

**TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
October 13, 2015
12:00 p.m.**

The Board of Trustees of the Tupelo Public School District convened in a regular meeting of the Board held in Open Session at noon on Tuesday, October 13, 2015, at the Hancock Leadership Center, 1920 Briar Ridge Road, Tupelo, Mississippi.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Kenneth Wheeler who welcomed guests attending the meeting.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Board members present during roll call were: Mr. Joe Babb, Mrs. Sherry Davis, Mr. Rob Hudson, Mr. Eddie Prather and Mr. Kenneth Wheeler. Mr. Kenneth Wheeler announced a quorum and stated that the meeting was lawfully in session. Attorney Otis Tims was also present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Mrs. Davis, seconded by Mrs. Babb, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda for the regular October 13, 2015, meeting as presented. The Board President declared the motion passed.

A copy of the agenda is marked **EXHIBIT 1** and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes from the following meeting were presented for consideration for approval:

September 8, 2015	Regular Noon Meeting, Hancock Leadership Center
September 8, 2015	Regular 5 p.m. Meeting, Carver Elementary
September 29, 2015	Special Called Meeting, 2:00 p.m., Hancock Leadership Center

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No requests for public comments were received for this meeting of the Board.

RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Andy Cantrell recognized Billy Daniels, David Buchanan, Mike Stewart, Ricky Beasley, and Jake Ivy of the Maintenance Department, for their hard work and dedication to Tupelo Public Schools.

COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD

The following informational reports were presented to the Board of Trustees:

- A. Mrs. Mary Ann Plasencia gave an update on Bond projects and proceeds
- B. Dr. Eddie Moore gave an update on turf collections and Fall athletics
- C. Dr. Eddie Peasant gave a report on the District's Attendance Campaign
- D. Mrs. Rachel Murphree gave an update on Ad Valorem Collections for amounts received in September 2015. (TPSD Goal #4)

Copies of the above reports are on file in the Superintendent's Office.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following Consent Agenda items were presented for consideration for approval.

A. Office of Finance Director Mrs. Rachel Murphree (TPSD Goal #4)

1. Contractual Agreements:
 - Acknowledge and Award Contracts #CO1617, and School Facility contracts SFR1619 through SFR1621
 - Ratification of Contract #CO1619 through #CO1625 and SFR1603
2. Permission to Accept Donations #2015-2016-009 through #2015-2016-011
3. Permission to Submit TPSD Grant #1610-1617
4. Permission to Accept TPSD Grant #1610, #1615, and #1617
5. Permission to Remove 1,357 Assets from the TPSD Asset Listing

B. Office of Assistant Superintendent Dr. Eddie Peasant

1. Student Transfer Report (TPSD Policy JBCD Transfers and Withdrawals of Students)
2. Overnight Field Trip Requests
 - THS Model Congress to San Francisco--January 14-19, 2017

C. Office of Assistant Superintendent Dr. Diana Ezell (TPSD Goal #1 And #4)

1. Approval of 2015-2016 District Test Security Plan

No Board Member requested the removal of any item from the Consent Agenda.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Office of Director of Finance Mrs. Rachel Murphree (TPSD Goal #4)

1. Docket of Claims

Mr. Joe Babb reviewed the Docket of Claims prior to the meeting and advised that at the 5:00 p.m. meeting of the Board he will recommend approval of the following:

- Docket of Claims for the period September 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015, Docket of Claims #30278 through #31152, Accounts Payable Checks #19530 through #20117 in the amount of \$5,624,662.60.
- No Tupelo High School Activity Check Register for this month
- No Athletic Activity Check Register for this month
- The Athletic Activity Ref Pay paid officials in the amount of \$3,308.62 for the period of September 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015

The grand total for all funds is \$5,627,971.22

2. Required Monthly Financial Reports – Month Ending August 31, 2015

In accordance with MS Code 37-9-18 the following Financial Reports for the month ending August 31, 2015, were reviewed.

- Bank Reconciliation Report
- Revenue and Expenditure Report with Budget Status
- TPSD Cash Flow Statement
- Combined Balance Sheet
- August 31, 2015 Financial Statements

B. Office of Director of Human Resources Mr. Jim Turner (TPSD Goal #3)

1. New Job Description—Curriculum Specialist Administrator

Mr. Jim Turner presented a new job description for consideration of approval.

2. Licensed Personnel Recommendations

Mr. Jim Turner presented the Licensed Personnel Recommendations for consideration of approval.

C. Office of Assistant Superintendent Dr. Diana Ezell

1. Second Reading of Policy IDDHE

Dr. Diana Ezell presented the Service Animal Policy IDDHE, for a Second Reading by the Board. Mr. Tims informed the Board that the District was not requiring the owners to provide training to staff, but would work with the owners regarding obtaining such training.

