



Florence County School District 3

Board Meeting Minutes for Thursday, April 16, 2026 @ 6:00p.m.

Location: Board Room

125 S. Blanding St., Lake City, SC 29560

Live Stream –YouTube@fsd3

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**Call to Order:** Board Chair Jason Kirby called the board meeting of the Florence County School District Three Board of Trustees to order.

**Declaration of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA):** In accordance with the S. C. Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-809d, as amended, the following have been notified of the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting: Morning News, Lake City Shopper, WBTW, WPDE, & WMBF. This agenda is also posted on the Florence County School District Three website.

**Roll Call by Board Secretary:** Ms. Rebecca Yates reported that all nine board members were in attendance. Present in person with her were Mr. Steve Locklair, Ms. Rutha Frieson, Mr. Gregory McKnight, Mr. Jason Kirby, Ms. Mattie Thomas, Ms. Paula Morris, Ms. Julia Mims and Mr. Jac’Kel Brown.

**Moment of Silence:** Ms. Kasey Feagin requested prayers for all FSD3 students and staff. We observed a moment of silence.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Board Chair Jason Kirby led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Jac’Kel Brown made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mattie Thomas provided the second for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve the agenda as presented carries 9-0.

**Approval of the Consent Agenda:** Rebecca Yates made the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Rutha Frieson provided the second for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve the consent agenda as presented carries 9-0.

**Public Participation:** None.

**Board Chair Report:** Board Chair Kirby addressed the items on the Board Chair Report.

**Board members report of any meetings/schools attended:** Mr. Jason Kirby opened the floor for board members to report their activities within Florence School District Three:

**Ms. Julia Mims:** Honored by Panther Academy and saw many good things happening there. Attended Main Street Elementary performance of Hot Street Brass and also attended State Department of Education’s finance workshop, with Ms. Paula Morris. She found that very interesting and noted every school district across the state are struggling with finance.

**Ms. Paula Morris:** Attended 3 events. The workshop with Ms. Mims and agreed that it was a very good program. She went to Ronald E. McNair and gave a shout out to students for the great questions for Representative Clyburn and Mayor Robinson. She also went to MSE for a collaboration of the town.

**Ms. Mattie Thomas:** Attend the Representative Clyburn visit at DREM. He made a valid point that we do not get the money charter and magnet schools get money that we do not get. She also spoke of having our coaches assist in bus driving.

**Mr. Jac'Kel Brown:** None to report.

**Ms. Rebecca Yates:** Attended the School Board Association boot camp with Carolina Academic Achievement Network.

**Mr. Gregory McKnight:** Attended J.C. Lynch and watched the play Alice in Wonderland, DREM for the councilman's visit, back to JCL for Leadership Day, and returned back to DREM for their Mock Interviews.

**Ms. Rutha Frieson:** Attended Leadership Day at Scranton Steam Academy.

**Mr. Steve Locklair:** None to report at this time.

**Mr. Jason Kirby:** None to report.

**Request to attend any meetings:** Let Ms. Yates know and she will convey to Ms. Acuña.

**Interim-Superintendent's Report:** *Ms. Kasey Feagin, Interim-Superintendent*  
Ms. Kasey introduced Dr. Sharon Williams and Ms. Erica Bell from Pee Dee Innovations & Leadership Academy who requested approval to add a modular / mobile classroom to their Charter School on FSD3 property on Graham Rd. The request was not voted on and a response will be given at a later date.

**Finance Update - Kasey Feagin for Hope Gibson, Finance Director - April 2026**

**Finance Updates.** Ms. Hope reviewed our mission statement and 2025-2026 district goals, presented the April 2026 financial updates. She reviewed the March 2026 Financials PowerPoint of the General fund reports beginning with the FSD3 mission and district goals. She reviewed the board approved balance of the general fund budget \$35,646,811.00 for fiscal year 2025-2026. She read over her financial slides and totals for 2025-2026 budgets. New approved general fund budget for 2025-2026 is \$41,199,818.00. Ms. Hope also reviewed the General Fund Budget by Object Code as of March 31, 2026. Ms. Hope presented the timeline for the 2026-2027 General Budget Approval. The general obligation bond request was presented by Ms. Hope and Mr. Mike Gallenger. Approval from board required to adopt the resolution as presented. Mr. Jac'Kel Brown made the motion to approve the resolution as presented. Mattie Thomas provided the second for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve the agenda as presented carries 9-0.

