Florence County School District 3

Board Meeting Minutes for Thursday, October 22, 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: Secretary Ms. Rebecca Yates reported that eight board members were in attendance. Present in person with Ms. Yates were Ms. Rutha Frieson, Mr. Jason Kirby, Ms. Paula Morris, Ms. Mattie Thomas, Dr. Julia Mims, Mr. Steve Locklair, and Mr. Gregory McKnight. Mr. Jac'Kel Brown is on his way.

Moment of Silence: Dr. Suber requested that we observe a moment of silence.

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

Approval of the Agenda: Rebecca Yates made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Rutha Frieson 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 8-0.

Approval of the Consent Agenda: Ms. Rutha Frieson made the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Ms. Rebecca Yates provided the second for this motion. All board members present voted on this motion. The motion to approve the consent agenda as presented carries 7-1. Ms. Mattie Thomas voted against approving the consent agenda.

Public Participation: None

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

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

Ms. Julia Mims: Attended Risky Business.
Ms. Paula Morris: Nothing to report.
Ms. Mattie Thomas: Nothing to report.
Mr. Jac'Kel Brown: Has not arrived yet.
Ms. Rebecca Yates: Attended Risky Business.
Mr. Gregory McKnight: Attended Beyond the Basics and Risky Business Conference.
Ms. Rutha Frieson: Attended Beyond the Basics and Risky Business.
Mr. Steve Locklair: Nothing to report.
Mr. Jason Kirby: Nothing to report.

Request to attend any meetings: Let Ms. Yates know and she will convey to Ms. Acuña.
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SCSBA Delegate Nomination: Board Chair Mr. Kirby opened the floor for nominations for the Official Voting Delegate and the Alternate. Both will attend the 2026 SCSBA Annual Delegate Assembly. Ms. Rutha Frieson nominated Ms. Paula Morris to be the delegate. Ms. Rebecca Yates provided the second to the motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion carried 8-0. Dr. Julia Mims nominated Ms. Mattie Thomas to be that alternate delegate. Ms. Rutha Frieson provided the second to the motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion. The motion carried 8-0.

****Board member Mr. Jac'Kel Brown arrived and joined the board meeting. ****

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Shawn Suber, Superintendent began his reports with introducing Mr. Ned Blake to recognize the students with perfect EOC scores for the end of the 25-26 school year. The perfect scores were in the subjects of Biology EOC, English EOC, US History & Constitution EOC, and Algebra 1 EOC. Certificates were given to each student for their accomplishment.

Finance Update – Hope Gibson, Finance Director – October 2026 Finance Updates.

Ms. Hope presented the October 2026 PowerPoint of the General Fund reports. She began by reading the mission statement and district goals, presented the 2026-2027 District Goals and reviewed the September 2026 General Fund Reports and Budget by Object Code. Ms. Hope read the general fund approved balance for 2026-2027 FY was $37,297,102.00. She then reviewed the board approved use of fund balance which includes the board approved use of fund balance and the carryover use of fund balance to arrive at the 2026-2027 total of the general fund approved budget plus board approved use of fund balance is $39,546,836.00. The general fund budget by object code as of September 30, 2026 was presented as well. *All of this presentation is also on YouTubefsd3. *

Human Resources Updates: – Angelia Scott, Director of Human Resources

Ms. Scott presented her report with information for the board regarding Alter native Certification Pathways. These are the different manners in which a teacher can achieve their certification for teaching. She explained the different programs and what the needs they serve. Ms. Scott also introduced the online Employee Portal to the board. She went over all the benefits this portal will provide for all the FSD3 employees.

Instructional Updates– Mary Howard Ed. S., Chief Academic Officer

Ms. Mary Howard began her report by reviewing board goals, reviewing the accountability report, report card ratings, and the firefighting program at CTE with the donated firetruck.

Save the dates for: Homecoming Game on Oct. 30th; Reading Under the Lights – Monday, Nov. 2nd; and High School Musical @ JPT Nov. 17-19. *All of this presentation is also on YouTubefsd3. *

Facilities Updates– Brian Huckabee, Director of Communications and Operations

Mr. Huckabee reviewed the District Modernization Project with Schneider Electric, update for Ward Memorial Stadium, Ward Memorial Stadium, and Blanding St. Auditorium. Mr. Huckabee answered questions from the board regarding the risk control grant and issues in the theatre. *All of this presentation can be seen on YouTube@fsd3. *

Policy Updates – Kasey Feagin, Ed. S., Assistant Superintendent of Schools & Student Services -Ms. Feagin presented and reviewed the enrollment update for 2026-2027 before going over policy revisions. Policy Revisions – ADF Revision- District/School Wellness, GCCAC/GDCC Revision- Paid Parental Leave, IHAR Revision – Physical education, and JLCG Revision – Seizure Safe Schools. Mr. Jac'Kel Brown provided the motion to approve Policy Revisions – ADF, GCCAC/GDCC, IHAR, JLCG. Ms. Mattie Thomas provided the second for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion to approve Policy Revisions – ADF, GCCAC/GDCC, IHAR, JLCG. The motion carries 9-0.

Ms. Feagin then continued to present the New Policy for its first reading. Policy EBCA – Cardiac Emergencies was read by Ms. Feagin. Dr. Julia Mims provided the motion to approve New Policy EBCA – Cardiac Emergencies. Ms. Rutha Frieson provided the second for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion to approve New Policy EBCA – Cardiac Emergencies. The motion carries 9-0 *All of this presentation is also on YouTubefsd3. *

Superintendent's Update– Dr. Shawn Suber, Superintendent- Dr. Suber gave the first 45-day update. He then reviewed FSD3 core values, our 2030 vision, the instructional module that the DIT team uses, the meetings he listed 9 of the meetings he has attended in the community and explained to the board the various advisory councils he will implement for the school year and beyond. Dr. Suber also announced the donation of a fire truck from Berkeley County to the CATE program. He thanked Mr. Burgess and Ms. Gibson for the work they put into getting the fire truck to LCHS. FSD3 did also get a new van for transportation. This was replacing the van lost in an accident a few years back. Dr. Suber's update was completed by discussing employee bonuses. After some information provided by Ms. Gibson, Directory of Finance, regarding the cost of different bonus amounts, the board voted to postpone the vote for bonuses. Mr. Jac'Kel Brown made the motion to postpone a vote for employee bonuses, Ms. Paula Morris provided the second to this motion. All board members present voted in favor of the postponement of voting on employee bonuses. The motion carries 9-0. *All of this presentation is also on YouTubefsd3. *

Exit into Executive Session – Mr. Jac'Kel Brown made the motion to exit from open session into executive session to discuss personnel matters, concerns, possible hiring, termination, resignation, placed on leave or legal matters. Ms. Paula Morris 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 – Mr. Jac'Kel Brown made the motion to exit executive session and reconvene to open session. Ms. Paula Morris 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; Dr. Julia Mims made the motion to adjourn. Ms. Paula Morris 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 **Jason Kirby, Chair**

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Elizabeth Acuña, Recording Clerk **Rebecca Yates, Secretary**