SOUTHWESTERN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
August 12, 2026

Members Present: John Blue, Jonathan Deater, Blake Newkirk, Dustin Simpson, Brad Stamper, Derrek Tennell, and Daryl Thomas
Member Not Present:

I. Call to Order

A. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

Mr. Deater called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Southwestern Consolidated Administration building. He led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag.

B. Welcome, introductions and recognitions

Dr. Wilkins welcomed everyone in attendance.

II. Agenda Modifications

New business, item J should be dated for September 9th, not the 19th. Techton and QPH will be added under reports and presentations to give updates on the HVAC project.

III. Public Comments

None

IV. Consent Items and Claims

A. Approval of minutes of the previous meeting

Mrs. Newkirk moved and Mr. Simpson seconded. Carried 7-0.

B. Approval of accounts payable vouchers

Mr. Stamper moved and Mr. Tennell seconded. Carried 7-0.

V. Business and Financial Reports

A. Financial and Cafeteria Reports

B. Extracurricular Account Report

Dr. Wilkins informed the board that the financial reports were in their packets. No questions were asked regarding the report.

VI. New Business

A. Recommend the acceptance of donations and grants.

a. Donation from Mt. Auburn Church in the amount of $100 for the Spartan Food Pantry.
b. Donation from Mt Gilead Church in the amount of $300 for the Spartan Food Pantry.
c. Donation from Mt. Pisgah Church in the amount of $1,800 for FCA.
d. Donation from Shelby County Farm Bureau in the amount of $250 for the FFA.

e. Donation held at Rural King and customers donated to them in the amount of $334.18.
f. Donation from Applebees to the High School Teacher activity fund in the amount of $500.
g. Donation from MHP to the High School Teacher activity fund in the amount of $500.
h. Donation from Moore Law to the High School Teacher activity fund in the amount of $500.
i. Donation from McDonald Family in the amount of $100 for the Angel Fund.

Mr. Tennell moved and Mrs. Newkirk seconded. Carried 7-0.

B. **Recommend the approval of policies. (First Reading)**
Policy numbers:.
- H250-E
- H250

C. **Recommend to approve payment to Tecton Construction Management (Brand Electric) in the amount of $29,100.00 for Southwestern Consolidated GO Bond Project.**
Mr. Tennell moved and Mr. Simpson seconded. Carried 7-0.

D. **Recommend to approve payment to Tecton Construction Management (Quality Plumbing & Heating) in the amount of $1,307,328.65 for Southwestern Consolidated GO Bond Project.**
Mr. Stamper moved and Mr. Tennell seconded. Carried 7-0.

E. **Recommend to approve payment to Tecton Construction Management (SCS Construction Services) in the amount of $113,975.00 for Southwestern Consolidated GO Bond Project.**
Mr. Simpson moved and Mr. Stamper seconded. Carried 7-0.

F. **Recommend to approve payment to Tecton Construction Management in the amount of $35,637.00 for Southwestern Consolidated GO Bond Project.**
Mr. Thomas moved and Mrs. Newkirk seconded. Carried 7-0.

G. **Recommend to pay Edmentum $12,500.00 for EdOptions Academy for virtual students.**
Mr. Tennell moved and Mr. Blue seconded. Carried 7-0.

H. **Recommend to approve the 27/28 school calendar.**
Mrs. Newkirk moved and Mr. Stamper seconded. Carried 7-0.

I. **Recommend to pay Taylor Meredith an extra $2000 stipend as district test coordinator. (currently gets $2000 for split with elementary assistant principal)**
Mr. Tennell moved and Mr. Simpson seconded. Carried 7-0.

J. **Request permission to post on the DLGF Gateway the Notice of Budget Hearing on September 9, 2026.**
Mr. Thomas moved and Mrs. Newkirk seconded. Carried 7-0.

K. **Request permission to post Capital Projects Plan and Bus Replacement Plan on the district website.**
Mr. Stamper moved and Mrs. Newkirk seconded. Carried 7-0.

L. **Recommend approval of Southwestern CSD of Shelby County Professional Growth and Teacher Evaluation Plan 2026.**
Mr. Tennell moved and Mr. Stamper seconded. Carried 7-0.

M. **Receive approval of Conflict of Interest forms for Kevin Blackwell and Jennifer Simpson.**
Mr. Stamper moved and Mrs. Newkirk seconded. Carried 6-0-1. Mr. Simpson abstained.

N. **Permission to post an additional life skills instructional assistant position working 29 hours per week at SWES.**
Mr. Blue moved and Mrs. Newkirk seconded. Carried 7-0.

O. **Recommend to approve tech recycling/e-waste pickup.**
Mr. Simpson moved and Mr. Stamper seconded. Carried 7-0.

P. **Recommend to approve payment to Lucidia IT in the amount of $92,832.30 for 5-year camera, SV and workplace license renewal.**
Mrs. Newkirk moved and Mr. Thomas seconded. Carried 7-0.

