

**TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
April 14, 2011**

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 Thursday, April 14, 2011, at the Hancock Leadership Center, 1920 Briar Ridge, Tupelo, Mississippi.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Amy Heyer who welcomed guests attending the meeting.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

The following School Board members were present during roll call:

Members Present: Mrs. Amy Heyer
 Mr. John Nail
 Mr. Eddie Prather
 Mrs. Beth Stone
 Mr. Lee Tucker

Staff Present:	Mrs. Diana Ezell	
	Dr. Fred Hill	Mrs. Marissa Martin
	Mr. Billy Crews	Ms. Patrice Tate
	Mrs. Linda Pannell	Mr. Kenneth Roberts
	Mr. David Meadows	Mrs. Lynne Rogers
	Mrs. Julie Hinds	Mr. Danny Porter
	Mrs. Glenda Scott	Dr. Derwood Tutor
	Mr. Jim Turner	Mrs. Kelly Stimpson (via WebEx)
	Mrs. Mary Ruth Wright	Mr. Larry Harmon
	Mrs. Brenda Meriweather	Mrs. Mary Ann Plasencia
	Mrs. Pamela Traylor	Mrs. Evet Topp
	Dr. George Noflin	Mrs. Julie Connolly
	Mr. Paul Moton	

Mrs. Heyer announced a quorum and stated that the meeting was lawfully in session. School Board Attorney Otis Tims was also present. Several members of the press were present.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Upon a motion by Mr. Prather, seconded by Mr. Nail, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda with the following changes:

1. Add the following amendments to the Personnel Report:
 - a. Agreement to Modify Employment Agreement and Mutual Release of Claims
 - b. Consideration of Need for Executive Session to Discuss Personnel Matter
2. Move Personnel Report from Superintendent's Report to earlier in the meeting (after V. Public Comments).

Mrs. Heyer announced that the motion passed. The agenda is marked EXHIBIT 1 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Upon a motion by Mr. Nail, seconded by Mrs. Stone, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2011, regular meeting as presented. The President of the Board declared the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND RECOGNITIONS

A. Public Comments – Harold Turrentine

Mr. Harold Turrentine, board member of "Tupelo Public School District Citizens Standing for Student Education" addressed Tupelo Public School District Board of Trustees and expressed concerns. Mrs. Heyer thanked Mr. Turrentine for his comments and stated that his concerns will be taken under advisement by the Board of Trustees.

B. Recognitions

No recognitions were held at this meeting of the Board.

PERSONNEL REPORT

A. Agreement to Modify Employment Agreement and Mutual Release of Claims

Mrs. Heyer announced that Dr. Shaver and the District have mutually concluded that it is in the best interest of each other to modify Dr. Shaver's Employment Agreement dated December 9, 2009. On a motion by Mrs. Stone, seconded by Mr. Prather, the Board voted unanimously to authorize Board President Amy Heyer to execute an Agreement to Modify Employment Agreement and Mutual Release of Claims by and between Dr. Randall R. Shaver and the Tupelo Public School District. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the President of the Board declared the motion passed.

The Agreement to Modify Employment Agreement and Mutual Release of Claims by and Between Dr. Randy R. Shaver and the TPSD is marked EXHIBIT 2 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

Mrs. Heyer read the following statement which is marked EXHIBIT A to the abovementioned Agreement and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

DR. RANDY SHAVER'S SERVICE TO THE TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Board of Trustees of the Tupelo Public School District hereby expresses its appreciation for the many contributions Dr. Randy Shaver has made to the school district and to the good of our community during his tenure as Superintendent of Schools. During the Board's search process in 2008 we knew we needed a superintendent who was visionary. In Dr. Shaver we found one. We knew change was needed to ensure the future of Tupelo's schools, and we were looking for an agent for change. Again, in Dr. Shaver, we found one. But, as we have seen, change is not easy. It often causes controversy and frustration and sometimes even anger.

Dr. Shaver has not shied away from controversy. He has not sacrificed his professional judgment to achieve popularity. But he cares enough about the Tupelo schools – and is gracious enough – to realize that continuing controversy can make necessary change very difficult to manage. We appreciate his graciousness.

