

**MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
ANDERSON SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE
Anderson, South Carolina**

**September 24, 2024
6:00 P.M.**

The Anderson School District One Board of Trustees met in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on September 24, 2024, in the George Seaborn Boardroom.

NOTICE TO MEDIA

In accordance with the S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(d), as amended, the following were notified of the time, date, place, and agenda of this meeting: The Anderson Independent, Easley Progress, Greenville News, and Williamston Journal.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mrs. Nancy Upton, (Board Chair), Mrs. Brenda Ellison, (Vice-Chair), Mr. David Merritt, Jr. (Secretary), Mrs. Wendy Burgess, Mrs. Melissa Hood, Mrs. Pat Cox, and Mr. Mike Wilson.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Dr. Seth Young (Superintendent), Mrs. Becky Brady (Assistant Superintendent of Personnel), Dr. Jeff Wilson (Assistant Superintendent of Administration), Mr. Bradley Moore (Chief Academic Officer), Mr. Travis Thomas (Director of Finance), Mrs. Heather Gambrell (Executive Assistant to Superintendent and Board of Trustees), Mrs. April Hays (Director of Testing and Accountability), Dr. Brian Keith (Director of Special Services), Mr. Jeff Dopkins (Director of Student Nutrition Services), Mr. Greg Gilstrap (Director of Technology), and Mr. Andy Finley (Director of Special Projects).

MEDIA PRESENT

Mr. David Meade from the Williamston Journal.

OTHERS PRESENT*

Leanna Devall, JC Neel, Carol Brooks, Hampton Yarborough, Robbie Binnicker, Allyson Binnicker, Jason Lesley, Mariana Hernandez, Brandon Koon, Sherry Padgett, Carrie Pennington, et al.

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Upton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., followed by the invocation by Mr. Merritt. The invocation was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Mrs. Ellison, with a second by Mrs. Hood to approve the Board Agenda. The motion was carried unanimously (7-0).

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Mrs. Upton asked the Board if any additions or corrections were needed for the August 27, 2024, Board Minutes. Hearing no changes, a motion was made by Mr. Wilson, with a second by Mrs. Ellison to approve the August 27, 2024 Minutes. The motion was carried unanimously (7-0).

RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Young welcomed a group of students majoring in education at Anderson University in attendance to observe the board meeting.

Dr. Young welcomed Mr. Robbie Binnicker, a retired Superintendent of Anderson One, as a special guest for the dedication of the Conference Center of Oak Hill Elementary School in his honor, sharing that the name would be G. Robbie Binnicker Conference Center. He was presented with a commemorative framed print and a group photo was taken with Mr. Binnicker, Dr. Young, and all seven Board members in attendance.

Mr. Binnicker was asked to remain standing for a special surprise award recognition, revealing he was the recipient of the prestigious award of The Order of the Palmetto for the State of South Carolina. Presentation of the award was conducted by Senator Mike Gambrell, House Representative Anne Thayer, and State Board of Education Member Sallie Lee on behalf of Governor Henry McMaster who was unable to attend. Mr. Binnicker was presented with a framed award and a group photo was taken to include his wife, Allyson Binnicker, Dr. Young, the state representatives, the seven Board members, and district administrators in attendance.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Financial Report

Dr. Young stated that the first item for review was the activity modifier report for each school in the financial report. He stated if there were any questions regarding the activity modifier report to please give him or Mr. Thomas a call.

Dr. Young reviewed the District's Investment Accounts with forty-two CDs that the district currently has. Dr. Young noted that there was a total investment of **\$9,999,000** and an annual interest of **\$266,316**. Page two of the investment report shows the two CDs for student nutritional services, a total investment of **\$396,000**, with an annual interest of **\$4,368**. Dr. Young indicated the key listed below for any questions regarding each CD and the interest of each. Dr. Young reviewed page three, which contains the account descriptions for all accounts.

Operating Account and Payroll: \$9,480,313

Food Service Account: \$1,071,929

Building Fund Account: \$2,649,351

S.C. Governmental Investment Pool: \$21,368,855

SCLGIP-2022 GOB: \$7,018,959

SCLGIP Building Fund Investment: \$25,757,547

With no questions regarding investments, Dr. Young turned it over to Mr. Thomas for the remainder of the financial report.

Mr. Thomas shared the following Building Program updates for August 2024:

Building Fund – 502

There are two projects currently in progress. They are the Oak Hill Elementary School and Concrete Primary renovations.

Total Building Program Revenue: \$27,000,330

Building Program Expenditures: \$13,336.097

Building Program Encumbrances: \$43,731.622

Building Program Balance: \$13,990.523

Local Option Sales Tax – 515

Mr. Thomas stated this report reflects collections as of June 2024.

Anderson County Total Sales Tax: 3,260,907

Allocation Percentage for ASD1 (based on student enrollment): 33.56%

Property Tax Relief (20%): 219,431

Capital Use (80%): \$877,725

Total Allocation District One: \$1,097,156

Beginning Fund Balance: \$21,061,423

Ending Fund Balance: \$21,049,906

Mr. Thomas reviewed the General Fund revenue accounts and expenditure accounts with the Board. He stated that funds are coming in as expected for this time of year.

Revenue received for August is **\$6,358,937**. Total revenue received year-to-date is **\$11,812,882**, which puts us at **10%** of the total budget, on track with where we were this time last year percentage-wise.

The next report is the expenditure report for August. Expenses incurred during this period were **\$9,445,845** and expenses year-to-date total **\$12,079,903**, which brings us to **11%** of the expenditure budget, on track with where we were this time last year percentage-wise.

