

The Dale County Board of Education met in Regular Session on Tuesday, May 15, 2026, at 5:30 p.m., in the Board Room of the Dale County Government Building. Phillip Parker, Board President, presided over the meeting with members Jerald Cook, Dale Sutton, Priscilla McKnight, Shannon Deloney, Attorney William Nichols, 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 Phillip Parker.

5 Approval of Agenda

Motion – Priscilla McKnight, Second – Shannon Deloney, carried.

6 Approval of Minutes

a. April Board Meeting – April 14, 2026

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

7 Visitors – Ariton, LHS, & DCHS Valedictorians, Salutatorians, and Principals  
ACT Honor Students

Superintendent Baker presented Certificates to Ariton, LHS, & DCHS Valedictorians and Salutatorians. Superintendent Baker also presented Certificates to all ACT Honor Students.

No action required.

8 Field Trip Requests

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve the following requests:

- a. AHS FBLA – Future Business Leaders of America National Leadership Conference, San Antonio, Texas, June 28 – July 3, 2026

Motion – Jerald Cook, Second – Shannon Deloney, carried.

9 Approval of Bills and Accounts

The Superintendent recommended that all bills and accounts be paid.

Motion – Shannon Deloney, Second – Priscilla McKnight, carried.

10 Financial Statement/Bank Reconciliations

The Superintendent presented the most recent financial statements to the Board with all bank accounts reconciled through March 2026.

No action required.

11 Financial

- a. Ariton – BSN Sports Reward Program Agreement
- b. DCHS – BSN Sports Reward Program Agreement
- c. LHS – BSN Sports Reward Program Agreement

Superintendent Baker recommended that the Board approve the BSN Sports Reward Program Agreements as presented for Ariton, DCHS, and LHS.

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

- d. Accountability Notifications

SDMS Classroom Grant for Library of \$1,000.00 from Alabama Power

No action required.

Financial (cont.)

e. CNP Combi Oven Bids

The following bids were accepted on or before May 11, 2026:

- Sam Tell & Son – Total for all Schools – \$160,442.87
- Gradys Team – Total for all Schools – \$164,772.43
- Mobile Fixture – Total for all Schools – \$151,865.49
- Douglas Equipment – Total for all Schools – \$155,668.73
- Singer – Total for all Schools – \$150,730.00

Superintendent Baker recommended that the Board approve the Combi Oven Bid be awarded to the lowest bidder, Singer H & R, in the amount of \$150,730.00.

Motion – Dale Sutton, Second – Priscilla McKnight, carried.

f. Pitney Bowes Postal Lease Renewal

Superintendent Baker recommended renewal of the Pitney Bowes Postal Lease as presented.

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

12 Personnel 2025-2026/Personnel 2026-2027

The Superintendent recommended the following personnel pending certification and background requirements by the State Department of Education.

**Personnel 2025-2026**

**Certified**

Extended Leave

1 – April Reynolds, Teacher, (NES) extended leave to begin April 7, 2026

Retire

2 – Kelly Fralish, Teacher, (Ariton)

Non-Renewal

- 3 – Ryan Butterworth, Teacher, (DCHS)
- 4 – April Slaick, Teacher, (DCHS)
- 5 – Mary Claire Willis, Teacher, (LES)
- 6 – Lanie Herring, Teacher, (MCES)
- 7 – Rachel Weatherford, Teacher, (MCES)

**Personnel (cont.)**

**Personnel 2026-2027**

**Non Certified**

Resign

- 8 – Tiffany Dees, Paraprofessional Aide, (LHS)
- 9 – Andrea Fuller, Paraprofessional Aide, (MCES)
- 10 – Alicia Masters, School Nurse, LPN, (MCES)
- 11 – Elizabeth MacAloney, Paraprofessional Aide, (MCES)

Non-Renewal

- 12 – Jonathan Johnson, Bus Driver

**Non Certified**

Transfer

- 13 – Wade Williams, Paraprofessional Aide, (SDMS) to Paraprofessional Aide, (DCHS)

Employ

- 14 – Tim Brookshire, 4 hr. Custodian, (Bridge Academy)
- 15 – Gustava Fiske, Paraprofessional Aide, (LHS)
- 16 – Marquita Duncan, 6 hr. CNP, (MCES)

**Certified**

Employ

- 17 – Rich Bedesem, Teacher, (DCHS)
- 18 – Rosemarie Bedesem, Teacher, (DCHS)
- 19 – Mason Black, Teacher, (DCHS)
- 20 – Michelle Tharpe Baxter, Teacher, (LES)
- 21 – Rachel West, Math Specialist/Coach, (LES)
- 22 – Rebecca Kidd, Teacher, (LHS)
- 23 – Sydney Anderson, Teacher, (MCES)
- 24 – Georgia Dasinger, Teacher, (MCES)
- 25 – Ella Brooke Hayes, Teacher, (MCES)

Transfer

- 26 – Laura Kennington, Teacher, (MCES) to Teacher, (LES)

**Personnel (cont.)**

**Personnel 2026-2027**

**Certified**

Preliminary TEAMS Contract Teachers  
27 – Kelley Thierfelder, Math Teacher, (DCHS)

Motion – Shannon Deloney, Second – Dale Sutton, carried.

13 System-Wide Disciplinary Policy/Code of Conduct

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve System-Wide Disciplinary Policy/Code Of Conduct as presented.

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

14 Electronic Communication Devices Review

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve the Electronic Communication Devices Review as presented.

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

15 Special Recommendation

President Parker opens the floor for discussion to accept the Amended Resolution of the Superintendent Contract as presented.

Motion – Shannon Deloney, Second – Jerald Cook, carried.

16 Adjourn –

With no other business, President Phillip Parker adjourned the meeting.



Secretary

  
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President