

The Dale County Board of Education met in Regular Session on Tuesday, April 14, 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, 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 – Jerald Cook, carried.

6 Approval of Minutes

a. March Board Meeting – March 10, 2026

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

7 Visitors – Representative Steve Clouse

Representative Marcus Paramore

No action required.

8 Transportation Department Presentation – Mr. Bucky Sconyers

Mr. Sconyers updated the Board on Transportation and showcased a new bus to Board Members.

No action required.

9 Field Trip Requests

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve the following field trips:

- a. DCHS Basketball – Tournament, Poplar Springs, FL, June 3,10, & 12, 2026

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

- b. SDMS Beta Club – National Convention, Nashville, TN – June 20-23, 2026

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

10 Approval of Bills and Accounts

The Superintendent recommended that all bills and accounts be paid.

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

11 Financial Statement/Bank Reconciliations

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

No action required.

12 Financial

- a. SDMS Beta Club National Convention Donation

Superintendent Baker recommended that the Board approve a \$1,000.00 donation to the SDMS Beta Club to attend the National Convention.

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

- b. CNP Recommendation – Visitor & Staff Meals

Superintendent Baker recommended that the Board approve an increase to visitors' and staff meal prices to meet USDA CEP requirements. (Breakfast from \$3.25 to \$3.50, and Lunch from \$5.02 to \$5.50).

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

c. CNP Program Renewal Bids/ Preventative Maintenance/Milk & Bread

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve the extension of last year's bid for the following:

Preventative Maintenance Bid – Comfort Systems – \$14,795.00

Milk Bid – Bedsole Milk – \$169,332.50

Bread Bid – Flowers Bakery – \$41,495.00

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

d. Accountability Notifications

General Education Donation/Bridge Academy of \$2,004.00 from
Give Back to Schools/Southeast Gas

General Education Donation/Ariton of \$5,000.00 from Pea River Electric & Co Bank
Match of \$5,000.00

No action required.

13 Social Studies Textbook Adoptions

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve the adoption of Gallopade as the K-6 Social Studies curriculum as selected by the textbook committee.

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve the adoption of Savvaas as the 7-12 Social Studies curriculum as selected by the textbook committee.

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

14 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

Resign

1 – Madison Rippey, Teacher, (DCHS)

2 – Whitney Hines, Teacher, (LES)

3 – Mary Gaines, Teacher, (SDMS)

Personnel (cont.)

Certified

Retire

- 4 – Terri Gullede, Teacher, (LES)
- 5 – Kristy Phillips, Teacher, (LES)
- 6 – Nikki Long, Teacher, (LHS)
- 7 – Tracy Walsh, Teacher, (NES)

Non Certified

Subs

- 8 – Nancy Huff, Substitute Teacher
- 9 – Melisa Bruner, Substitute Teacher

Non-Renewal

- 10 – Donna Money, 4 hr. CNP Worker, (Ariton) & 4 hr. Custodian (Bridge)

Personnel 2026-2027

Non Certified

Transfer

- 11 – Sheila Long, 8 hr. CNP Worker, (MCES) to 6 hr. CNP Worker, (MCES) effective August 2026
- 12 – Kelly Langford, 6 hr. CNP Worker, (Ariton) to 8 hr. CNP Worker, (Ariton) effective January 2027

Certified

Maternity Leave

- 13 – Ellana Newsome, Teacher, (NES)
expected dates for leave August 19, 2026 – October 19, 2026

Transfer

- 14 – Ashley Carr, Teacher, (MCES) to Teacher, (LES)
- 15 – Autumn Blalock, Teacher, (LES) to Regional Literacy Specialist, (ALSDE)

Reassignment

- 16 – Taylor Simmons, Teacher, (Ariton) to Reading Coach, (Ariton)

Preliminary TEAMS Contract Teachers

- 17 – Victoria Snellgrove, Math Teacher, (Ariton)
- 18 – Emmaline Caraway, Math Teacher, (LHS)

Personnel (cont.)

Certified

Advanced TEAMS Contract Teachers

- 19 – Hannah King, Science Teacher, (Ariton)
- 20 – Casey Daughtry, Science Teacher, (DCHS)
- 21 – Patrick Street, Science Teacher, (DCHS)
- 22 – Ivey Lawson, Math Teacher, (DCHS)
- 23 – Matt Davis, Math Teacher, (SDMS)
- 24 – Samantha Tucker, Math Teacher, (SDMS)
- 25 – Tyler Reeves, Science Teacher, (SDMS)

Employ

- 26 – Claire Burnham, Teacher, (Ariton)
- 27 – Sara Hayley Messer, Teacher, (Ariton)
- 28 – Shelby Lakin Turner, Teacher, (Ariton)
- 29 – Emily Vaughan, Math Coach, (Ariton)
- 30 – David Watts, Teacher, (DCHS)
- 31 – Lydia Davis Walding, Teacher, (LES)
- 32 – Debra Hughes, Band Director/Teacher, (LHS/LES)
- 33 – Christopher Perkins, Teacher, (LHS)
- 34 – Hannah (Stewart) Morris, Teacher, (MCES)
- 35 – Allyson Garner, Teacher, (MCES)
- 36 – Anna Caroline (Palmer) Pahmeier, Teacher, (MCES)
- 37 – Jolie Beasley, Teacher, (NES)
- 38 – Hadley Clayton, Teacher, (NES)
- 39 – Lisa Brackett, Math Coach, (NES)
- 40 – Sharon Bennett, Teacher, (SDMS)
- 41 – Abbey Quattlebaum, Teacher, (SDMS)

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

15 Special Recommendation – Board President

Mr. Phillip Parker, Board President, recommended that the board approve Jackson Baker to be a Math Teacher with a TEAMS contract at Ariton School.

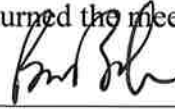
Motion – Dale Sutton, Second – Jerald Cook, carried.

Regular Board Meeting (cont.)

April 14, 2026

16 Adjourn –

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



Secretary



President