LEXINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

June 12, 2025: 5:00 – 6:30 PM
Lexington District One Operations Center

The Lexington County School District One Educational Foundation Board of Directors convened Thursday, June 12, 2025 at 5:00 PM at the Lexington District One Operations Center.

Board Members: Chair Bridget Winston, Vice Chair Katrina Bryant, Secretary/ Treasurer Randy Cooper, *Julie Bartels, Cheryl Bartolotti, *Michael Boone, Harriet Coker, Rod Dooley, Angela Douda, Jackie Kaminer, *Brandi Keefer, Will Salley, Dr. Scarlet Taylor, Jennifer White, *Michelle White, LCSDO Board Liaison Nicholas Pizzuti, LCSDO District Liaison & CCO Libby Roof, and Executive Director, Julie Washburn. Guest Speakers: Mauldin & Jenkins Director, Brian Nicholson and Senior Associate, Adrienne Berg.
*Virtual attendees
Absent: Immediate Past Chair Lisa Phillips, David Chao, LaMyron Jenkins, Missy Moore, and Rebecca West

1.0 Call to Order & Welcome – Secretary/Treasurer Randy Cooper welcomed newly appointed School Board Liaison Nicholas Pizzuti, representatives from Mauldin & Jenkins firm, and all attendees to the 4th Quarter board meeting. Chair Bridget Winston subsequently presided over the meeting.

2.0 Minutes – March 20, 2025 Board meeting minutes were presented for approval. A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously by all in attendance.

Motion	Second	Action
Cooper	Bryant	Approved Unanimously

3.0 Committee Reports

3.1 Finance Committee – Randy Cooper, Committee Chair

3.1.1 Audit & 990 – Representatives from Mauldin & Jenkins firm presented the audit report. Adrienne Berg headed the audit, while other staff lead the 990, all the while working closely with foundation and district staff. The foundation has changed the way it handles scholarship investments and it is now better aligned with national nonprofit foundation methods. Accordingly, staff and the board have made changes in the foundation's procedures as a result of the audit report and recommendations.

3.1.2 Endowment Spending & Assessment Fee Percentages - On behalf of the Finance Committee, Mr. Cooper move to allocate 5% of the investment earnings to the endowed scholarship funds and allocate 1% as an administrative fee that is to go back to the general fund.

Motion	Second	Action
Cooper / Finance Committee	N/A	Approved Unanimously

3.1.3 Financial Report - Mr. Cooper reviewed Financial Report for the 3rd Quarter Balance Sheet and Revenue vs. Expenses Statement for the 3rd Quarter. Revenue highlights reflects $1.7 million assets with $1.4 invested and the remaining $605,429 in more flexible funds.

3.1.4 Investments Update – The report presented negative returns for the 3rd Quarter, amounting to $ 1,405,445.

3.2 Governance – David Chao, Committee Chair

In the absence of Committee Chair David Chao, Mr. Michael Boone presented the committee report.

3.2.1 Board Member Ending Terms & 2025-2026 Slate of Nominees - Board members David Chao, Rod Dooley, and Cheryl Bartolotti had to rotate off the board after the June meeting in accordance with foundation bylaws. As a result, a number of board vacancies opened. Five of the nominees were vetted and nominated by the Governance Committee. On behalf of the Governance Committee, Mr. Boone presented a motion to approve the following slate of board nominees:

- Laura Amick
- Beth Ancone, Lexington One Teacher of the Year
- Brent Clark
- Lindsey Miles
- Chris Shealy

A motion was made for approval, seconded, and approved unanimously for the nominees.

Motion	Second	Action
Boone/ Governance Committee	N/A	Approved Unanimously

Educational Foundation leaders gave a celebratory recognition to Rod Dooley, David Chao, and Cheryl Bartolotti in honor of their many gracious contributions and hours given to advancing the mission of the Educational Foundation.

3.2.2 Foundation MOU - On Tuesday, June 10, 2025 the school board reviewed and approved the MOU between the foundation and the district. Our board chair will sign it tonight, which will signify activation of this agreement.

3.2.3 Conflict or Duality of Interest Policy

On behalf of the Governance Committee, Mr. Boone made a motion to approve the Conflict of Duality of Interest Policy effective immediately. It is something that is noted in the 990 and recommended by the auditor. All board members will review it and sign it on an annual basis.

Motion	Second	Action
Boone / Governance Committee	N/A	Approved Unanimously

The motion was unanimously approved.

