



Name: Cynthia Hope Clark

Question/Comment

A contract was issued to a consultant (Milone & MacBroom) last year to investigate rezoning for this district. The contractor has mentioned that he has completed his work, however, public dissemination of this information appears to be withheld until after the election. Why is that? Many people are moving and have moved into the Chapin area since this contract was given for the study. Some are disappointed that their children were not allowed to attend the school that they were promised by contractors and real estate agents. Others are holding their breath as to how you will determine their children's fate this fall, and the next. We, the public, have a deeply invested interest in where our children and grandchildren go to school, both emotionally and fiscally. We need to know ASAP the suggestions of this contractor who studied the rezoning since his research is done. A lot of our taxpayers' money has gone into that contract, and we'd like to see the results of what we purchased. Please provide the timeline of when you "think" the public will be made aware of where this rezoning process is at the moment. Let us know if there is any hope that plans will be released before November, and if you are holding those plans, why. Why hold the information until after the election if for no other reason than to salvage votes for incumbents? Since FOIA regulations, as stated so aptly by Ms. Katrina Goggins, state that there have to be documents of record and that documents cannot be created under FOIA, that means that my question(s) will require the board to reply outside of FOIA, in other words, via email or postal mail. I would hope that my concerns don't fall on deaf ears. I have parents, neighbors and family waiting for this response. Thanks.

RESPONSE

This email is in response to public participation questions and comments you submitted for the School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties School Board meeting on May 18, 2020. No official timeline has been provided for the Milone & MacBroom report, but one will be provided publicly to the school board at the appropriate time.

Your questions and comments were shared with all members of the Board of Trustees and posted publicly on the District's website.



Name: Deirdre Stogdill

Question/Comment

Please provide the re-zoning information prior to the election. Thank you.

RESPONSE

This email is in response to a public participation comment you submitted for the School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties School Board meeting on May 18, 2020. Your comment was shared with all members of the Board of Trustees and posted publicly on the District's website.



Name: Fred Dings

Question/Comment

We now know that COVID-19 is transmissible within 13 feet of normal speech exhalation, can persist in the air for three hours and on hard surfaces up to nine days. We also now know that children are susceptible to the worst consequences of infection and, of course, go home every day to adults who may have high risk factors that can lead to death. Without a reliable therapeutic intervention or vaccine, how can we responsibly resume normal school attendance in August? Our schools are not structurally equipped for the kind of safe distancing and air space needed to prevent this disease. Until therapeutic interventions or vaccines are available, shouldn't we continue to have distance or virtual learning? Shouldn't we at least have an option available for high risk households that keeps them in the system for the interim, such as computer-based learning modules and assessments?

Response

This email is in response to public participation questions and comments you submitted for the School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties School Board meeting on May 18, 2020.

School District Five is working with several state agencies, including the S.C. Department of Education, on a plan to responsibly open schools to students at the appropriate time. While many of our decisions will be based on guidelines and mandates from state officials, our commitment is to focus all our decisions on safety and pursuing the best options for our students and staff.

The 2020-21 school year will almost certainly look different, and several ideas and options are being discussed on the federal, state and district levels. Once plans have been finalized, we will share those with our families so that they can make preparations for their students accordingly.

Your questions and comments were shared with all members of the Board of Trustees and posted publicly on the District's website.



Name: Juli Booth

Question/Comment

Because the traffic information/maps on the district website indicate that a right turn lane is being added at Lake Tide Drive and Amicks Ferry Road, what is the reason for this additional lane? Will non-school related traffic coming from the Timberlake end of Amicks Ferry be re-routed down Walt Rauch Road to Lake Tide to avoid the school drop off and pick up? Will any other improvements be made to Walt Rauch and Lake Tide to accommodate the additional traffic this change in pattern will cause? In short, what is the reason for this additional right turn lane at Amicks Ferry and Lake Tide?

RESPONSE

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The engineer who designed the offsite improvements offers the following:
The intent of the right turn lane on Lake Tide is so that during the peak drop off and pick up times, in the event cars are going straight across into the school driveway, any subsequent cars wishing to turn right will not have to wait for school cars to move through the intersection and possibly delay right turn movements. The majority of the traffic movements off of Lake Tide are right turn movements and therefore this added lane will help assist cars to continue making right turns without delays during school peak periods.

Your questions were shared with all members of the Board of Trustees and posted publicly on the District's website.



Name: Janet Jordan

Question/Comment

I propose that we name the Irmo High School Field and Track after the late Coach Mike Moore. This would be a fitting tribute to his achievements and contributions to the youth of Irmo. Thank you.

