

**TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES 5:00 P.M. MEETING MINUTES
February 14, 2017**

The Board of Trustees of the Tupelo Public School District convened in a regular meeting of the Board held in open session at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 11, 2017, Tupelo Middle School, 1009 Varsity Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Joe Babb 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. Babb announced a quorum and stated that the meeting was lawfully in session. Attorney Otis Tims was also present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved at the noon meeting. 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

January 17, 2017, Noon, Regular Meeting, HLC

Mr. Hudson made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2017, noon regular meeting as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wheeler and approved unanimously. Mr. Babb declared the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

WELCOME

Dr. Brock English welcomed the Board of Trustees, parents, staff and visitors to Tupelo Middle School.

RECOGNITIONS

The Board of Trustees recognized the following individuals or groups:

1. Seniors, THS Band for Participating in Presidential Inaugural Parade

2. Milam Elementary Stock Market Winners in Statewide Competition
3. MS Assessment Program Perfect Score Winners in 3rd through 8th Grades for 2015-2016 school year
4. THS Students with High AP Scores and respective teachers
5. Growing Healthy Waves receives the MS Partnerships in Education Governor's Award of Distinction
6. Employees of the Month (November, 2016 through February, 2017)

COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD

Superintendent Gearl Loden summarized the following reports for the benefit of those not present at the noon meeting:

A. United Way Update Report

United Way Representatives Mr. Russ Wilson and Mr. Rob Rice addressed the Board expressing thanks to the Tupelo Public School District for their continued support of United Way. Mr. Rice explained that this year's campaign showed a 10% growth from last year and contributions have doubled since 2013. Mr. Rice stated that 99 cents of every \$1.00 collected stays local.

B. Special Education Update Report

Special Education Director Gena McAlpin presented an update report as outlined below:

1. Plan for 2016-2017 (analyze unit test scores and determine who is making growth and determine strategies that are causing students to grow)
2. Child Count (SPED students increased from 932 to 1002 students)
3. District File Review Team (implemented new process that expedites the process and allows for face-to-face meetings with schools)
4. MDE Monitoring Visit (class, monitoring document review, transition coordinator attends high school PLC's, MDE trainings, IEP Review Team and consultation with districts who have been through monitoring)
5. Other (trainings, record purging, and JDC Regulations and Procedures)
6. Structured Day, Behavior Classes, and McDougal Class Transition to ECEC and Thomas Street Elementary School

(TPSD Goals #1 and #2)

C. Assistant Principal Development Training Update Report

Assistant Principals Heather Cartwright and Mark Enis summarized training strategies for district assistant principals during the 2016-2017 school year as follows:

1. Engage assistant principals in training immediately (summer administrative retreats with principals and administrators)
2. Principals' Summer Institute (collaboration with all AP's at TPSD in addition to building relationships with administrators across the state, team building among AP's)
3. First Year Administrator Mentor (assigned a mentor who is a retired superintendent or principal)
4. Monthly AP Meetings at HLC led by Mrs. Corlis Curry....guest speaker Dr. Tom Burnham (former state superintendent....also former principal and superintendent)

(TPSD Goals #1 and #3)

D. First Semester GPA and MHSAA Scholar Athlete Team Information

Athletic Director Eddie Moore reported on first semester GPA and MHSAA Scholar Athlete Team Information. Dr. Moore stated that first semester average GPA was 3.49 for 582 student athletes. Attendance was 95.67% (TPSD Goal #1)

E. Ad Valorem Collections through January, 2017

Assistant Finance Director Rachel Mitchell reported that collections for Operations for December, 2016, received by the District in January, 2017, were 31.99% of the amount requested compared to 24.57% in the previous year. The collections for Debt Service for December, 2016, received by the District in January, 2017, were 31.64% of the amount requested compared to 23.66% in the previous year. (TPSD Goal #4, TPSD Policy DFA)

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

CONSENT AGENDA

In accordance with Dr. Loden's recommendations, Mrs. Davis moved to approve and ratify the Consent Agenda as listed below:

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

1. Contractual Agreements:
Acknowledge and Award Contracts #CO1743, #CO`744 and #CO1746; Charter Bus Contract BC #2016-2017-007; and Contract for Rental of School Facilities #SFR1716
2. Ratification of Contracts #CO1741, #CO1742 and #CO1743
3. Accepted Donations #2016-2017-039 through #2016-2017-043
4. Permission to Submit TPSD Grants #1713 through #1716
5. Permission to Accept TPSD Grant #1726
6. Permission to Advertise BD170 TPSD Activity Bus
7. Awarding of Advertised Bid/Proposals – RFP103 E-Rate Items/Equipment

