

LEXINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

November 09, 2023 from 5:00-6:30 PM

The Lexington County School District One Educational Foundation Board of Directors convened Thursday, November 09, 2023 at 5:00 PM at Central Services.

Board members: Vice Chair Chris Goumas, Brandi Keefer, Brandon Mogan, Bryan Jones, Michelle White, Rebecca West, Rosemary Wilson, and Scarlet Taylor.

Absent: Angie Douda, Bridget Winston, David Chao, Harriet Coker, Katy Handell, Katrina Bryant, LaMyron Jenkins, Lisa Phillips, Michael Boone, Randy Cooper, Rod Dooley, Vandan Shah, and LCSD1 Board Liaison Kathryn Henson.

1.0 Call to Order – Chris Goumas, Vice Chair called the meeting to order.

2.0 Minutes – September 14, 2023 Board meeting minutes were presented for approval. A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously by all in attendance. Due to lack of full quorum, it was determined that absent board members will vote via email on the motion. *Board was emailed Nov. 10, 2023 to vote on minutes and via responses received Nov. 10-16, 2023, the minutes were approved.*

Motion	Second	Action
Wilson	Keefer	Approved

3.0 Counting Collections for Mathematics Grant Results – LCSD1 Mathematics Coordinator Hilary Morgan and Lead Elementary Math Coach, Lisa Ross reviewed results from the \$30,000 grant awarded last spring to the Lexington District One Instructional Services. The grant benefitted 315 K-2 teachers and 5,676 K-2 students. A timeline for purchase to implementation was shared, as well as photos of math kits being used during teacher training and by students in their classrooms. Impact is positive in providing meaningful mathematics learning experiences. Leaders will keep foundation board updated as students are assessed throughout the school year.

4.0 Committee Reports

4.1 Executive - Libby Roof, Lex One Liaison & Chief Communications Officer

4.1.1 Ms. Roof presented the draft of a Memorandum of Understanding that clearly defines the relationship between Lexington County School District One and the Educational Foundation, which resulted from a recent evaluation. The draft is simple and based on models researched; it was vetted by the district’s attorneys, district leadership and the foundation’s executive committee. Upon approval from the foundation board and the district’s school board, the MOU agreement would be in place immediately through June 30, 2025.

After discussion and recommended edits, Brandon Mogan made a motion to accept the MOU between the foundation and the district based upon the requested changes that were discussed. Votes were mixed and due to lack of a quorum, and ensuing discussion with the motion still on the floor, Mr. Mogan made a motion to table the motion and discussion until requested edits were made to the MOU.

1 st Motion	Second	Action
Mogan	Jones	No Quorum

2 nd Motion	Second	Action
Mogan	Jones	No Quorum

4.2 Finance – Rosemary Wilson, Finance Committee Member

4.2.1 Financial Report – 1st Quarter Fiscal Year 2023-2024 – In the absence of Finance Committee Chair Randy Cooper, Mrs. Wilson reviewed the Balance Sheet and Revenue and Expenditure Report for the 1st quarter and briefly reviewed classification of funds, grant fund expenses, revenue details, and scholarship accounts.

4.2.2 Investments Report - 1st Quarter Fiscal Year 2023-2024 – The LPL statement of investments shows a decrease in investment and anticipated positive returns for next report, which is reflective of the current market.

4.3 Allocations – Chris Goumas, Allocations Committee Chair

4.3.1 Spring Grant Applications – RFPs are out now for Michelin Golden Apple Teacher Grants and Innovation Grants for K-8 Schools. Applications are available on the foundation’s website.

4.3.1.1 Michelin Golden Apple Teacher Grants – Nov. 15, 2023 deadline

4.3.1.2 Innovation Grants for K-8 Schools – Jan. 25, 2024 deadline

4.3.2 Bucks for Books Grants - Mr. Goumas shared that the recent \$25,000 Bucks for Books Grant was celebrated at the Oct. 24, 2023, School Board meeting that Chair Lisa Phillips and ED Julie Washburn attended. Also, Mrs. Washburn recently analyzed finance reports from previous year’s awards; the schools with outstanding grant balances totaled more than \$10,000, so these grant accounts were cleared by district staff and a check was then written to the foundation for the LEAP Education Fund. Mrs. Washburn added that foundation staff typically request year-end finance reports on all foundation grant awards and then a decision is made regarding extension or clearing of the account.

4.3.3 Higher Education Support Grants – High School Administrators and Counseling teams have been surveyed to gain feedback of any changes with upcoming event.