We are also grateful for a long list of specific accomplishments during Dr. Shaver's brief time here. The Tupelo Public School District will for many years benefit from his leadership in bringing about a third party objective audit of all district policies, procedures, operations, curricula and instruction methods for the purpose of developing and implementing a long-term plan for improvement of student achievement. This is a very important accomplishment. But there is much more to his legacy here.

Dr. Shaver:

- Led Tupelo and Mississippi in the implementation of a 21st Century Learning Tools Program - iCreate the Future - [laptops, smart boards, digital content]
- Established the SAM [School Aged Mothers] program in order to ensure that girls who typically drop out because of pregnancy graduate with a diploma, parenting skills, and job skills
- Established the High School Advancement Academy to help students who typically drop out to get back on the right academic path, and graduate
- Developed and implemented a Curriculum Management System which aligns what is taught with what is tested
- Established the Department of School Improvement to focus on teacher coaching and professional development
- Implemented the AlertNow Communications System to improve communications between schools and the community
- Developed and implemented a standards based, student achievement centered Teacher and Administrator Evaluation System
- Led the realignment process for Carver School and Church Street School to ensure socioeconomic balance for all students
- Established the Apple Tech Academy at Tupelo High School
- Established the Board Examination System for Tupelo High School
- Led the district to a National Technology and Learning Leadership Award presented by AASA
- Ensured an equitable opportunity for a sound education for all students

That is a significant list of accomplishments for only a brief time in our community. We are grateful to Dr. Shaver for his work in our schools. And we wish him much success wherever his career may take him in the future. Pursuant to the agreement, Mrs. Heyer also released the above statement to the press and will make it available to the public.

B. Executive Session – Personnel Matter

Board President Amy Heyer suggested to the School Board a temporary executive session to determine the need for a permanent executive session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter.

On a motion by Mr. Nail, seconded by Mrs. Stone, the Board voted unanimously to enter temporary executive session for the purpose of determining a need for permanent executive session. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the President of the Board declared the motion passed.

The room was cleared and the temporary executive session was called to order by Mrs. Heyer with the following people present: Mrs. Amy Heyer, Mr. John Nail, Mr. Eddie Prather, Mrs. Beth Stone, Mr. Lee Tucker, Ms. Patrice Tate, Mrs. Kelly Stimpson (via WebEx), and Mr. Otis Tims.

The Executive Session was called to order and the Board first considered the reason for entering Executive Session. Upon a motion by Mr. Nail with a second by Mrs. Stone, the Board voted unanimously to remain in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the President of the Board declared the motion passed.

Ms. Heyer reopened the meeting to tell all those in attendance the reason for going into Executive Session was to discuss a personnel matter.

Following the discussion, Mr. Nail moved to come out of Executive Session. Mrs. Stone seconded the motion, and upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the President of the Board declared the motion passed and the Board in open session.

C. Mr. David Meadows – Named Interim Superintendent

On a motion by Mr. Prather, seconded by Mr. Nail, the Board voted unanimously to name Mr. David Meadows as interim superintendent of the Tupelo Public School District. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the President of the Board declared the motion passed.

Following comments, Mr. Meadows took his place at the table with the TPSD Board of Trustees.

D. Personnel Report – Licensed Staff Recommendations

Mrs. Stone moved to approve the Licensed Personnel Report as recommended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tucker and was approved unanimously. The President of the Board declared the motion passed.

A detailed copy of the Licensed Personnel Report is marked EXHIBIT 3 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

E. Reemployment of TPSD Licensed Staff for 2011-2012 School Year/Reemployment of TPSD Licensed Staff Contingent Upon Receipt of Valid Endorsed License for 2011-2012 School Year and Reemployment of TPSD Administrative Personnel for 2011-2012 School Year

Interim Superintendent David Meadows recommended the reemployment of TPSD licensed staff for the 2011-2012 school year, reemployment of TPSD licensed staff contingent upon receipt of a valid endorsed license for the 2011-2012 school year, and reemployment of TPSD administrative personnel for the 2011-2012 school year.