Ms. Hope continued her report by reviewing the Preliminary First Reading of the 2026-2027 General Fund Budget for a second time.

**Human Resources Updates: - Angelia Scott, Director of Human Resources**

Ms. Scott began her presentation with explaining the recognition volunteer program. She spoke of the two volunteers who are golden apples and have over 100 volunteer hours. Jessica Graham with 125 hrs., and Hal Edwards with 180 hrs. Ms. Scott presented her power point slides with the certified vacancies that are tentative for 2026-2027 with some updates on the totals. Board members asked questions and Ms. Scott responded to each question. She then reviewed contract recommendations and the meaning of the various kinds of contracts that are presented to teachers for their individual qualifications.

**Instructional Updates- Mary Howard Ed. S., Chief Academic Officer**

Ms. Mary Howard presented her slides that gave the board goals, Strategic Plan for 2025-2030 for board approval. Mr. Jac'Kel Brown made the motion to approve the Strategic Plans for 2025-2030 as presented. Ms. Mattie Thomas provided the second for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to approve the agenda as presented carries 9-0. An update for Admin Rule IKA was given. Upcoming Testing Dates: March 2-17 -SC-ALT (OEC Testing), March 23- April 17 -WIN (High School Career Readiness), SC Ready - last 20 full school days, and EOC - last 15 full school days. Upcoming Events: MSE Leadership Day April 17th; National History Day State competition @ Coastal Carolina University April 18<sup>th</sup>, Interims April

20<sup>th</sup>, Stars Gala April 23<sup>rd</sup>, FDTG Graduation at 4:00pm, JPT Graduation @ 6:00pm May 21<sup>st</sup>, LCHS Graduation @ 7:00pm.

*All of this presentation is also on YouTube@fsd3.*

**Other Legislative and District Updates - Kasey Feagin, Interim-Superintendent**

Ms. Feagin went over Cognia visit and the final report will be received in 45 business days; SDE's Strategic Compensation Pilot; enrollment update for 2025-2026, State Budget Process, Funding Differences between House and Senate, House Floor Actions H.3858- Water Property Tax, House Floor Debate H.3831- Smart Heart Act, Senate Education Committee H.3195 Physical Education & Recess, H.3258 Mobile Panic Alert System, Ways & Means Subcommittees H.4611 - Paid Parental Leave, House Education Committee H.3197 - Workforce Readiness, Senate Floor Debate H.4756 - Student Physical Privacy Act, Provisos from Senate Proviso - 1.39 (SDE:Health Education), and the New Bill in House H.5483 - Educator Safety & Classroom Authority Act of 2026 (Introduced 4-1-2026).

Ms. Feagin then invited Mr. Brian Huckabee up to go over the Facilities Update.

\*\*\*All power points are also posted online and can be seen on YouTube@fsd3.\*\*\*

**Exit into Executive Session** - Jac'kel Brown made the motion to exit from open session into executive session to discuss student discipline and potential legal, personnel matters, possible hiring, termination, resignation, placed on leave or potential legal matters and receive legal advice on Superintendent's contract. Rebecca Yates provided the second for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to enter executive session carries 9-0.

**Reconvene to Open Session** - Jac'Kel Brown made the motion to exit executive session and reconvene to open session. Rutha Frieson provided the second for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to exit executive session and reconvene to open session carries 9-0.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

**Action from executive session** - No action needed from executive session.

**Adjourn:** There being no further business for the Board of Trustees; Mattie Thomas made the motion to adjourn. Rutha Frieson provided the second for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion to adjourn carries 9-0.

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**Date approved**

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**Jason Kirby, Chair**

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**Elizabeth Acuña, Recording Clerk**

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**Rebecca Yates, Secretary**