4.3.4 International Teacher Grant - Mr. Goumas shared these 17 need-based grants awarded to the district’s new international teachers are close to completion. Six are complete; one teacher left the district soon after starting to work; while nine teachers are close to completion, as staff need final receipts for spending. Staff will review this year’s grants in the spring with the HR team in hopes of identifying better ways to determine need of the international teachers. Foundation need to shift to formal application prior to recipients being approved for a grant award. Mrs. Washburn noted that retention of these international teachers is most impressive, as since 2018, 47 ITG grant recipients of 59 awarded still work for Lexington District One. Accordingly, these grants have a very positive impact on increasing diversity, cultural awareness and opportunities for these international teachers.

4.4 Philanthropic Partnerships – Dr. Scarlett Taylor, Committee Member

4.4.1 In the absence of Committee Chair Angie Douda, Dr. Taylor presented the committee report. LEAP (Lexington Emergency/Education Assistance Plan) – This year’s campaign had close to 2,200 employees donate. Donations totaled \$126,090 and 97% gave \$5 or more. There was an anticipated decrease over last year’s campaign (22%) due to the district no longer allowing employee to convert earned Annual Leave to cash for donations. Mrs. Washburn noted an increase in gifts to the Educational Fund, in comparison to previous years when most donations went to the Emergency Fund. Questions and some discussion about allowing the public to donate to LEAP. Mrs. Washburn shared possible ideas of targeted mailing in future.

4.4.2 Cats Kick Cancer Fund PR – Foundation staff sent a PeachJar flyer with information about the Cats Kick Cancer Fund to all Lexington One employees and families to raise awareness and potential support of employees or students in need.

4.4.3 Michelin VEX Robotics Grants – 2023 Awards – Nine schools were awarded Michelin VEX Robotics Grant teams. One school did not use their grant from the previous school year, that school did not receive new funds and will use the grant award from the previous year. Mr. Goumas highlighted a success story of a Lex One senior who is highly sought-after student due to coding skills learned in high school robotics participation. Michelin’s continued generosity makes these grants possible.

- 4.4.4** Giving Tuesday / Giving Schools Day is Tues., Nov. 28, 2023 – This day gives individuals a chance to donate online and information will be pushed out on social media. Dr. Taylor encouraged all to consider donating to the foundation.
- 4.4.5** Joseph M. Bedenbaugh Administrator of the Year Award – The call for nominations will go out in January and the award will be presented in May 21, 2024.
- 4.4.6** Celebration of Excellence in Education 2023 – The 2023 Celebration will be held Tuesday, March 5th at White Knoll High School. Sponsors are needed, so please contact Julie Washburn if you can assist in soliciting individuals or businesses for donations. We will also need volunteers to assist with the event. The format will be an awards night program with a dessert reception to follow. Each student will receive a foundation gift, certificate and recognition for their achievement.
- 4.4.7** Scholarships – The website will feature this year’s updated scholarships with all applications due February 12, 2024. The only scholarship that is not finalized thus far is the Millman Scholarship. Please encourage any graduating seniors who are pursuing a college education next year to review our scholarships. A chart is provided online identifying qualification information for each scholarship.
- 4.4.8** Golf Tournament 2023 results- This year’s tournament was huge success with 43 sponsorships, great show of teams playing, and many volunteers for the event. Thanks were extended to all of our donors, volunteers and friends who helped with the tournament’s success! Gross revenue totaled \$55,000, while the event net was of more than \$48,000.

5.0 Executive Director Report – Julie Anderson Washburn

- 5.1** Insurance Policy – The insurance policy that covers the board and foundation staff was recently renewed. It is necessary due to the foundation holding events and also covers liability coverage for the board and staff.
- 5.2** Annual Registration with SC Secretary of State – We are in the midst of the annual registration, which is annually due on November 15th.
- 5.3** Annual Audit – Burkett Burkett & Burkett is close to completion of the foundation’s yearly audit process and 990. Due to timing, this report will be presented by CPA and Executive Vice President Matthew Hodges at our March board meeting.

6.0 Adjourn – Mrs. Wilson made a motion with Mrs. Keefer providing a second to adjourned the meeting at 6:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Prepared By:

Mr. Randy Cooper
Board Secretary/ Treasurer

Mrs. Heather Johnson
Executive Secretary

December 13, 2023

1.0 Executive Committee Report

1.1 In following up on discussion from the November 9, 2023, Board of Directors meeting, board member/attorney Rebecca West reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding from a legal/contractual perspective. The revised MOU was presented to the Executive Committee via email and the approved with edited changes on December 13, 2023.

Julie Washburn immediately followed up and sent an email to the full board regarding the edited MOU and Randy Cooper’s motion on behalf of the executive committee to approved the revised Memorandum of Understanding between the Lexington One Educational Foundation and Lexington District One that is dated December 13, 2023. Board members responded via email December 13 & 14, 2023, and unanimously approved the motion.

Motion	Second	Action
Cooper	n/a	Approved

Respectfully Submitted:

Prepared By:

Mr. Randy Cooper
Board Secretary/ Treasurer

Mrs. Julie Anderson Washburn
Executive Director