



Board of Education

Minutes of Called School Board Meeting
The Board of Education

A Called School Board Meeting of the Board of Education of Fort Smith Public Schools was held July 8, 2019, beginning at 5:30 PM in the Service Center, Bldg. B.

Ms. Susan McFerran, president, called the meeting to order. Other board members present were Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin, Mr. Greg Magness, Ms. Jeannie Cole, and Ms. Talicia Richardson. Mr. Bill Hanesworth and Mr. Wade Gilkey were absent. Dr. Doug Brubaker, Superintendent, Dr. Terry Morawski, Deputy Superintendent, Mr. Martin Mahan, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Barry Owen, Chief Academic Officer, Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Darian Layes, Executive Director of Student Services, Ms. Sherri Penix, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Campus Support, and Ms. Nadine Brooks, Secretary to the Superintendent were also present.

A moment of silence was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. McFerran read the mission statement.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

Ms. Tracy Ahlert spoke regarding Act 430.

Mr. Alan Swaim spoke regarding NHS Freshman Center proposed location.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Brubaker yielded to Ms. Penix to present the professional staff recommendations.

Professional Staff Recommendations

Resignations

Certified

Haley, Emily

Herring, Haley

Babb, Mallory

Jones, Marisa

Geschwentner, Kelsea

Medina, Cynthia Mychel

Peerbolte, Cara

Biggs, Travis
Jenkins, Deborah
Fairfield, Amy
Palmer, Precious
Ashley, Nathan
Burton, Ellen Renee
Lowdermilk, James
Cobb, Julie

Ms. Richardson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cole, to accept the recommendations for certified resignations as presented. The vote for approval was 5/0.

Classified

Jordan, Lonnie
Adams, Violet
Avila, Isela
Spinas, Tracy
Jenkins, Jay
Chennault, Betty
Neves, Shannon
Jones, Talithia

Ms. Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Magness, to accept the recommendations for classified resignations as presented. The vote for approval was 5/0.

Retirements

Ms. Penix reported that there were no retirements.

Employment

Certified

Hunter, Nicole
Goodman, Amanda
Whitsett, Matthew
Moore, Kaley
Austin, Maureen
Hankins, Will
Snow, Jennifer
Caesar, Jennifer
Hines, Theresa
Duren, Sarah
Cecil, Emily

Hampton, Ashley
Donald, AnnaLisa
Williams, Alyssa
Jones, Kaitlyn
Johnson, Michelle
Barrie, Billie
De La Paz, Silena

Classified

Cooper, William
Neumeier, Carl

Mr. Gilkey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Magness, to approve the recommendations for certified and classified employment as presented. The vote passed 5/0.

Leaves of Absence

Ms. Penix reported that there were no leaves of absence.

Dr. Brubaker noted that Boy Scout Troop 380 was present and would earn a badge for attending the school board meeting.

Current Bids and Proposals

Mr. Warren reported that the following items related to current bids and proposals from the Child Nutrition Department.

1. Milk Contracts

Requested by: Phillip Garcia, Director of Child Nutrition
Selection Method: Sealed Bids
Funding Source: Child Nutrition Funds
Award: Hiland Dairy
Bid Count: One (local, another local vendor chose not to bid)
Additional Information: The District continues to reach out to other vendors; the potential bidders review current pricing from Hiland and choose not to bid. Milk prices have increased annually approximately \$0.02 consistently over the last few years.

2. Bread Contracts

Requested by: Phillip Garcia, Director of Child Nutrition
Selection Method: Sealed Bids
Funding Source: Child Nutrition Funds
Award: Harris Baking Company
RFQ Count: Two (one from the River Valley, one from northwest Arkansas)
Additional Information: The bids were competitive. Updated regulations removed the whole wheat requirement. The Harris bid had a lower blended wheat bread price and a wider range of

products that the District provides to students. The District will see an increase in this product by \$0.005 from the previous year.

Dr. Brubaker reported that this is an information item and no action is required.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda included the minutes of the June 10 Called School Board Meeting.

Ms. Richardson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to approve the consent agenda as presented. The vote passed 5/0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF STUDENT HANDBOOK CHANGES FOR 2019-2020

Dr. Brubaker reported that on May 20, the Board approved on second reading new student policies based on the Arkansas School Board Association model policies. The District Handbook Committee then met on June 4 and developed the attached twelve recommendations for handbook changes to ensure that the 2019-2020 handbook is aligned with the new student policies. The changes recommended by the handbook committee were presented with changes from the previous year's handbook.

Dr. Brubaker reported that due to several changes made to education law in Arkansas during the most recent legislative session, additional work will need to be done on the handbook over the next several months. In order to adapt to these changes, additional recommendations for policy updates and corresponding changes to the handbook will be prepared for the consideration of the Board. ASBA model policies designed to address these changes have recently become available. Because the handbook is now distributed electronically, future updates to it can be posted for students and families as they are completed and approved. Dr. Brubaker stated that paper copies will be distributed to families who request them.

The administration recommended that the handbook changes presented be approved for inclusion in the 2019-20 District Handbook.

After discussion, Ms. Cole made a motion, seconded by Ms. Richardson, to approve the attached changes to the 2019-2020 FSPS District Handbook. The vote passed 5/0.

CONSIDER ADOPTING STUDENT RELATED POLICY 4.59 - ACADEMIC COURSE ATTENDANCE BY PRIVATE SCHOOL AND HOME SCHOOL STUDENTS

Dr. Brubaker reported that ACT 430 of the 2019 Arkansas Legislature requires that all public school districts allow the enrollment of home school and/or private school students in academic classes. ACT 430 was included for board members to review.

Dr. Brubaker reported that the Arkansas School Board Association (ASBA) model policies include a policy to meet this legal requirement. The ASBA recommended policy was included

for review and the administration recommended this policy be adopted to bring the district in compliance with ACT 430.

Dr. Brubaker stated that Policy 4.59, if adopted, would be in effect as soon as board approval was granted.

The administration recommended the board approve the first reading of Board Policy 4.59 – Academic Course Attendance by Private School and Home School Students.

After discussion, Ms. Richardson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to approve on first reading the Board Policy 4.59 - Academic Course Attendance by Private School and Home School Students, as presented to be effective as soon as board approval is granted. The vote passed 5/0.

PRESENTATION - VISION 2023 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Steve Sparling, HPM Senior Project Manager, presented an update to board members on Vision 2023 Capital Improvement Projects related to security upgrades, Morrison Elementary School and questions about drainage at Ramsey Junior High School.

BOARD MEMBERS FORUM

Ms. McFerran stated that she enjoyed attending the District's Full STEAM Ahead and how interesting it was.

Ms. Richardson stated that she was impressed with the STEAM summer enrichment activity also.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 6.42 p.m.

Susan McFerran, President

Yvonne Keaton-Martin, Secretary