

**TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
June 12, 2018**

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, June 12, 2018, at the Hancock Leadership Center, 1920 Briar Ridge, Tupelo, Mississippi.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Eddie Prather who welcomed guests attending the meeting.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

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

WELCOME TO DR. ROBERT PICOU

Board President Eddie Prather welcomed Dr. Robert Picou to his first Tupelo Public School District Board of Trustees meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Hudson moved to approve the agenda for the regular June 12, 2018, Board meeting subject to the following change:

- Addendum to Personnel Report (Section VIII. B. 1.)

The motion was seconded by Mr. Wheeler, and the Board voted unanimously by all members present to approve the agenda for the regular June 12, 2018, Board meeting with the announced change. The President of the Board 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

May 15, 2018, Noon, Regular Meeting, HLC

Mr. Wheeler made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 15, 2018, noon, regular meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hudson and approved unanimously by all members present. Mr. Prather declared the motion passed.

May 15, 2018, 5:00pm, Regular Meeting, Milam Elementary School

Mr. Hudson made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 15, 2018, 5:00pm, regular , meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wheeler and approved unanimously by all members present. Mr. Prather declared the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. Rob Picou announced that he is recommending Mrs. Candi Moore-Robertson to be the new principal of Thomas Street Elementary School. Mrs. Moore-Robertson has worked as an assistant principal at Tupelo High School for the past two years, but previously held the position of elementary teacher for many years. Dr. Picou's recommendation is presented for consideration of approval in the below Addendum to Personnel Report (Section VIII. B. 1.)

COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD

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

A. Update Report on Bond Referendum Projects (TPSD Goal #4)

Prior to the meeting, Finance Director Rachel Murphree had prepared an updated financial spreadsheet of bond referendum projects for the Board's review. Operations Director Charles Laney and JBHM Architect Will Lewis also summarized the status of ongoing bond projects. Mr. Lewis also reported on the bond referendum projects previously completed.

B. Year-End ADA (TPSD Goals #1 and #4)

Assistant Superintendent Andy Cantrell summarized the district's 2017-2018 ADA and provided a comparison of this school year vs. the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 school years.

C. Year End Discipline Report (TPSD Goal #2)

Mr. Andy Cantrell presented the year end discipline report which summarized discipline trends for the past four school years. Mr. Cantrell stated that school year 2017-2018 showed a significant decrease in major and minor infractions.

Mr. Prather requested that the 2017-2018 school year numbers be broken down by school and further recapped by major and minor infractions.

D. Year-End TPSD Athletics Report (TPSD Goals #1-#4)

Dr. Eddie Moore summarized the highlights of team successes during the 2017-2018 school year. Dr. Moore also reported on improvements made on sport facilities, as well as future areas for improvement.

E. Renasant Field Pledge Update Report (TPSD Goal #4)

Dr. Eddie Moore presented a recap of the Renasant Field Pledges which began in 2014 with total pledges of \$663,000.00 during a ten-year span. Total collections to-date are \$252,500.00 with \$410,500.00 remaining to be collected during the next 6 years.

F. Ad Valorem Report for Amount Received through May, 2018 (TPSD Goal #4)

Mrs. Rachel Murphree reported that the collections for Operations for April received by the District in May were 97.84% of the amount requested compared to 97.94% in the previous year. The collections for Debt Service for April received by the District in May were 98.21% of the amount requested compared to 98.17% in the previous year.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

In accordance with Dr. Picou's recommendations, Mr. Hudson moved to acknowledge, approve and ratify the Consent Agenda as listed below with the exclusion of Contractual Agreement #CO1889:

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

1. Contractual Agreements (TPSD Policy DJAAB Contract Signing Authority)
Contracts to be Acknowledged and Awarded: #CO1890 and #CO1940
Contracts to be Ratified: #CO1883 through #CO1888
2. Donations (TPSD Policy DFAB Revenues for Non-Tax Sources)
#2017-2018-061 through #2017-2018-064
3. Permission to Advertise RFP1802 THS Yearbook and BD1900 Classroom/Office Supply Bid
4. Awarding of Advertised Bid/Proposals RFP1801 School Day Pictures and 2017-2018 Bus Sale #1 (this bid gives permission for these assets to be removed from the District's asset records. The District will no longer be accountable for these assets after payment is received. All proceeds will be deposited into the District Maintenance Fund of TPSD.
5. Permission to Dispose (Sold for Scrap Metal – TPSD Career-Technical Center, 1989 Pontiac Sunbird LE; 1991 Dodge Ram 150; 1993 Volvo; 1993 Ford Taurus; and 1994 Buick Century).
6. Grant Permission to Delete 80 Assets from the TPSD Asset Listing and Add Back 10 Assets to the Asset Listing (TPSD Policy DM)

B. Office of Assistant Superintendent Mr. Andy Cantrell

Student Transfer Report (TPSD Policy JBCD Transfers and Withdrawals of Students)

Overnight Field Trip Requests:

- THS TCTC Skills USA, National Competition, June 25-30, Louisville, KY
- THS Lady Wave, Team Camp, June 20-23, Houston, TX

C. Office of Assistant Superintendent Kimberly Britton (TPSD Goals #1 and #4)

1. Interagency Agreement between TPSD and the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services.
2. Interagency Agreement between TPSD and LIFECORE Health Group for collaborative activities and services.