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
 - TCTC – FCCLA to attend “Students Taking Action with Recognitions” STAR Event to compete on March 1-3, 2017, Jackson, MS
 - TCTC – FCCLA Culinary Arts to attend FCCLA Leadership conference and competition, March 1-3, 2017, Jackson, MS
3. 2016-2017 School Wellness Policies as required by MDE, Office of Healthy Schools (TPSD Policy JDE) (TPSD Goals #1 and #2)

C. Office of Assistant Superintendent Mrs. Anna Guntharp

Approval of Fiscal Year 2017 Title III LEP and Title II Immigrant Assurances

The motion was seconded by Mr. Wheeler and was approved unanimously. 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 Assistant Director of Finance Mrs. Rachel Mitchell (TPSD Goal #4)

1. Docket of Claims and Athletic Activity Ref Pay

As Mrs. Sherry Davis had reviewed the Docket of Claims prior to the meeting, he recommended approval of the Docket of Claims and Athletic Activity Referee Pay as described below:

- Docket of Claims for the period January 7 through February 3, 2017, Docket of Claims #42010 through #42745, Accounts Payable Checks #27615 through #28269 in the amount of \$1,541,572.56.
- Athletic Activity Ref Pay paid officials and fees in the amount of \$3,641.05 for January 1 through January 31, 2017.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Hudson and approved unanimously. Mr. Babb declared the motion passed.

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

2. Monthly Financial Reports Required by MS Code § 37-9-18 (Month Ending 12-31-16)

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

- 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

Mr. Babb declared the motion passed. The Financial Reports for Month Ending December 31, 2016, 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

Mr. Prather moved to approve the Licensed Personnel Recommendations including the Addendum as presented. Mr. Wheeler seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously. Mr. Babb declared the motion passed. The Licensed 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 Goals #1-#4)

1. Second Reading of New TPSD Policy IAAA Right to Opt-Out of State Testing

Dr. Leigh Mobley presented new TPSD Policy IAAA Right to Opt-Out of State Testing for a second reading.

On a motion by Mr. Wheeler, seconded by Mrs. Davis, the Board voted unanimously to adopt new policy IAAA Right to Opt-Out of State Testing as recommended. Mr. Babb declared the motion passed. A copy of TPSD Policy IAAA is marked EXHIBIT 6 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein

2. First Reading of New TPSD Policies EDDAA, GABE and GBRA

Dr. Leigh Mobley presented the following new policies for a first reading:

EDDAA	Student Transportation
GABE	Title I Comparability
GBBA	Paperwork Reduction

3. Recommendation to Amend Existing TPSD Policies (GBAAAB, EBHA, GADG and GBBA)

Dr. Leigh Mobley recommended approval to amend the following existing TPSD Board Policies following a review and in consultation with appropriate directors, principals and staff:

GBAAAB	Classified Staff Fringe Benefits
EBHA	Use of School Property
GADG	Professional Leave
GBBA	Certifications and Duties

On a motion by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, the Board voted unanimously to amend the abovementioned policies as submitted. A copy of the above amended policies are marked Exhibit 7 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

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

1. Student Discipline Case #30-2-2016-2017

On a motion by Mr. Prather, seconded by Mrs. Davis, the Board voted unanimously to ratify the administrative decision to expel Student #30-2-2016-2017, from TPSD for one calendar year for violation of TPSD Policy JD – Procedures 6 – Alternative Schools 4-12.

Detailed information regarding Student Discipline Case #30-2-2016-2017 is marked EXHIBIT 8 “Sealed and Confidential” and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

2. Student Discipline Case #74-2016-2017

On a motion by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, the Board voted unanimously to ratify the administrative decision to expel Student #74-2016-2017, from TPSD for one calendar year for violation of TPSD Policy JD – Procedures 6 – Alternative Schools 4-12. Mr. Babb declared the motion passed.

Detailed information regarding Student Discipline Case #74-2016-2017 is marked EXHIBIT 9 “Sealed and Confidential” and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

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

Information Items:

1. Buildings and Grounds Update Report – Mr. Andy Cantrell

Mr. Cantrell reported on the progress of the building/renovations projects currently underway throughout the district as follows:

- a. Projects are completed at Rankin, TMS Classroom Addition, Milam, ECEC Classroom Addition and Lawndale.
- b. Moving forward with shelters at Thomas and Joyner.
- c. ECEC Renovations – Award Bid at today’s meeting with notice to proceed once insurance documents are received.
- d. Opening bids for TMS, Lawhon, and Parkway during the month of March.

2. Credit to TPSD for TMS Classroom Addition – Mr. Andy Cantrell

Mr. Cantrell reported that Change Order Number One reflects a credit to the district in the amount of \$45,609.70 for the new classroom addition project at TMS. The original Contract Sum was \$1,429,000.00. The new Contract Sum including this change order is now \$1,383,390.30.