D. Office of Executive Director of Operations Mr. Andy Cantrell

1. Approval of Certificate of Substantial Completion—Security Film

Mr. Andy Cantrell presented a Certificate of Substantial Completion from JBHM Architects deeming the Security Film Project substantially complete.

2. Approval of Completion of Security Film Project

Mr. Andy Cantrell presented a letter stating the Security Film Project has reached a state of Final Completion.

3. Approval of Change Order No. 1—Fillmore Re-roof Project

Mr. Andy Cantrell requested approval of Change Order No. 1 for the Fillmore Re-roof Project. The original Contract sum was \$247,450. This change order will reflect a decrease of \$2,935.00. The new contract sum will be \$244,515.00.

4. Approval of Substantial Completion—Fillmore Re-roof Project

Mr. Andy Cantrell requested approval of Substantial Completion deemed by JBHM Architects on the Fillmore Re-Roof project.

5. Permission to Bid Services for Solid Waste Disposal

Mr. Andy Cantrell requested approval to request proposals for the District's Solid Waste Services. The contract will cover a period of three years with a possible three "1" year extensions.

6. Approval of JBHM Recommendation to Accept Bids for Security Command center at the Fillmore Center

Mr. Andy Cantrell requested approval to accept JBHM Architects' recommendation to accept bids for the Security Command Center at Fillmore.

The following items were shared with the Board as information items:

1. Information Items:

- **Registration for MSBA, NSBA**
- **November 17th Work Session**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Draft of 2016 School Board Meeting Dates

Ms. Patrice Tate presented a draft of the 2016 Board Meeting Dates. The dates will be voted on at the November 17th Board Meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

A. Future Agenda Topics – Superintendent Gearl Loden

Tentative Agenda for December 8, 2015 Regular Meeting (Noon, HLC)

- **1st 9 Weeks Discipline Report**
- **Approval of Board Expenses for 2016 NSBA Annual Conference**
- **Approval of 2016 Board Meeting Dates**
- **1st 9 Weeks Attendance Report**
- **1st 9 Weeks Honor Roll**

B. Future Agenda Topics – Board Members

There were no Future Agenda Topics suggested by the Board

C. Executive Session

Board President Kenneth Wheeler suggested to the School Board a temporary Executive Session to determine the need for a permanent Executive Session for the purpose of discussing several matters.

On a motion by Mr. Babb, seconded by Mr. Hudson, the Board voted unanimously to enter temporary Executive Session for the purpose of determining a need for permanent Executive Session. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the President of the Board declared the motion passed.

The room was cleared and the temporary Executive Session was called to order by Mr. Wheeler with the following people present: Mr. Joe Babb, Mrs. Sherry Davis, Mr. Rob Hudson, Mr. Otis Tims, Mrs. Kimberly Britton, Dr. Gearl Loden, Dr. Eddie Peasant, Mr. Terry Hatch and Mrs. Modesty Shumpert. Mrs. Kelly Stimpson was present via Google Hangout.

The Board first considered the reason for entering Executive Session. Upon a motion by Mr. Babb, with a second by Mr. Hudson, the Board voted unanimously to remain in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing student matters, a legal update, security update, and a personnel matter, if time permitted. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the President of the Board declared the motion passed. Mr. Wheeler went out into the hallway to let everyone know that the Board would remain in Executive Session

Mr. Wheeler reentered the room, and reopened the meeting to tell all those in attendance the reason for going into Executive Session was to discuss student matters, a legal update, security update, and a personnel matter, if time permitted.

First, Mrs. Kimberly Britton gave summary information on the first student discipline Case #30-2015-2016.

At this point, student #30-2015-2016 entered the room along with his parents and legal representation. After addressing the Board, the student, his parents and legal representation left the room.

Principal Jason Harris was then called into the room to answer questions from the Board. After answering all questions, Mr. Harris left the room, and Officer Jon Bramble was called into the room to answer questions as well. Officer Bramble answered all questions, and was excused.

At this point, Mr. Babb requested that the room be cleared of everyone except for the Board and Mr. Tims. Mr. Hudson seconded Mr. Babb's motion and it was approved by 4-1 vote.

After discussion among the Board, Mr. Babb made a motion to leave Executive Session and return to Open Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hudson and adopted unanimously.

Open Session

Whereupon, Mr. Wheeler left the room to announce that the Board was returning to Open Session. Upon Mr. Wheeler's return, Mr. Hudson made a motion not to uphold the decision of the District Disciplinary Hearing Committee and Assistant Superintendent Kimberly Britton to expel student #30-2015-2016, but to impose discipline on the student. Mr. Babb seconded the motion and it was adopted on a 4-1 vote with Mr. Prather opposing.

Mr. Prather then made a motion that student #30-2015-2016 be assigned to the Fillmore Center for 45 days. The motion was seconded by Ms. Davis and adopted on a 3-2 vote with Mr. Babb and Mr. Hudson opposing. Detailed information regarding Student Case #30-2015-2016 is marked **EXHIBIT 2** and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein. These materials are marked "Sealed and Confidential" to comply with legal requirements.

