State of South Carolina

Executive Department

FILED

SEP 01 2026

Mark Hammond

SECRETARY OF STATE

Office of the Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2026-19

WHEREAS, the undersigned possesses the statutory authority to remove any "school district trustee[] who wilfully commit[s] or engage[s] in an act of malfeasance, misfeasance, chronic unexcused absenteeism, conflicts of interest, misconduct in office, or persistent neglect of duty in office." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-19-60; and

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2026, the undersigned requested the Inspector General to "initiate and conduct an appropriate investigation, review, and analysis of the conduct of one or more members of the Charleston County School District Board of Trustees"; and

WHEREAS, the Inspector General submitted a report entitled *Investigation of the Charleston County School District Board of Trustees for Potential Misconduct, Disclosure of Confidential Information and Adverse Fiscal Impacts* to the undersigned on August 27, 2026; and

WHEREAS, based on the Inspector General's report, the undersigned finds that it "appear[s] to [his] satisfaction" that Charleston County School Trustee Darlene Dunmeyer-Roberson has "wilfully commit[ted] or engage[d] in an act of malfeasance, misfeasance, chronic unexcused absenteeism, conflicts of interest, misconduct in office, or persistent neglect of duty in office." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-19-60; and

WHEREAS, section 59-19-60 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, requires that the undersigned "inform [a trustee] in writing of the specific charges brought against [the trustee] and give [the trustee] an opportunity on reasonable notice to be heard."

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of South Carolina and pursuant to the Constitution and Laws of this State and the powers conferred upon me therein, I hereby order and direct as follows:

Section 1. Notice of Charges

Pursuant to section 59-19-60, Darlene Dunmeyer-Roberson is hereby provided written notice of three charges against her.

A. **Charge 1: Disclosure of Executive Session Material**

Darlene Dunmeyer-Roberson impropely disclosed information from executive session.

B. **Charge 2: Unauthorized Disclosures of Confidential Information**

Darlene Dunmeyer-Roberson improperly disclosed confidential information on at least 28 occasions to news media or District vendors.

C. **Charge 3: Conflict of Interest**

Darlene Dunmeyer-Roberson improperly aided her former campaign manager in a District procurement matter.

Additional information about each charge is found in the Inspector General's report.

Section 2. Opportunity to Be Heard

In accordance with section 59-19-60, I hereby provide Darlene Dunmeyer-Roberson with reasonable notice and opportunity to be heard on the charges in Section 1. Absent her prior resignation, Darlene Dunmeyer-Roberson shall notify the undersigned via email to his Chief of Staff and Chief Legal Counsel whether she intends to avail herself of her right to be heard by September 10, 2026, at 5:00 PM.

A. To provide Darlene Dunmeyer-Roberson with the statutorily required opporuntity to be heard, I hereby appoint Thomas A. Limehouse, Jr.; Adair Boroughs; and Clarence Davis to serve as a Hearing Panel to consider Darlene Dunmeyer-Roberson's response to the charges and consider the evidence in this matter. The Hearing Panel shall not constitute an office under state law and serves in an advisory capacity only. Darlene Dunmeyer-Roberson may be represented by legal counsel at any or all stages of these proceedings.

B. By September 14, 2026, Darlene Dunmeyer-Roberson shall submit in writing to the Hearing Panel any response to the charges against her. This submission shall be via email to addresses provided by the hearing officers.

C. By September 28, 2026, the Hearing Panel shall hold a hearing, at which Darlene Dunmeyer-Roberson may present oral argument and respond to questions from the Hearing Panel. The Hearing Panel may also request the Inspector General attend to answer any question that the

Hearing Panel may have. Such hearing shall be held at a time and location determined by the Hearing Panel.

D. By October 5, 2026, the Hearing Panel shall submit a written report to the undersigned recommending whether the undersigned exercise his authority to remove Darlene Dunmeyer-Roberson from the Charleston County School District Board of Trustees. That report shall be submitted via email to the undersigned's Chief of Staff and Chief Legal Counsel. Upon submission of this report, the Hearing Panel shall be dissloved, its purpose having been fulfilled.

E. Failure by Darlene Dunmeyer-Roberson to participate timely in any part of the process established by this Order shall be deemed a waiver of her right to be heard and may result in her immediate removal from the Charleston County School District Board of Trustees.

F. The Inspector General shall provide unredacted copies of any evidence that the Hearing Panel requests.

Section 3. General Provisions

A. This Order is not intended to create, and does not create, any individual right, privilege, or benefit, whether substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the State of South Carolina, its agencies, departments, political subdivisions, or other entities, or any officers, employees, or agents thereof, or any other person.

B. If any section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Order is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such holding shall not affect the constitutionality or validity of the remaining portions of this Order, as the undersigned would have issued this Order, and each and every section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, sentence, clause, phrase, and word thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more other sections, subsections, paragraphs, subparagraphs, sentences, clauses, phrases, or words hereof may be declared to be unconstitutional, invalid, or otherwise ineffective.

C. This Order shall be implemented consistent with and to the maximum extent provided by applicable law and shall be subject to the availability of appropriations. This Order shall not be interpreted, applied, implemented, or construed in a manner so as to impair, impede, or otherwise affect the authority granted by law to an executive agency or department, or the officials or head thereof, including the undersigned.

D. I hereby expressly authorize the Office of the Governor to provide or issue any necessary and appropriate additional or supplemental guidance, rules, regulations, or restrictions regarding the application of this Order or to otherwise provide clarification regarding the same, through appropriate means, without the need for further Orders.

E. This Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect unless otherwise expressly stated herein or modified, amended, extended, or rescinded by subsequent Order.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, THIS 1ST DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2026.

HENRY DARGAN MCMASTER
Governor

ATTEST:

MARK HAMMOND
Secretary of State