3. STEM Implementation – Mrs. Kimberly Britton

Mrs. Britton announced that TPSD will become Mississippi's Premier STEM District. STEM is a term that refers to the academic disciplines of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Plans are to implement STEM across the curriculum in phases beginning with the elementary schools and culminating at THS. This transition will be a cultural shift requiring professional development, summer curriculum planning, and partnerships with stakeholders in our community.

Reminder of Upcoming Events:

- February 20 – School Holiday (President's Day)
- Spring Open Houses: ECEC & K-2 – March 7, 4-6:00pm; 3rd-5th including Lawhon 2nd Grade – March 2, 4-6:00pm; Milam – March 21, 4-6:00pm
- March 21, 9:00am Work Session, HLC, Noon, Regular Meeting, HLC

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Resolution Directing the Sale and Award of General Obligation Bonds in the Principal Amount of Eight Million Eight Hundred Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$8,800,000.00) and Taking Other Actions Regarding the Aforesaid Bonds

Board Member Sherry Davis offered and moved the adoption of a resolution with the following title, a complete copy of which was presented to and discussed with the Board at its noon meeting:

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SALE AND AWARD OF GENERAL
OBLIGATION BONDS IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF EIGHT
MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS
(\$8,800,000.00), OF THE TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT AND
TAKING OTHER ACTIONS REGARDING HE AFORESAID BONDS.

Board Member Kenneth Wheeler seconded the motion to adopt the resolution and, the question being put to a roll call vote, the result was as follows:

Board Member Mr. Joe Babb	Voted: YEA
Board Member Mrs. Sherry Davis	Voted: YEA
Board Member Mr. Eddie Prather	Voted: YEA
Board Member Mr. Kenneth Wheeler	Voted: YEA
Board Member Mr. Rob Hudson	Voted: YEA

The motion having received a unanimous affirmative vote of the members present, the President of the Board of Trustees of Tupelo Public School District declared the motion carried and the resolution adopted on February 14, 2017.

A copy of the abovementioned resolution is marked Exhibit10 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

B. Resolution Authorizing and Directing the Issuance of a Limited Tax Note in the Principal Amount of \$1,100,000.00

Board member Eddie Prather offered and moved the adoption of a resolution with the following title, a complete copy of which was presented to and discussed with the Board at its noon meeting:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE ISSUANCE
OF A NOTE OF THE TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE
PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF ONE MILLION ONE HUNDRED AND
NO/100 DOLLARS (\$1,100,000.00).

Board Member Rob Hudson seconded the motion to adopt the resolution and, the question being put to a roll call vote, the result was as follows:

Board Member Mr. Joe Babb	Voted: YEA
Board Member Mrs. Sherry Davis	Voted: YEA
Board Member Mr. Eddie Prather	Voted: YEA
Board Member Mr. Kenneth Wheeler	Voted: YEA
Board Member Mr. Rob Hudson	Voted: YEA

The motion having received an unanimous affirmative vote of the members present, the President of the Board of Trustees of Tupelo Public School District declared the motion carried and the resolution adopted on February 14, 2017.

A copy of the abovementioned resolution is marked Exhibit11 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

c. Discussion of TPSD Policy FB – Naming School Facilities

It was reported that the committee formed to look into TPSD Policy FB – Naming School Facilities is scheduled to meet on Thursday, February 16. Further information on any proposed revisions or findings should be available for discussion at the March 21 Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Awarding of Early Childhood Education Center Renovations 2017 Bid

On a motion by Mr. Wheeler, seconded by Mrs. Davis, the Board voted unanimously to award the ECEC Renovations 2017 Bid to McCarty King Construction Company which submitted the lowest/best bid which fulfills the needs of the District for base bid plus alternate numbers 1 through number 4 and alternate numbers 6 through number 9 for a total amount of \$2,024,527.00 and further to authorize Superintendent Gearl Loden to sign the applicable agreements between Owner, Architect and Contractor. Mr. Babb declared the motion passed.

Summary information regarding the ECEC Renovations 2017 Bid is marked EXHIBIT 12 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

A. Future Agenda Topics – Superintendent Gearl Loden

March 21, 2017, Regular Board Meeting

- Oath of Office for Re-Appointed Board Member
- Organizational Meeting
- Audit Update
- Approval of Opportunity Camp
- Employment of 2017-2018 School Administrative Personnel
- Amendment of IDEA-FY16 Project Application
- Bond Projects Update
- Approval of Title I-Part D
- Safety Audit Report

B. Future Agenda Topics – Board Members

No specific agenda topics were requested by Board Members at this meeting of the Board.

C. Executive Session

Mr. Babb stated that an Executive Session was held at the noon meeting to discuss personnel matters.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Hudson and seconded by Mr. Wheeler, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Babb declared the motion passed and the meeting in adjournment at 5:40 p.m.

APPROVED:

TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Joe Babb, President

ATTEST:

Sherry Davis, Secretary