

Anderson County Board of Education
907 North Main Street, Suite 202, Anderson, South Carolina 29621
November 17, 2025

Call to Order: Acting Chairman, Mr. Greg Balog, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Rev. Jason Dorriety gave the invocation, after which, everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Board Members Present: The following board members were present at the meeting: Mr. David Blanding, Dr. Doug Atkins, Rev. Jason Dorriety, Dr. Vaughn Parfitt, Mr. C. Nakia Davis Mr. Greg Balog, and Mrs. Susan Binninger ex officio. Mr. Mike Upton and Mr. Mark Williamson attended via Zoom.

Board Members Absent: The following board members were absent from the meeting: Dr. Gary Burgess.

Approval of Agenda: Mr. C. Nakia Davis made a motion to approve the agenda. Rev. Jason Dorriety seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Rev. Jason Dorriety stated that the last sentence under the assessment report was not correct in the minutes mailed out but was corrected in the minutes presented at the meeting this evening. Dr. Vaughn Parfitt made a motion to approve the October 20, 2025, meeting minutes and Mr. C. Nakia Davis seconded the motion. They were approved unanimously.

Recognition of Media and Patrons / Public Comment Period: None

Reports

A. Renaissance Academy Report: Mrs. Binninger provided the board members with the monthly report on enrollment information for the academy. Mrs. Binninger stated that there are 75 students currently enrolled as of November 17, 2025. This time last year, there were 82 students enrolled. This is a decrease of 7 students from last year. There are seven in the process of enrolling, for a total of 82 students. On the back side of the report, reasons for students leaving the academy are identified.

B. Administrator's Report: Mrs. Binninger announced that the Legislative Advocacy Conference will be held on December 6 and 7, 2025 in Charleston SC. The following board members will be attending the conference: Dr. Atkins, Mr. Balog, Mr. Blanding, Dr. Burgess, Mr. Davis, and Dr. Parfitt. Board members interested in attending are requested to notify Mrs. Binninger.

Mrs. Binninger provided information about the upcoming South Carolina School Board Association Annual Conference in Myrtle Beach, SC. The conference will be held on February 19, 20, 21, and 22, 2026. Board members wishing to attend please notify Mrs. Binninger.

Mrs. Binninger stated that the annual Christmas dinner will be on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, at The Gray House in Starr, SC.

Mrs. Binninger shared information with the board about the 2026 Legislative Preview. One of the talking points was K12 state funding revisions. Lawmakers are reviewing ways to improve the alignment of State Aid to Classrooms funding with student enrollment, while ensuring consistent distributions to districts and charter schools in 2026.

South Carolina School Board Association believes the General Assembly should enact legislation to allow local school districts to opt into the state health plan, ensuring equal benefits across the board for all local government leaders in South Carolina. School board members are the only elected officials who do not have the option of participating in the state health and dental insurance program. If passed, this may result in additional cost for the districts.

Paid parental leave expansion was another item discussed. A bill increasing paid leave from six weeks to twelve weeks for the birth, fostering, or adoption of a child for the birthing or primary parent passed the House in 2025 and was sent to the Senate, where it remains in play for the 2026 legislative session.

C. Financial

1. Tax Collection YTD vs. Budget: Mrs. Binninger reported that all 5 Districts, Renaissance Academy and County Board are between 10% to 17% in collections of their local revenue as of October 31, 2025. Mrs. Binninger stated that the amount has increased due to the delinquent tax sale held in late October. There will be a significant increase in these funds due to current tax collections till the end of January.

2. Assessment Totals: Mrs. Binninger reviewed the county-wide assessment totals through October 2025, noting a per mill value of \$1,189,557,907—an increase of \$71,666 from September 2025. Mrs. Binninger presented a three-year comparison of the value of one mill for the month of October, reporting figures of \$1,000,059 in 2023, \$1,000,047 in 2024, and \$1,000,189 in 2025. Mrs. Binninger presented the value of a mill for each school district comparing May 31, 2025, to October 31, 2025. The value will fluctuate and then decrease as appeals are submitted.

3. Education Sales & Use Tax: Mrs. Binninger reported that \$3,532,309.03 in Education Sales & Use Tax was collected in October. Mrs. Binninger stated that this is an increase of over \$266,000.00 from this time last year. Mrs. Binninger reminded everyone that 20% of these funds are posted to the sinking fund accounts of the districts to roll back debt service millage. The remaining 80% goes to capital projects.

4. Accounts Payable: Lastly, Mrs. Binninger presented the accounts payable showing the bills that have been paid from October 1, 2025, to October 31, 2025. Dr. Doug Atkins made a motion to approve. Mr. C. Nakia Davis seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Unfinished Business

A Consideration of Rescheduling or Cancellation of the December Board Meeting: Mrs. Binninger suggested having the board meeting on Monday, December 16, 2025, instead of Tuesday, December 17th before the board Christmas dinner. Mr. Greg Balog made a motion to cancel the December meeting unless a matter requiring immediate attention arises. Dr. Vaughn Parfitt seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

New Business

A. Consideration of Rescheduling the January and February 2026 Board Meetings: Mr. Greg Balog made a motion to accept the board meeting dates of Tuesday, January 20, 2026, and Tuesday, February 17, 2026, due to the third Monday of both months being federal holidays. Mr. David Blanding seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Executive Session

A Personnel Matter – Recommendation for New Hire

B Renaissance Academy Update-Mr. David Blanding

C Personnel Matter-Committee and Contract Considerations

A motion was made at 6:23 pm to move to Executive Session by Mr. C. Nakia Davis, seconded by Dr. Vaughn Parfitt, and approved by all board members. Dr. Vaughn Parfitt made a motion to exit Executive Session at 6:44 pm and seconded by Rev. Jason Dorriety. All board members approved. No actions were taken during the Executive Session.

Action as Necessary from Executive Session: Rev. Jason Dorriety suggested bringing forth the personnel contract at the next full board meeting. Dr. Vaughn Parfitt made a motion to present the personnel contract at the next full board meeting. Dr. Doug Atkins seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Announcements: None

Meeting Date: The next Board meeting will be on Tuesday, January 20, 2025.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m. by Mr. Greg Balog

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. C. Nakia Davis, Secretary of the Anderson County Board of Education.

This is a true and correct copy of notes taken at the meeting.