D. Office of Director of Federal Programs Mrs. Corlis Curry (TPSD Goal #4)

Approval of FY2018 Title I, Part D Program Assurances and General Assurances

The motion was seconded by Mr. Wheeler and was approved unanimously by all members present. The President of the Board declared the motion passed. A copy of the Consent Agenda report is marked **EXHIBIT 2** and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

1. Docket of Claims and Athletic Activity Ref Pay

As Board President Eddie Prather had reviewed the Docket of Claims prior to the meeting, he passed the gavel to Mr. Hudson, and recommended approval of the Docket of Claims as described below:

- Docket of Claims #53232 through #53956 for the period May 5, 2018, through June 1, 2018, in the amount of \$3,375,871.07.
- Athletic Activity Ref Pay paid officials and fees in the amount of \$0.00 for the period May 5, 2018, through June 1, 2018.

The grand total for all funds is \$3,375,871.07.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Wheeler and approved unanimously by all members present. Mr. Hudson declared the motion passed.

This affirms that the claims are legal and proper and they are allowed and ratified as paid by the Superintendent or his designee pursuant to Section 37-9-14 (7) of the Mississippi Code of 1972.

The Docket of Claims Report is marked **EXHIBIT 3** and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

Mr. Hudson passed the gavel back to Mr. Prather.

2. Required Monthly Financial Reports – Month Ending April 30, 2018

Following a review of each report and discussion, on a motion by Mr. Wheeler, seconded by Mr. Hudson, the Board voted unanimously by all members present to approve the following financial reports:

- Summary Report of Reconciled Bank Statements with Certification
- Statement of Revenue and Expenditures with Current Budget Status
- Cash Flow Report for District Maintenance Fund
- Consolidated Fund Balance Sheet for all General and Special Revenue Funds
- Monthly Financial Statement (not required)

Board President Eddie Prather declared the motion passed. The Financial Reports for Month Ending April 30, 2017, are marked **EXHIBIT 4** and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

B. Office of Director of Human Resources Mr. Jim Turner (TPSD Goals #3 and #4)

Licensed Personnel Recommendations

Upon a motion by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, the Board voted unanimously by all members present to approve the licensed personnel recommendations (includes Addendum) as presented. Mr. Prather declared the motion passed. The Personnel Report is marked **EXHIBIT 5** and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

C. Office of Assistant Superintendent Mrs. Kimberly Britton (TPSD Goal #1)

1. Deletion of TPSD Policy IHFA – Special Education Graduation/Occupational Diploma

On a motion by Mr. Wheeler, seconded by Mr. Hudson, the Board voted unanimously by all members present to delete TPSD Policy IHFA – Special Education Graduation/Occupational Diploma as this policy is redundant to TPSD Policy IHF and also the occupational diploma is not an option for the updated graduation requirements mandated by the Mississippi Department of Education. Mr. Prather declared the motion passed.

A copy of the abovementioned deleted TPSD Policy IHFA – Special Education Graduation/Occupational Diploma is marked **Exhibit 6** and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

2. Revision of TPSD Policy IHF – Graduation Requirements

On a motion by Mr. Wheeler, seconded by Mr. Hudson, the Board voted unanimously by all members present to amend TPSD Policy IHF – Graduation Requirements to reflect changes the new graduation requirements recently mandated by the Mississippi Department of Education. Mr. Prather declared the motion passed.

A copy of the abovementioned TPSD Policy IHF – Graduation Requirements is marked **Exhibit 7** and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

3. “First Reading” of Proposed 2018-2019 School Handbooks

Mrs. Britton submitted for “first reading” the proposed School Handbooks for School Year 2018-2019.

D. Office of Executive Director of Operations Mr. Charles Laney (TPSD Goals #2 and #4)

1. Certificate of Substantial Completion – THS Athletics Suite Renovations, Phase I

On a motion by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, the Board voted unanimously by all members present to approve the Certificate of Substantial Completion for the THS Athletics Suite Renovations Phase I Project. Mr. Prather declared the motion passed.

