

**TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
April 11, 2017
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, April 11, 2017, at the Hancock Leadership Center, 1920 Briar Ridge Road, 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. Joe Babb, Mrs. Sherry Davis, Mr. Eddie Prather and Mr. Kenneth Wheeler. Mr. Rob Hudson was absent. Mr. Prather 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 Mr. Wheeler, the Board voted unanimously by all members present to approve the agenda for the regular April 11, 2017, Board subject to the following change:

- Correction to Docket of Claims under Section VIII, Superintendent's Report, Item A1.
- Addendum to Personnel Report under Section VIII, Superintendent's Report, Item C.

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.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES

The Board reviewed minutes from the March 21, 2017 9 a.m. Work Session, and March 21, 2017 noon Regular Meeting. No corrections were noted.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

RECOGNITIONS

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Eddie Peasant recognized Transportation Director Larry Harmon and several bus drivers and monitors to honor them for their service in the district's transportation department.

COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD

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

A. Recommendation of AEE 2017 Grants (TPSD Goal #1-4)

Mrs. Emily Jarrett and Mrs. Depeeka Dey of AEE recommended approval of the AEE 2017 Grants. This year, AEE received 46 requests and were able to fund or partially fund 32 grants for a grand total of \$78,000.

B. TPSD Job Fair Update Report

Mr. Jim Turner, Human Resource Director, presented a 3 year trend report on the success of the district's annual Job Fair.

C. Principals' Academy

Mrs. Corlis Curry, Federal Programs Director, and Dr. Mitzi Moore, Parkway Elementary Principal, gave a report on the Mississippi Principals' Academy. The Academy is led by Dr. Bob Thompson and was modeled after Lamar University's Superintendent Academy. Twenty-seven Principals from 13 districts participated in the Academy. Each meeting consisted of three day sessions.

D. NSBA Annual Conference 2017

Mr. Prather, Mr. Wheeler, and Mrs. Davis all attended the NSBA Annual Conference in Denver, Colorado March 25-27. Each gave an account of what they learned at the conference.

E. Ad Valorem Report for Amount Received through March, 2017 (TPSD Goal #4)

Mrs. Rachel Murphree reported that the collections for operations for February, 2017, received by the District in March, 2017, were 93.43% of the amount requested compared to 92.95% in the previous year. The collections for debt service for February, 2017, received by the District in March, 2017, were 93.61% of the amount requested compared to 92.55% in the previous year.

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 (TPSD Policy DJAAB Contract Signing Authority)

Contracts to be Acknowledged and Awarded: #CO1755 through #CO1763;
BC#2016-2017-008; and #SFR1717

2. Donations (TPSD Policy DFAB Revenues for Non-Tax Sources)
#2016-2017-050 through #2016-2017-052
3. Request Permission to Submit Grant (TPSD Policy DEEG Grant Management)
TPSD Grant #1740
4. Request Permission to Advertise – BD1704 Science Tools (FOSS Kits)
5. Awarding of Bid RFP Pest Control
6. Permission to Delete 113 Assets from the TPSD Asset Listing and Add Back One (1)
Asset to the TPSD Asset Listing (TPSD Policy DM)
7. Permission to Purchase Ten (10) School Buses. Eight are 77-passenger buses; one
special needs bus; and one activity bus

B. Office of Assistant Superintendent Dr. Eddie Peasant

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

C. Office of Assistant Superintendent Mrs. Anna Guntharp

1. Approval of 2017 Summer Opportunity Camp (June 5-June 30, 2017)
2. Title ID 2016-2017 Grant Assurances

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

Tupelo Career & Technical Center Local Plan Update for Fiscal Year 2018

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 Mr. Prather reviewed the Docket of Claims prior to the meeting, he recommended approval of the Docket of Claims for the period March 4, 2017, through March 31, 2017, Docket of Claims #43440 through #44133, Accounts Payable Checks #28770 through #29216 in the amount of \$1,337,695.26; and Athletic Activity Ref Pay paid officials and fees in the amount of \$1,593.70 for March 1 through March 31, 2017. The grand total for all funds is \$1,339,288.96.

2. Required Monthly Financial Reports – Month Ending February 28, 2017

The following reports were submitted for consideration for approval:

- Report of Reconciled Bank Statements with Certification

- Statement of Revenue and Expenditure Report 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

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

1. Licensed Personnel Recommendations

Mr. Jim Turner presented the Licensed Personnel Recommendations (plus addendum) for consideration for approval.

Dr. Gearl Loden presented the following reports for consideration for approval:

2. Reemployment of TPSD Licensed Staff for 2017-2018 School Year
3. Reemployment of 2017-2018 Assistant Principals-Directors Licensed and Non-Licensed
4. Amendment to TPSD Policy GCBA-E Instructional Staff Salary Schedule for 2017-2018 School Year

C. Office of Assistant Superintendent Dr. Eddie Peasant (TPSD Goal #2)

1. Student Discipline Case #101-2-2016-2017

Consideration of ratification of administrative decision to expel Student #101-2-2016-2017 from TPSD for one calendar year for violation of TPSD Policies JD-Procedures 6-Alternative Schools 4-12.

D. Office of Assistant Superintendent Mrs. Anna Guntharp

Amendment to TPSD Board Policy BCAC Special Meetings of the Board

Dr. Leigh Mobley presented Board Policy BCAC for consideration for approval. Requirements of HB1116 make revisions of this policy of the Board necessary for compliance with state law.

