr. Small informed the board on some of the major projects around the district. Buford Middle's HVAC replacement project is 95% complete. Mr. Small stated that the Facilities department is ahead of schedule in regards to replacing HVAC units around the district. Mr. Duke gave an update on Indian Land High. The pedestrian bridge is nearing completion. The emergency lights have been installed on the baseball and softball fields. Mr. Duke informed the board that he is hoping to have the final OSF for these areas within a month. There has been a lot of work and progress on the punch list for Indian Land High.

**Fiscal Watch Update -**

Dr. Phipps referred board members to appropriate handouts and recognized Ms. White who informed the board of the timeline regarding the submission of the district's corrective action plan and explained the details in the plan. Ms. White also explained to the board that she spoke with the State Department of Education's Finance Director and requested that if the district could complete the yearly audit early and send it in to the State Department that it would be reviewed early and the district could be taken off of fiscal watch sooner. The board discussed the process of completing the corrective action plan and getting clarification on the section 59-20-90 of the South Carolina Education Finance Act of 1977.

**ESSER Update -**

Dr. Phipps referred board members to appropriate handout and recognized Ms. White who gave the quarterly update to the board on the ESSER funds. Ms. White went over all three sets of funds and explained what the spending plan was for each. The board requested for a breakdown of the funds spent and encumbered at each location as well as the formula used by the federal government to allocate ESSER funds to districts.

**Adjournment-  
BCBF**

With no other business before the board, the chair adjourned the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ken Buck, Secretary

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Janice C. Dabney, Chair