



## Board of Education

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Minutes of Regular School Board Meeting  
The Board of Education

A Regular School Board Meeting of the Board of Education of Fort Smith Public Schools was held September 24, 2018, 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. Wade Gilkey, Mr. Greg Magness, and Ms. Talicia Richardson and Mr. Bill Hanesworth. Ms. Jeannie Cole was absent. Dr. Doug Brubaker, Superintendent, Mr. Martin Mahan, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Campus Support, Dr. Barry Owen, Chief Academic Officer, Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer, Ms. Zena Featherston Marshall, Executive Director of Communication and Community Partnerships, Mr. Darian Layes, Executive Director of Student Services and Ms. Nadine Brooks, Secretary to the Superintendent were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Dr. Owen gave the Invocation.

Ms. McFerran read the mission statement.

The consent agenda included the minutes of the August 27 Regular School Board Meeting and September 10 Work Session, August Financial Report, September Student Services Report, and approval of the 2018-2019 Methodology Assurances.

Mr. Hanesworth made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to approve the consent agenda items as presented. The vote passed 6/0.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

#### **Report to the Public**

Dr. Brubaker presented the Report to the Public. He highlighted the completion of the Vision 2023 Strategic Planning process with the Board's approval in December 2017, and the Citizens' Committee process that resulted in the millage proposal that passed by a margin of 62/38 on May 22, 2018. He reported that 182 people invested almost 3,500 hours, 450 research hours and 59 meetings. He also reported on the hiring of additional security resource officers, reorganizing staffing duties, grant writing services, and Professional Learning Communities (PLC) Pilots at Barling and Spradling elementary schools. He added that Title IV funds will allow expansion of this program. He reported that future plans are to continue to align funding priorities and personnel decisions with Vision 2023 goals.

## **Professional Staff Recommendations**

Dr. Brubaker yielded to Mr. Mahan to present the professional staff recommendations. Mr. Mahan noted that there were no retirements or leaves of absence.

## **Recommendations for Employment**

Freeman, Sara  
McGill, Emily  
Hollenbeck, William  
Dobbins, Heather

Mr. Hanesworth made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gilkey, to approve the recommendations for employment as presented. The vote passed 6/0.

There were no resignations, retirements or leaves of absence.

## **Recognitions**

September Star Awards: Aiden Cheyne, sixth grader at Cavanaugh Elementary, Diamond Gonzalez, sixth grader at Barling Elementary, Teresa Meadows, sixth grader at Pike Elementary, Maddox Perez, sixth grader at Sunnymede Elementary, Makayla Robinson, sixth grader at Beard Elementary, Anayah Simpson, fifth grader at Fairview Elementary, Tyler Williams, sixth grader at Orr Elementary, Micheal Zachary, fifth grader at Ballman Elementary.

### National Merit Semi-Finalists

Madelene Riche', Vinh Nguyen and Ryan Beallis seniors from Southside, were named National Merit Semi-Finalists. National Merit Semifinalists represent less than 1% of US seniors. These students are now eligible to compete for several rounds of scholarships, including school-sponsored scholarships as well as National Merit scholarships.

### Thrive to Five

Phillip Garcia and Child Nutrition Directors were recognized for receiving a Five to Thrive grant funded from Arkansas Children's Hospital's Natural Wonders Innovation Fund. Fort Smith Public Schools was named one of nine Five to Thrive districts in Arkansas to receive program funds and technical assistance to implement Five to Thrive. Five to Thrive was developed to encourage school districts across the state to offer a variety of nutritional and physical activity programming to improve student health and academic outcomes.

Dr. Doug Brubaker was recognized for his selection to serve on the Consortium for School Networking (CoSN) Advisory Panel designed to advance the Empowered Superintendent Program and support school leaders in leading digital transformations across the US and internationally. It represents over 13 million students in school districts nationwide and continues to grow as a powerful and influential voice in K-12 education. Dr. Brubaker is the only current school superintendent in the United States who has earned the Certified Education Technology Leader (CETL) designation.00

Cathey Ford, Intervention and Dyslexia Coordinator, was recognized for being selected to present in the Lindamood-Bell Leaders in Literacy webinar series featuring education leaders from around the country sharing their stories of increasing student achievement. Her presentation was September 19, 2018 and she discussed how FSPS has provided extensive professional development in sensory-cognitive reading instruction to teachers across 19 elementary schools, including all K-2 classroom teachers, special education teachers, reading interventionists, and teachers of English language learners.

Steve Haaser, Southside Coach, was recognized for 1000 volleyball wins on September 15. Coach Haaser has been at Southside for 39 years. The National Federation of High Schools states that there are only 17 coaches with 1,000 or more wins. In that time, Coach Haaser has also led Southside to several overall state girls volleyball and basketball championships. He has coached girls' basketball, girls' track, baseball and football, leading teams to 17 state titles. His overall record of 1,001-568 ranks first in Arkansas in number of wins, long surpassing the previous Arkansas Activities Association record.

### **CONSIDER ADOPTION OF A CORRECTED LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF DISTRICT**

Dr. Brubaker reported that during the Board's August 13 work session, the board reviewed a corrected legal description of the district because a boundary discrepancy was discovered between the Greenwood School District and Fort Smith School District. On August 16, the Sebastian County Assessor's Office reported the results of an internal review of the boundary between the Fort Smith and Lavaca School Districts as documented in the TASC ArcGIS system. This review indicated that another correction was needed. Sebastian County Assessor's Office staff identified a discrepancy between its map and the legal description of the boundary between the two districts as drafted by the Arkansas GIS Office and based on the boundary changes approved by the Arkansas State Board of Education in 2003. Each of the District's boundaries with neighboring school districts has now been verified by county and state officials. Dr. Brubaker reported that adoption of the legal description drafted by Arkansas GIS is now appropriate. The administration recommends that the Board adopt the corrected legal description for the Fort Smith School District. Mr. Hanesworth made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gilkey, to adopt the corrected legal description for the Fort Smith School District. The vote passed 6/0.

### **CONSIDER APPROVING RECEIPT OF 2018-2019 CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM (CACFP) –**

Mr. Mahan reported that the Special Nutrition Programs (SNP) provide reimbursement for well-balanced, nutritious meals served to individuals enrolled in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). He reported that in Arkansas, CACFP is administered by the Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, Special Nutrition Programs. Fort Smith Public Schools will be reimbursed for required snacks provided to preschool children.

Mr. Mahan reported that the administration recommends board approval to receive CACFP funds for the 2018-2019 school year. Mr. Hanesworth made a motion, seconded by Ms. Richardson, to receive the CACFP funds for the 2018-2019 school year. The vote passed 6/0.

#### **BOARD MEMBERS FORUM**

Ms. McFerran commended reporters Jady Watson-Fisher and Aric Mitchell on their articles about the PLC schools. Ms. Keaton-Martin was pleased that there were no resignations or retirements.

#### **CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

There was no one present for Citizens Participation.

#### **ADJOURN**

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

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Susan McFerran, President

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Yvonne Keaton-Martin, Secretary