3.2.4 2025-2026 Slate of Officers

On behalf of the Governance Committee, Mr. Boone moved to accept the following slate of Foundation officers for the 2025-2026 school year.

- Bridget Winston – Chair
- Katrina Bryant – Vice Chair
- Randy Cooper – Secretary/ Treasurer
- Lisa Phillips – Immediate Past Chair

Motion	Second	Action
Boone	Coker	Approved Unanimously

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

3.2.5 Foundation Meetings Schedule 2025-2026 – The 2025-2026 draft of the Educational Foundation Meeting Schedule was included in the meeting packet. No conflicts were noted in the schedule.

3.2.6 Bylaw Suspension

On behalf of the Governance Committee, Mr. Boone moved to temporarily suspend the portion of the Bylaw Article 4.1.3 a, which specifies term limits and how a board member must rotate off the board for one year, in order to allow Lisa Phillips to remain on the board and fill the executive committee position of Immediate Past Chair.

Motion	Second	Action
Boone	Cooper	Approved Unanimously

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

3.3 Allocations- Katrina Bryant, Committee Chair

3.3.1 Innovation Grants for K-8 Schools 2024-2025 Report – Mrs. Bryant noted the foundation successfully funded six grants, positively impacting 1,261 students across five schools. She also noted that one school did not implement its funded project because the lead project teacher relocated and the new STEM teacher was not informed about the project. Mrs. Washburn discussed this with the principal and the project will be implemented during the 2025-2026 school year. In addition, the 2025-26 Innovation Grant winners were showcased on social media and will implement projects in the fall.

3.3.2 Bucks for Books FY2024-2025 Report – This year, grants were awarded to all 18 elementary schools in the district, specifically benefiting every 3rd through 5th grade students. The funds purchased 2,200 books for 310 classes, ultimately impacting 6,668 students. The report concluded that the investment's impact was very positive.

3.3.3 Michelin Golden Apple Teacher Grants Report 2024-2025 – This year funded a total of 20 projects, consisting of 16 fall grants and four spring grants. These initiatives positively impacted 4,247 students across 12 schools. While one project encountered implementation issues, an extension was granted, and it is now scheduled for implementation this coming fall.

3.3.4 Michelin VEX Robotics Teams Grants Report 2024-2025 – These grants had a tremendous impact in three high school teams and seven middle school teams in teaching STEM and soft skills to our students. Notably, three teams from two schools earned invitations to compete in the VEX Robotics World Championship this past May**.** While some schools faced implementation challenges due to leadership changes at two schools, these grants are undeniably having a positive impact on students, equipping them with many skills directly applicable to future careers.

3.3.5 Higher Education Support Grants Report 2024-2025 – There were 45 submissions from Lexington One Seniors for these college grants. Of these, 16 students were approved as of last week, all of whom have significant, documented financial need. One additional applicant is still pending due to a delay in the financial aid package. These grants are designed to assist Lexington One seniors who are pursuing a college education by providing support for laptops, basic needs of residential housing, books, and/or tuition payments. Again this year, the need-based grant support will benefit both residential and non-residential college students (e.g., students staying local to pursue a tech or four-year degree).

3.3.6 International Teacher Grants Report – For the 2024-2025 year, the Foundation supported 17 teachers at 11 different schools. While most teachers received the full benefits of the grant, a few were unable to provide the formal paperwork required for rent or utility assistance, a recurring challenge each year.

HR is continuing to effectively utilize its established rubric to assess the financial need of new international teachers for this program. They anticipate awarding 20 International Teacher Grants for the upcoming academic year.

As Allocations Committee Chair, Mrs. Bryant moved to approve $ 20,000 for International Teacher Grants for the 2025-2026 school year to fund grants for brand new International Teachers to get settled in the Lexington community and LCSDO.

Motion	Second	Action
Bryant	Kaminer	Approved Unanimously

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

3.4 Philanthropic Partnerships- Angela Douda, Committee Chair

3.4.1 Celebration of Excellence in Education Financial Report 2025 – The 2025 Celebration event was a highly successful. Expenses for the event increased by $1,200, reaching a total of $10,505. The primary increase was the cost of redesigned celebration pins that reflect a more modern design including the foundation's logo. In terms of revenue, cash sponsorships totaled $30,200, with an additional $2,014 in-kind support, resulting in a cash net gain of $20,544.