Executive Session

Mr. Babb made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hudson to enter a temporary Executive Session to determine whether the Board should enter Executive session for the purpose of hearing another student discipline appeal. The motion was adopted unanimously. In the temporary Executive Session, Mr. Babb made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hudson that the Board enter Executive Session to consider student discipline appeal #31-2015-2016, The motion was adopted unanimously, and Mr. Wheeler left the room to announce that the Board was in Executive Session.

After discussion, upon entering Executive Session with only members of the Board and Mr. Tims in the room, the Board asked student case #31-2015-2016 to enter the room, along with his parents and legal representation. Mrs. Kimberly Britton, Mrs. Modesty Shumpert, and Ms. Patrice Tate were also asked to re-enter the meeting. After hearing from student #31-2015-2016 and his parents and legal counsel, they student, parents and their legal counsel were excused. The Board then asked Principal Jason Harris to enter the meeting to answer questions regarding this issue. Mr. Harris answered all questions and exited the room. Mrs. Britton, Mrs. Shumpert, and Ms. Tate also exited the room.

After discussion among the Board, Mr. Babb made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hudson, to re-enter Open Session. The motion passed unanimously.

Open Session

Whereupon, Mr. Wheeler left the room to announce that the Board was returning to Open Session. Everyone waiting re-entered the meeting, and Mr. Wheeler stated that no action was taken by the Board during Executive Session.

Mr. Hudson made a motion not to uphold the decision of the District Disciplinary Hearing Committee and Assistant Superintendent Kimberly Britton to expel student #31-2015-2016, but to impose discipline on the student. Mr. Babb seconded the motion and it was adopted on a 4-1 vote with Mr. Prather opposing.

Mr. Prather then made a motion that student #31-2015-2016 be assigned to the Fillmore Center for 45 days. The motion was seconded by Ms. Davis and adopted on a 3-2 vote with Mr. Babb and Mr. Hudson opposing. . Detailed information regarding Student Case #31-2015-2016 is marked **EXHIBIT 3** and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein. These materials are marked “Sealed and Confidential” to comply with legal requirements.

Executive Session

Mr. Prather made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Davis to enter a temporary Executive Session to determine whether the Board should enter Executive session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter. The motion was adopted unanimously. In the temporary Executive Session, Mr. Babb made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hudson, that the Board enter Executive Session to consider a personnel matter. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Wheeler left the room to announce that the Board was in Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.

In Executive Session the Board and Dr. Loden discussed a personnel matter. During this discussion, it was noted that the Board was due to meet at 5 p.m. at Lawhon Elementary, and it was suggested that the Board recess this meeting, move to Lawhon Elementary for the scheduled 5 p.m. meeting and reconvene this meeting at Lawhon Elementary following adjournment of the 5 p.m. meeting. Whereupon, Mr. Prather made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Davis, that the Board return to Open Session. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Open Session

Mr. Wheeler left the room to announce that the Board was in Open Session. Upon his return, he stated that the Board had discussed a personnel matter in Executive Session but had taken no action. Mr. Hudson then made a motion that the Board recess this meeting so that it could conduct its regularly scheduled 5 p.m. meeting at Lawhon Elementary, and that this meeting be reconvened at Lawhon Elementary following the conclusion of the 5 p.m. meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Babb and adopted unanimously. Mr. Wheeler announced the meeting in recess at 4:50 p.m.

Reconvened Meeting--Open Session

After conclusion of the regular 5 p.m. Board meeting at Lawhon Elementary, Mr. Wheeler announced that the recessed noon meeting was being reconvened in Open Session and was in order. All Board members were present. Thereupon Mr Hudson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Prather, that the Board enter temporary Executive Session to continue to consider the personnel matter under discussion in Executive Session when the meeting was recessed. The motion was adopted unanimously. In temporary Executive Session, Mr. Hudson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Prather that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Executive Session

Mr. Wheeler then announced that the Board was in Executive Session. In addition to all members of the Board, Dr Loden and Mr. Tims were in attendance. After discussion of the personnel matter, Dr. Loden excused himself from the meeting. Further discussion followed, after which Mr. Prather offered a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Babb, that the Board return to Open Session. The motion was approved unanimously. Mrs. Davis then left the meeting. Mr. Wheeler announced that the Board had returned to Open Session.

Open Session

Mr. Wheeler announced that the Board had discussed a personnel matter in Executive Session but had taken no action. Thereupon, Mr. Hudson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Babb, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was approved unanimously, and Mr. Wheeler announced that the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Prather made a motion that the meeting be adjourned, Mrs. Davis seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Mr. Wheeler then announced that the meeting stood adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

APPROVED:
TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ATTEST:

Kenneth Wheeler, President

Eddie Prather, Secretary