

The Dale County Board of Education met in Annual Session Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at 5:30 p.m., in the Board Room of the Dale County Government Building. Shannon Deloney, Board President, presided over the meeting with members Jerald Cook, Dale Sutton, Priscilla McKnight, Phillip Parker, and Superintendent Ben Baker present.

1 Invocation

Superintendent Baker opened the meeting with prayer.

2 Pledge of Allegiance

Superintendent Baker led the pledge of allegiance.

3 Dale County Schools Mission Statement

DESTINATION: EXCELLENCE

The mission of Dale County Schools is to develop life-long learners who have personal, economic, technological and social skills needed to be member of a global society.

4 The meeting was called to order by President Shannon Deloney.

5 Approval of Agenda

Motion – Priscilla McKnight, Second – Jerald Cook, carried.

6 Approval of Minutes

a. October Board Meeting – October 16, 2025

Motion – Dale Sutton, Second – Jerald Cook, carried.

7 American FFA Degree Recipients

Superintendent Baker recognized the following American FFA Degree Recipients:

Elizabeth MacAloney – DCHS

Preston Stevens – DCHS

Emma Claire Olson - LHS

8 Visitors – Public comment time for Annual Board Meeting as required

No visitors were present.

9 Approval of Bills and Accounts

Superintendent Baker recommended that all bills and accounts be paid.

Motion – Jerald Cook, Second – Phillip Parker, carried.

10 Financial Statement/Bank Reconciliations

The Superintendent presented the most recent financial statement to the Board with all bank accounts reconciled through September 2025.

No action required.

11 Financial

a. Accountability Notifications

Ariton FFA Donation of \$3,000.00 from Dale County Soil & Water Conservation

No action required.

b. School Bus Purchase

The Superintendent recommended the Board approve the purchase of four regular school buses with air conditioning in the total amount of \$626,803.52 from SouthLand International Group.

Motion – Phillip Parker, Second – Dale Sutton, carried.

12 Employee Supplemental Pay

The Superintendent recommended the Board approve an employee supplement of \$595 net pay for each full-time employee (as of November 30, 2025) for supplementary and auxiliary tasks during the 2025-2026 school year that fall outside the normal scope of regular supplementary and auxiliary duties they typically perform.

Motion – Priscilla McKnight, Second – Jerald Cook, carried.

13 Personnel 2025-2026

Non-Certified

Resign

1 – Ricky Tyler, Bus Driver

Employ

2 – Luke Westbrook, Utility Bus Driver

Subs

3 – Robert Simon Bell, Substitute Teacher

4 – Jessica Hughes Golden, Substitute Teacher

5 – Blaire McCormick, Substitute Teacher

6 – Jordan Scott Miller, Substitute Teacher

7 – Anna Day Powell, Substitute Teacher

8 – Marquita Rhodehouse, Substitute Teacher

Annual Board Meeting (cont.)

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Personnel 2025-2026 (cont.)

Certified

Extended Medical Leave

9 – Mary Gaines, Teacher, (SDMS)

expected dates for leave December 8, 2025 – December 19, 2025

10 – Lily Jacobs, Teacher, (DCHS)

expected dates for leave November 18 – December 19, 2025

Certified

Maternity Leave

11 – Lily Jacobs, Teacher, (DCHS)

expected dates for leave January 5, 2026 – March 2, 2026

12 – Teretha James, replacement for Lily Jacobs

expected dates for leave January 5, 2026 – March 2, 2026

13 – Paige Richburg, Teacher, (MCES)

expected dates for leave March 30, 2026 – May 22, 2026

14 – Phyllis Ledbetter, replacement for Paige Richburg

expected dates for leave March 30, 2026 – May 22, 2026

Resign

15 – Tracey Payne, Teacher (LES)

Motion – Phillip Parker, Second – Dale Sutton, carried.

14 Election of Board Officers

a. Board President

President Shannon Deloney opened the floor for nominations for Board President.

Phillip Parker was nominated by Jerald Cook.

Second – Priscilla McKnight

For Phillip Parker – Jerald Cook, Shannon Deloney, Phillip Parker, Priscilla McKnight, and Dale Sutton.

Annual Board Meeting (cont.)

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14 Election of Board Officers (cont.)

b. Vice President

President Shannon Deloney opened the floor for nominations for Board Vice President.

Priscilla McKnight was nominated by Phillip Parker.
Second – Dale Sutton

For Priscilla McKnight – Jerald Cook, Shannon Deloney, Phillip Parker, Priscilla McKnight, and Dale Sutton.

15 Other

With no other business, President Deloney adjourned the meeting.



Secretary



President