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

1. Service Order for THS Athletic Suite Renovations

Mr. Andy Cantrell recommended for consideration for approval a Service Order for use with Master Agreement between TPSD and JBHM Architects for the THS Athletic Suite Renovations project, and recommended that the Superintendent be authorized to sign all documents related to the contract.

2. Awarding of Re Bid for Parkway Elementary Renovations

Mr. Andy Cantrell recommended for consideration for approval accepting the recommendation by JBHM Architects to award the Parkway Elementary Renovations Base Bid and Alternate No. 4 to Conditioned Air for a total contract award of \$443,700. It is also JBHM'S recommendation to reject Alternate No. 1, 2, and 3, Mr. Cantrell also recommended that the Superintendent be authorized to sign all documents related to the contract.

F. Office of Superintendent of Schools Dr. Gearl Loden (TPSD Goals #3)

1. Information Items

Upcoming TPSD Events

- April 14-17, Easter Holidays
- April 24, Rotary Scholars Luncheon, 11:30am, The Summit
- April 28, AEE Luncheon, 11:30am, Milam Elementary
- May 9, 2017 Regular Meeting, Noon, HLC, 5:00 p.m., Milam Elementary
- May 19, 2017, Graduation, Bancorp South Arena

C. Miscellaneous

No miscellaneous items were discussed

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion re TPSD Policy FB – Naming School Facilities

Following discussion of TPSD Policy FB Naming School Facilities, it was the consensus of the Board that discussion continue at a later date.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration for Approval for 2017-2018 Awarded AEE Grants

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

A. Future Agenda Topics – Superintendent Gearl Loden

May 9, 2017 Board Meeting

- Recognize Technology and Student Services Departments
- 2017-2018 Student Handbooks
- Marketing Communications Update
- End of the Year Reports-Athletics, Discipline, ADA

B. Future Agenda Topics – Board Members

No future agenda topics were requested by Board members.

C. Executive Session

Mr. Prather suggested that there was a need for consideration of entering into executive session to discuss a student discipline matter. Mr. Wheeler made a motion that the Board enter temporary Executive Session. Mrs. Davis seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously. 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. Joe Babb, Mrs. Sherry Davis, Mr. Eddie Prather, Mr. Kenneth Wheeler, Mr. Otis Tims, Dr. Gearl Loden, Dr. Eddie Peasant, Mrs. Modesty Shumpert, Ms. Patrice Tate, and Officer Terry Hatch. The Board first considered the reason for entering Executive Session. Mr. Prather stated that there was a need to discuss a student discipline appeal. Upon a motion by Mr. Wheeler, with a second by Mrs. Davis, the Board voted unanimously 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.

Student Discipline Case #96-2016-2017

First, Dr. Eddie Peasant gave summary information on the Student Discipline Case #96-2016-2017, Assistant Principal Ian Shumpert, and Life Core Counselor Ms. Leech, entered the room, answered questions from the Board and then left the room.

At this point, student #96-2016-2017 entered the room along with the mother. After addressing the Board, and answering questions, the student and parent left the room.

The Board then discussed case #96-2016-2017, but took no action.

After discussion among the Board, Mr. Wheeler made a motion to leave Executive Session and return to Open Session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Davis 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

Mr. Prather stated that the Board had discussed a student discipline matter in Executive Session, but that no action had been taken during the Executive Session. Mr. Prather then announced that there was a further need for an Executive Session that had not been included within the scope of the prior motion, and that the need was to discuss a personnel and hiring matter.

Second Executive Session

A motion was made by Mr. Wheeler and seconded by Mr. Babb to go into temporary executive session to discuss a personnel and hiring matter. The motion was approved unanimously, and Mr. Prather announced that the Board had voted go into temporary executive session to discuss a personnel and hiring matter. Mr. Wheeler then made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Babb, to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel and hiring matter, and the motion was unanimously adopted. Mr. Prather then left the room to announce that the Board had voted to return to Executive Session to discuss a personnel and hiring matter.

In Executive Session, the Board discussed a personnel and hiring matter, but took no action. After the discussion Mr. Wheeler made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Davis to return to Open Session. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Open Session

Mr. Prather declared the Board in Open Session and announced that in the second Executive Session the Board had discussed a personnel and hiring matter and had taken no action concerning it.

Mrs. Davis then made a motion concerning the appeal of Student Discipline Case #96-2016-2017 heard during the first Executive Session. The motion was that the Board affirm the Administration's decision to expel Student #96-2016-2017 for one calendar year, but that enforcement of the expulsion be suspended provided that the student: (1) undergoes a series of psychological evaluations and special education testing for the purpose of determining whether he presents a danger to himself or others and whether he qualifies for services under IDEA; (2) successfully participates in any treatment and remediation programs indicated as a result of the evaluations and testing; and (3) attends the District's Alternative School for one year with no disciplinary infractions, to be followed by additional evaluations and testing. Mr. Wheeler seconded the motion and it was unanimously adopted. Mr. Prather declared the motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Babb made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Wheeler seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously. Mr. Prather declared the meeting adjourned at 3:36 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

**TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Eddie Prather, President

Rob Hudson, Secretary