Response

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Name: Karen Larrabee

Question/Comment

I have 5 short, yet important, questions: 1) If the answer to an FOIA request is known, but was made verbally, shouldn't the request be answered verbally in return? Or have the oral discussion transcribed into a document for keeping and dispensing? 2) If the answer to an FOIA request is contained in 3rd party reports, reports that are on file, how can these reports be withheld? 3) How can some board members deny other board members access to LR5 building sites? How or why does one have that power? Shouldn't all building have oversight by all board members? 4) When can we expect the redistricting information? Withholding this information (which should have been completed before deciding where to build #13) is very inconsiderate to LR5 families with school age children. And 5) When will the Amicks Ferry /#13 traffic patterns be resolved? If you remember, this was a big issue for NOT building the school in that location, and there is lots of rumors and speculation flying around. Again it is inconsiderate to the people living on and off of Amicks Ferry to not give them a heads up as to how the traffic pattern will affect their everyday life. I thank you in advance to speedy answers (answers, not responses) to these questions.

Response:

This email is in response to public participation questions and comments you submitted for the School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties School Board meeting on May 18, 2020. Please see the responses below (in blue):

- 1) If the answer to an FOIA request is known, but was made verbally, shouldn't the request be answered verbally in return? Or have the oral discussion transcribed into a document for keeping and dispensing? [The South Carolina Freedom of Information Act defines "public records" to include documents "prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or retained by a public body." Public bodies are not required to create documents or to transcribe "oral discussion."](#)
- 2) If the answer to an FOIA request is contained in 3rd party reports, reports that are on file, how can these reports be withheld? [The only records withheld are those that are exempt, per](#)

the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act. Please see the following link for exemptions provided for in SC FOIA: <https://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t30c004.php>

- 3) How can some board members deny other board members access to LR5 building sites? How or why does one have that power? Shouldn't all building have oversight by all board members? Construction contracts give control of construction sites to the general contractor. Managing the construction contractor is an administrative function. The District, with Board approval, contracted for Contract Construction to serve as the District's Construction Manager at Risk for Elementary School 13. The terms of the contract give Contract Construction the responsibility to maintain a safe and secure job site. The District's administration is responsible for the day to day management of the District's operations. Board Policy BBA describes the Board's Powers and Duties, including Visits to Schools. Oversight is the responsibility of the Board collectively. Board Policy BB notes that "All powers of the board lie in its action as a body." Board members acting as individuals have no authority over personnel or school affairs. Board Policy BCA notes that board members basic function is policymaking, not administration.

The Superintendent and the administration operate and supervise the day to day functions of the District including construction projects.

The District retains a consultant to represent the District's interest and ensure the terms of the contract are being met. This professional acts as the owner's representative on the project. In addition to Contract Construction and the District's consultant, the District also engages the services of a third-party inspection company that is paid by and answers to School District Five.

Michael Cates
School Board Chairman
School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties

- 4) When can we expect the redistricting information? Withholding this information (which should have been completed before deciding where to build #13) is very inconsiderate to LR5 families with school age children. No official timeline has been provided for the Milone & MacBroom report, but one will be provided publicly to the school board at the appropriate time.
- 5) And 5) When will the Amicks Ferry /#13 traffic patterns be resolved? There are no traffic pattern issues to resolve. The District is complying with all elements of a traffic study, which has been accepted and approved by SCDOT.

Your questions and comments were shared with all members of the Board of Trustees and posted publicly on the District's website.



Name: Michael Monroe

Question/Comment

I have two questions: **1) Will the results of the District sponsored re-zoning study be provided to voters prior to the upcoming election? 2) If the Board decides to offer a bond referendum this year, will public discussion forums be held by the Board members to explain and take questions from voters?**

Response

This email is in response to public participation questions and comments you submitted for the School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties' School Board meeting on May 18, 2020. Please see the responses below (in blue):

- 1) Will the results of the District sponsored re-zoning study be provided to voters prior to the upcoming election?** No official timeline has been provided for the Milone & MacBroom report, but one will be provided publicly to the school board at the appropriate time.
- 2) If the Board decides to offer a bond referendum this year, will public discussion forums be held by the Board members to explain and take questions from voters?** The Board has not discussed a bond referendum. If the Board decides to pursue a bond referendum, public discussion will be held to explain the need and take questions from the public.

Your questions and comments were shared with all members of the Board of Trustees and posted publicly on the District's website.



Name: Toni Karl

Question/Comment

#15 Naming of Irmo High School Track and Field/comment: I would like to endorse the naming of the Irmo High School Track and Field after the late Coach Mike Moore. Coach Moore's dedication to Irmo High School as well as D5 and our community are widespread and continue to impact the lives of current as well as former student-athletes. Coach Mike Moore's name is known throughout the state as a legend in the Track and Field world and will forever be remembered as a remarkable coach and mentor to many young athletes. Please consider an incredible opportunity to honor Coach Mike Moore and his incredible work in our district and state by naming the Irmo High Track and Field in his honor. Thank you for your time.

Response

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