



HENRY DARGAN McMASTER
GOVERNOR

October 14, 2026

Via Email through Counsel

Ms. Darlene Dunmeyer-Roberson
Member, Board of Trustees
Charleston County School District
75 Calhoun Street
Charleston, SC 29401

RE: Notice of Decision

Dear Ms. Dunmeyer-Roberson:

I write to inform you that I have reviewed the Inspector General's report and exhibits, the hearing transcript and exhibits, and the Report of the Hearing Panel. I have concluded that under my authority pursuant to Section 59-19-60 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, the relevant facts of this record do not justify your removal from the Charleston County School District Board of Trustees. My decision, however, is not an exoneration or excusal of your conduct. I find that your conduct while serving in this office has been unacceptable. But I will not invoke removal because removing a duly elected public official is a most significant action: It denies the citizens the service of the person whom they chose to represent them in a public office and it deprives the office holder of his earned right to serve, both of which are rights protected by the Constitution of South Carolina and the Constitution of the United States.

The material facts clearly established by direct evidence through this investigation are those concerning the breach of confidentiality. Judged alone, aside from unproven allegations – as they must be under obligations of due process and fairness – these facts do not justify the harsh penalty of removal. This is not a criminal case, yet a basic rule of criminal prosecution applies: the punishment must fit the crime.

The findings in the Inspector General's report and the Report of the Hearing Panel are deeply troubling. Some will find them outrageous. The findings show unnecessary disruption. No board can function properly if its members violate attorney-client privilege and fail to respect the confidentiality of the Board's sensitive deliberations, all as required by its own written policies and ethical considerations. There is no doubt that you committed misconduct in office by disclosing privileged information to non-school board members.

Ms. Darlene Dunmeyer-Roberson

Page 2

October 14, 2026

I have also concluded that other charges cannot be resolved either way by the assembled facts and remain vigorously disputed. One factor could be that the Inspector General lacks investigatory tools other law enforcement officials have – such as search warrants and grand jury access – to gather direct evidence from various sources. Information from pending criminal investigations is routinely prohibited from disclosure. The Panel Report addresses such strengths and weaknesses of the evidence in detail, both inculpatory and exculpatory.

Please be advised: The efficient functioning of the Charleston County School District Board of Trustees is essential to the people of South Carolina. This investigation may be re-opened upon showing of good cause.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Henry Dargan McMaster". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Henry" being particularly prominent.

Henry Dargan McMaster

cc: Anita W. Huggins, *Superintendent*
Pamela McKinney, *Board Chair*