Instructional Report

Mr. Moore shared a presentation encompassing the professional learning progress in Anderson One. Mr. Moore stated that in partnership with Southern Wesleyan University, Anderson One elementary teachers had the opportunity to take free coursework in Project Read which supports our literacy programs from phonics to written expression. Mr. Moore referenced the focus of the district on collaboration and noted our status as top four in the state, adding we would continue to improve from there.

In the presentation, Mr. Moore shared photos of our teachers in collaborative teams and literacy coaches in action supporting our teachers focusing on English Language Arts Standards. Mr. Moore concluded the presentation with updates on a fifteen-day challenge in professional

learning in Atlanta where a group of teachers, teams, and coaches reviewed and refined our professional learning processes. He shared some photos from the Atlanta conference.

Mr. Moore shared that October 10 will be the public release date of the South Carolina school report cards. Mrs. April Hays, Director of Testing and Accountability, will join Mr. Moore at the October 29 board meeting with information to share regarding the Anderson One report card and will answer any questions the Board may have. He shared a few highlights the Board could expect to see in October in the form of celebrations and recognitions, including forty-two perfect scores in third through eighth grades on SC Ready, from the hard work and collaborative efforts of Anderson One.

Nutritional Report

Mrs. Brady presented the nutritional report and shared Anderson One has a great report from the first twenty-two days of school. Nutrition Services increased to eleven thousand meals and the seven Community Eligibility Provision schools had increased their meals by seven thousand. She added that the addition of Wren Elementary and Spearman Elementary had a great impact on this success, for a combined six thousand additional meals. The revenue in August increased by one hundred and twelve thousand dollars. Mrs. Brady said Mr. Dopkins and the Student Nutrition team do an excellent job taking care of Anderson One students.

Administration Report

Dr. Wilson shared policies up for first reading and second reading.

Consideration to Review Board Policies as Second and Final Reading:

AR JKE-R - Expulsion of Students - Factors in determining the appropriateness of expelling a student.

A motion was made by Mrs. Cox, with a second by Mrs. Ellison to approve the second and final reading of policy AR JKE-R, Expulsion of Students. The motion was carried unanimously (7-0).

Consideration to Review Board Policies as First Reading:

JICJ - Prohibition of Personal Electronic Devices During the School Day - The purpose of this policy is to create a phone-free school environment that fosters a positive learning experience free from electronic distractions.

KEC - Public Concerns and Complaints about Instructional Resources - The board is responsible for the selection and provision of instructional materials and the processes for submission of complaints.

AR KEC-R - Public Concerns and Complaints About Instructional Resources - Removal guidelines of any existing instructional materials identified from a complaint under review.

IJL - Library Materials Selection and Adoption - Support and enrich the instructional program of the district's schools by ensuring that the district's instructional program includes a broad range of materials that are age and developmentally appropriate and educationally suitable and aligned with the purpose of the state's instructional program.

IJ - Instructional Resources and Materials - The selection, retention, and continued use of instructional materials will follow State Board of Education regulations and other legal requirements.

IJK - Supplementary Materials Selection and Adoption - Provide supplemental educational materials that support and enrich the curriculum and enhance the district's educational program.

EFE - Competitive Food Sales/Vending Machines - To establish the basic structure for the sale of competitive foods at school.

AR EFE-R - Competitive Food Sales/Vending Machines - Promote student wellness, prevent and reduce childhood obesity, and provide assurance that school meals and snacks meet the minimum federal standards, the district implements this rule governing the sale of competitive foods within the district.

A motion was made by Mrs. Ellison, with a second by Mr. Merritt to approve the first reading of the eight policies listed above. The motion was carried unanimously (7-0).

Proposed 2025-26 School Calendar

The Anderson County-Wide Calendar Committee is composed of teachers and district representatives from all five districts. They are in charge of the process of creating a proposed calendar for 2025-26. The committee had four main goals and objectives for the next school year's calendar based on feedback that we have received from previous years.

A motion was made by Mrs. Burgess, with a second by Mr. Merritt to approve the first reading of the proposed 2025-26 school calendar. The motion was carried unanimously (7-0).

Update on Building Program

Dr. Young updated the Board on the continual progress following the groundbreaking of Oak Hill Elementary, sharing that the first concrete slab was poured the morning of the board meeting before the forecasted rain began. He added there are currently communications with the county and the Department of Transportation regarding funding for the necessary road upgrades.

Dr. Young asked the Board to refer to a provided handout regarding school safety and the district emergency management plans. Dr. Young stated that district administration regularly reviews potential upgrades and investments in school safety, adding that Anderson One was one of the first districts in the upstate to have a School Resource Officer at every school in the district, elementary through high school. He stated ALICE training continues to be implemented, and investments have been made in mental health counselors and emergency plans.

Dr. Young turned it over to Dr. Wilson to share information on a newly implemented infrastructure with the Raptor program.

Dr. Wilson shared that Raptor is an emergency management system with many capabilities, allowing teachers and administrators to send direct messages with concerns, send a notice to

everyone in the building in the event of security issues, and update rosters every twenty-four hours from daily enrollment changes. Dr. Wilson added that the system has a reunification piece that can be implemented for communication with parents on the status of emergency situations.

Dr. Young shared that the Avigilon camera system we currently use is releasing new technology that will also provide increased school safety measures.

PERSONNEL

Dr. Young stated that there were no personnel changes or updates to review at this time.

Consideration to go into Executive Session to Discuss a Property Matter:

A motion was made by Mrs. Ellison, with a second by Mrs. Burgess to approve the consideration to go into executive session. The motion was carried unanimously (7-0).

No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Merritt, with a second by Mrs. Ellison to adjourn. The motion was carried unanimously (7-0).

The meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Secretary to the Board,

Heather L. Gambrell

Heather Gambrell
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Trustees

*These names are taken from handwritten sign-in sheets. For any name corrections, please don't hesitate to contact me via email gambrellh@apps.anderson1.org.