A copy of the Certificate of Substantial Completion for the THS Athletics Suite Renovations Phase I Project is marked **EXHIBIT 8** and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

2. Certificate of Substantial Completion – Pierce Street Renovations Project

On a motion by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, the Board voted unanimously by all members present to approve the Certificate of Substantial Completion for the Pierce Street Renovations Project. Mr. Prather declared the motion passed.

A copy of the Certificate of Substantial Completion for the Pierce Street Renovations Project is marked **EXHIBIT 9** and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

E. Office of Superintendent of Schools Dr. Rob Picou

Information Items

1. Upcoming Events

- June 28-29, School Board Retreat
- July 8-13, MASS/Alliance Summer Conference
- July 22-24, NSBA Southern Region Leadership Conference
- July 31, Noon, Regular Board Meeting, HLC
- July 31, 5:00pm, FY19 Budget Hearing, HLC
- August 7, 5:00pm, Special Called Meeting

2. Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Picou reported on his meetings with various community organizations (Tupelo Police Department, City Council, CDF, NAACP, CREATE, PTO Officers, etc.) since arriving in the District on June 6. Dr. Picou also stated that he has scheduled meetings within the next 2 weeks with school principals broken down by Grades K-2; Grades 3-5; and Grades 6-12. He will also be meeting again with directors and central office administrators. The Back-to-School Administrative Meeting is scheduled for July 19-20, 2018.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No “Unfinished Business” items were presented at this meeting of the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

No “New Business” items were presented at this meeting of the Board.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

A. Future Agenda Topics – Superintendent Rob Picou

- **Status of Summer Construction/Maintenance Projects**
- **Approval of 2018-2019 School Handbooks**
- **Hiring Report for School Year 2018-2019**

B. Future Agenda Topics – Board Members

No future agenda topics were requested by the Board.

C. Executive Session – Personnel Matter

Mr. Prather suggested that there was a need for consideration of entering into Executive Session to hear two discipline appeals (Case #27-2-2017-2018 and Case #106-2017-2018). Mr. Wheeler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hudson, to go into temporary Executive Session to hear two discipline appeals. The motion was adopted unanimously by all members present, and Mr. Prather declared the motion passed. The room was then cleared.

The temporary Executive Session was called to order with the following people present: Mr. Eddie Prather, Mr. Rob Hudson, Mr. Ken Wheeler, Mr. Otis Tims, Dr. Rob Picou, Mr. Andy Cantrell, Ms. Modesty Shumpert, Ms. Patrice Tate and Mr. Terry Hatch. The Board first considered the reason for entering Executive Session. Mr. Prather stated that there was a need to hear two discipline appeals (Case #27-2-2017-2018 and Case #106-2017-2018). Upon a motion by Mr. Wheeler, with a second by Mr. Hudson, the Board voted unanimously by all members present to remain in Executive Session. The President of the Board declared the motion passed and went out into the hallway to let everyone know that the Board would remain in Executive Session.

At this point, Assistant Superintendent Andy Cantrell gave summary information regarding Discipline Case #27-2-2017-2018. Next the mother of Case #27-2017-2018 entered the meeting and addressed the Board on behalf of her child. After answering questions by the Board members, the parent left the meeting.

Next, Mr. Cantrell provided background information regarding Student Discipline Case #106-2017-2018. Then, Student #106-2017-2018 and his/her parents entered the meeting. Both the father and mother of Student #106-2017-2018 addressed the Board. After answering questions by the Board members, the student and parents left the room.

Mr. Wheeler moved that the Board return to Open Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hudson, and adopted unanimously by all members present. Mr. Prather then left the room and announced that the Board was again in Open Session.

Open Session

When Open Session resumed, Mr. Prather announced that in Executive Session the Board had heard two student discipline appeals.

1. Student Discipline Case #27-2-2017-2018

Mr. Hudson moved that a decision regarding Discipline Case #27-2-2017-2018 be deferred until such time that additional information can be obtained. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wheeler, and adopted unanimously by all members present. Mr. Prather declared the motion passed.

Detailed information regarding Student Discipline Case #27-2-2017-2018 is marked **EXHIBIT 10** "Sealed and Confidential" and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

2. Student Discipline Case #106-2017-2018

Whereupon, Mr. Wheeler made a motion that the Board affirm the Administration's decision to assign Student #106-2017-2018 to the Structured Day Program for 45 school days. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hudson, and adopted unanimously by all members present. Mr. Prather declared the motion passed.

Detailed information regarding Student Discipline Case #27-2-2017-2018 is marked **EXHIBIT 11** "Sealed and Confidential" and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Mr. Hudson made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Wheeler and adopted unanimously by all members present. Mr. Prather announced that the motion had passed and declared the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

**TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Eddie M. Prather, President

Rob Hudson, Secretary