Florence County School District 3

Board Meeting Minutes for Thursday, September 17, 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 all nine 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, Mr. Jac'Kel Brown, and Mr. Gregory McKnight.

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: Dr. Julia Mims made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Paula Morris 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: Ms. Rebecca Yates made the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Gregory McKnight 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 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 their activities within Florence School District Three:

Ms. Julia Mims: Attended School Law Conference in Greenville, SC and Regional Advocacy Meeting in Florence, SC.

Ms. Paula Morris: Attended School Law Conference in Greenville, SC and Regional Advocacy Meeting in Florence, SC.

Ms. Mattie Thomas: Attended School Law Conference in Greenville, SC and Regional Advocacy Meeting in Florence, SC.

Mr. Jac'Kel Brown: Nothing to report.

Ms. Rebecca Yates: Nothing to report.

Mr. Gregory McKnight: Attended School Law Conference in Greenville, SC.

Ms. Rutha Frieson: Attended School Law Conference in Greenville, SC and Regional Advocacy Meeting in Florence, SC.
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Mr. Steve Locklair: Attended School Law Conference in Greenville, SC.
Mr. Jason Kirby: Attended School Law Conference in Greenville, SC.
Request to attend any meetings: Let Ms. Yates know and she will convey to Ms. Acuña.
Superintendent's Report – Dr. Shawn Suber, Superintendent introduced Mr. Nathan Dawsey with Florence County. Mr. Dawsey explained the Olanta Athletic Complex lease agreement that was tabled in the August 20, 2026 board meeting. The county was asking for a 20 year lease. This was an action item. After a thorough explanation of the use of the land the board took a vote. Dr. Julia Mims made the motion to approve the Florence County-Olanta Athletic Complex lease agreement as presented. Ms. Paula Morris provided the second for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion to approve the Florence County-Olanta Athletic Complex lease agreement as presented. The motion to approve the Florence County-Olanta Athletic Complex lease agreement as presented carries 9-0.
Finance Update – Hope Gibson, Finance Director – August 2026 Finance Updates.
Ms. Hope presented the September 2026 PowerPoint of the General Fund reports. She began by reading the mission statement, presented the 2026-2027 District Goals and reviewed the July 2026 General Fund Budget by Object Code. She continued with the August 2026 Financials report. 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 August 31, 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 the updated Certified/Administrative Vacancies for 2026-2027.
Instructional Updates– Mary Howard Ed. S., Chief Academic Officer
Ms. Mary Howard began her report by reviewing board goals, explaining how Federal Funds work, Title I - Student Achievement, Title II – Teachers & Leaders, Title III – Multilingual Learner Program, Title IV - Enhancing Student Support and Academic Enrichment, Title V – Rural Education Program (REAP), and How the Funds Work Together. Ms. Howard shared a spotlight on Scranton STEM Academy and their Three Little Pigs Engineering Challenge. Save the dates for: 45th Day of School – Oct. 1st; Intercession – Oct. 5th -9th; 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 including having to move the football game on Friday to another week when the stadium is ready. He also reviewed the fire alarm upgrades, the water tower renovation by the City of Lake City. Mr. Huckabee answered questions from the board regarding the new email system. *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 H. 3831 – Smart Heart Act; H. 3974 – Private Providers; Policy – BBBD Revision; Policy - -BIA/BDD Revision; Policy – JICI Revision; Policy – JKD Revision; Policy - JKE Revision; Policy - JKE/R Revision; Policy – IKA Revision and finished her report with the Enrollment Update for 2026-2027 school year. Legislative and Policy Updates required action and a vote for approval. Mr. Jac'Kel Brown provided the motion to approve Policy Revisions _BBBD, BIA/BIB, JICI, JKD, JKE, and IKA. Ms. Mattie Thomas provided the second for this motion. All board members present voted in favor of this motion to approve Policy Revisions _BBBD, BIA/BIB, JICI, JKD, JKE, and IKA. The motion carries 9-0. *All of this presentation is also on YouTubefsd3. *

Superintendent's Update– Dr. Shawn Suber, Superintendent- Dr. Suber spoke to the board regarding the future of the five council's he will implement. Superintendent's Student Advisory Council; Superintendent's Teacher Advisory Council; Spring 2027: Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council; Lower Florence Ministerial Alliance; Fall 2027; The Business Advisory Council. *All of this presentation is also on YouTubefsd3.*

Exit into Executive Session – Ms. Rutha Frieson 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. 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 – Ms. Rebecca Yates made the motion to exit executive session and reconvene to open session. Ms. 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; 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**