Q. **Other**
Board members received a copy of the overtime report.

VII. Reports and Presentations

- Dustin Oliver from Tecton gave an update on the HVAC project.
- Athletic director, Mr. Tyler Phillips updated the board on highlights from the previous season in athletics. This included MHC conference championship for the soccer team. Southwestern had five all conference athletes last fall including Josh Carr who was voted MHC player of the year for the entire conference. He informed board members that Southwestern also had five all conference athletes from spring sports as well. Mr. Phillips also let the board know that Southwestern had received the Sportsmanship Banner from ISHA, this will be presented and displayed during community night. He also commented on facilities improvements that had been made.
- Mr. John Tindall gave a presentation explaining Project Lead the Way Biomedical Sciences program. He pointed out that this program is in addition to the typical biology and chemistry classes offered, that this presented a more real life experience. This program introduces students to different career options.

VIII. Personnel

A. **Leaves/Resignations/Terminations**
a. Resignation from Patrick Moran as High School Head Baseball Coach effective 8/3/2026..
Mrs. Newkirk moved and Mr. Blue seconded. Carried 7-0.

B. **Recommendations to Hire**
a. Recommend to hire Julie Ward as long term sub for Caitlin Rider Kuhn for maternity leave.

b. Recommend to hire Grace Hoeing as Special Education Assistant not to exceed 29 hours per week at $13.75 per hour.
c. Recommend to hire Tristan Pappano for Varsity Boy's Tennis Head Coach for the 26/27 school year.
d. Recommend to hire Rena Bulmer for 2nd Grade Assistant (long term sub) not to exceed 29 hours per week at $13.75 per hour.
e. Recommend to hire Mattie Foster as 8th grade girls volleyball coach.
f. Recommend to hire Jaden Freese as 7th grade girls volleyball coach.
g. Recommend to hire Caitlin Moenich as IT Help Desk technician at $18 not to exceed 29 hours per week.
h. Recommend to hire Daniel Allen as JV girls basketball coach.
i. Recommend to hire Charles Smith as a bus driver.
j. Recommend to hire Scott Phenis as a bus driver.

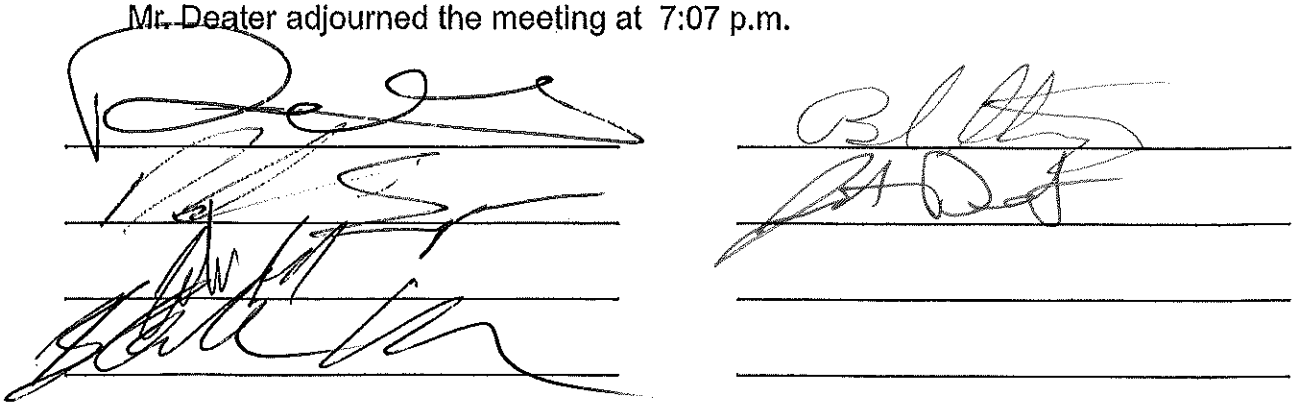
Mr. Tennnell moved and Mr. Simpson seconded. Carried 7-0.

IX. Superintendent Comments

Dr. Wilkins shared the progress made over the last year to the strategic plan. This included the implementation of ParentSquare as a way to communicate with staff and the public, and a district newsletter.
Dr. Wilkins provided several examples of how the strategic plan was being implemented across the district.

X. Board Member Comments

Mr. Blue commented on all of the progress that had been made and he hoped the momentum would continue.
Mrs. Newkirk thanked everyone for attending the meeting.
Mr. Stamper thanked all of the presenters for the information they had shared. He also commented that the change in the district over the last couple of years was positive and moving the district in the right direction.
Mr. Tennell echoed what other board members had commented on and also mentioned that the out of district transfers were a positive look for the future.

XI. Adjournment

Mr. Deater adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.