3.4.2 Scholarship Awards Report 2024-2025 – This year the Foundation staff received 128 applications from Lexington District One seniors, with 90 of those advancing to the review committees. Ultimately, the Foundation awarded 16 scholarships totaling $16,500 to 13 students (with a few students receiving two Foundation scholarships). The Tommy Long Scholarship proved to be the most popular, receiving 30 applications.

Scholarship Committee members were newly selected for this year. They all noted that making final decisions was challenging due to the impressive and accomplished nature of the Lexington One seniors who applied. Ms. Washburn reminded that our committee members see redacted versions of the applications, as they have for 8 years, to insure fairness and no personal bias. The Foundation will celebrate the winners on social media in the coming weeks.

3.4.3 Special Events

3.4.3.1 "Back to School" Administrators' Breakfast – This event will be on Monday, July 14, 2025 at White Knoll High School. Our Foundation Chair will present an overview of Foundation efforts to Lexington One administrators and event sponsors, which will be prepared by staff.

3.4.3.2 Fore the Foundation Grand Golf Tournament – Staff are already promoting our upcoming October 23, 2025 event in efforts to raise funds via sponsorships and golf team registrations. Contact Julie Washburn with suggestions or to sponsor the tournament.

3.4.4 Teacher Appreciation Report – The annual appeal campaign, themed around student growth featured illustrated floral imagery to specifically honored teachers. This initiative provided parents with a unique opportunity to recognize their child's teacher while simultaneously raising awareness of the Foundation's mission. Donors contributing $15 had a personal note sent to the honored teacher. For contributions of $25, teachers received both a personal note and a shout out on social media.

3.4.5 2025 Joseph M. Bedenbaugh Administrator of the Year Award Winner – Albert Robertson, Assistant Principal at LES, was named the 2025 Award Winner. It was truly a special evening, marked by surprise announcement where his family and school leadership were present to celebrate this honor.

3.4.6 Cats Kick Cancer Fund Report 2024-2025 – This year CKC fund has provided support to a number of families facing difficult battles with cancer. This CKC fund was established and is sustained by the LHS Men's Soccer team. Recipients are either Lexington One students, parents, or employees who are struggling financially while battling cancer. Please refer potential recipients to foundation Staff.

3.4.7 LEAP Annual Campaign Plans 2025-2026 – Foundation staff are preparing for the fall campaign. The theme for promotional materials, including video, poster, flyer, social media posts, will be determined soon to reflect the focus. A key priority is finalizing the LEAP Representative volunteer list, as attendance is crucial for the Campaign Kick Off / Training scheduled for Tuesday, July 22nd.

This campaign serves to raise money for both the LEAP Emergency Fund and Educational Fund. Additionally, it will contribute to supporting the foundation's operational costs. Again, this year, 20% of the total funds raised as of June 30th (end of fiscal year) will be allocated back into the foundation's general fund. The Executive Secretary and the Executive Director are jointly responsible for administering LEAP emergency assistance.

As Philanthropic Partnership Committee Chair, Mrs. Douda moved to allocate 20% of the LEAP Emergency and Education Funds raised to be applied to the foundation's general fund in order to support a portion of the administrative costs to administer the grant awards.

Motion	Second	Action
Douda /	Coker	Approved Unanimously

The motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

3.4.8 Michelin Golden Apple Teacher Grants – Fall 2025 – Foundation has adjusted its grant program, a change approved by Michelin leadership. We will now fund 10 grants of $500 each annually. So far, we have received 20 applications. Staff will organize these grant requests and present them to the Allocations Committee for review. The primary focus for funding is STEM projects, but if remaining funds are available, other areas will be considered. Qualified grants will be funded on a first-come, first-served basis. Many thanks to Michelin for their generous support of this initiative.

4.0 Executive Director Report – Ms. Washburn expressed her sincere gratitude to the Educational Foundation's board of directors, especially acknowledging those board members David Chao, Rod Dooley and Cheryl Bartolotti, whose terms conclude this June. She thanked all for a terrific year noting that a great deal was accomplished and that everyone should be proud of their achievements.

5.0 Adjourn – For the closure of the meeting, the motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:36 pm.

Motion	Second	Action
Cooper	Bryant	Approved

The motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted:

Randall Cooper

Mr. Randy Cooper
Board Secretary/ Treasurer

Sep 12, 2025

Prepared By:

Julie A. Washburn

Mrs. Julie A. Washburn
Executive Director

Sep 12, 2025