Upon a motion by Mr. Nail, with a second by Mr. Tucker, the Board voted unanimously for the reemployment of TPSD licensed staff for the 2011-2012 school year, reemployment of TPSD licensed staff contingent upon receipt of a valid endorsed license for the 2011-2012 school year, and the reemployment of TPSD administrative personnel for the 2011-2012 school year.

Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously by all members present, the President of the Board declared the motion passed.

The above Reemployment of Personnel for the 2011-2012 School Year Report is marked EXHIBIT 4 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

A. Statement of Cash Flow for Month Ending February 28, 2011

Finance Director Linda Pannell submitted the Statement of Cash Flow for month ending February 28, 2011, for information and review. A copy of the Cash Flow Report is marked EXHIBIT 5 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

B. Ad Valorem Update

Finance Director Linda Pannell reported on ad valorem collections through March, 2011, as compared to the 2010-2011 budget.

C. FY12 Budget – MAEP Allocations for 2011-2012 School Year

Mrs. Pannell shared information regarding FY12 MAEP allocation with the Board.

D. Legal Update

TPSD Legal Counsel Kelly Stimpson gave a brief legal update on the following areas:

Open Meeting Act; Family Rights and Privacy Act; Board member responsibilities (policies BBAA, BCA, BEC), personnel records and privacy, etc.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Consent Agenda

In accordance with Mr. Meadow's recommendations, Mr. Prather moved to approve and ratify the Consent Agenda as listed below:

1. Charter Bus Service Contracts #BC10-11-018, #BC10-11-019 and #BC10-11-020
2. Donation #2010-11-47
3. Removal of Seven (7) Assets from the TPSD Capital Asset Listing
4. Ratification of Student Transfer Report

The motion was seconded by Mrs. Stone 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 6 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

B. Docket of Claims for March 12 through April 1, 2011

Mr. Prather reviewed the Docket of Claims prior to the meeting and recommended approval of the Docket of Claims for the period March 12, 2011, through April 1, 2011, Docket of Claims #91657 through #92045, for Accounts Payable Checks #64854 through #65092 in the amount of \$910,264.33. The motion was seconded by Mr. Nail and approved unanimously. The President of the Board declared the motion passed.

This affirms that the claims and check registers are legal and proper and they should be allowed and ratified as paid by the Superintendent or his designee pursuant to Section 37-9-14 (7) of the Mississippi Code of 1972 Annotated. The Docket of Claims is marked EXHIBIT 7 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Awarding of Advertised Bid #BC1103 PE for Life Equipment

On a motion by Mr. Tucker, seconded by Mrs. Stone, the Board voted unanimously to award Bid #BD11003 PE for Life Equipment as outlined below:

Advertised Bid #BD1103 PE for Life Equipment
Funding Source: PE for Life Grant Funds for Tupelo High School
Bid Amount: \$89,951.16 (includes delivery and installation and setup)
Recommendation: Total Strength and Speed/Williams Strength

The President of the Board declared the motion passed. Additional information regarding Advertised Bid #BC1103 PER for Life Equipment is marked EXHIBIT 8 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

NEW BUSINESS

A. AEE Large and Small Grants Recommended for Funding in School Year 2011-2012

AEE President Debora McPherson presented the AEE Large and Small Grants recommended for funding in the 2011-2012 school year. Fifty-nine (59) large and twenty (20) small grants were submitted to AEE for the 2011-2012 school year. Mrs. McPherson stated that following review of the grant applications, fifteen (15) Large Grants and six (6) Small Grants are being recommended for funding by the Association of Excellence in Education in 2011-2012.

On a motion by Mr. Prather, seconded by Mr. Tucker, the Board voted unanimously to approve the fifteen (15) Large Grants and six (6) Small Grants recommended for funding in school year 2011-2012 by AEE.

The President of the Board declared the motion passed. Additional information regarding the AEE Large and Small Grants Recommended for Funding in School Year 2011-2012 is marked EXHIBIT 9 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

B. ARRA 2010 Reallocation IDEA and Preschool Funds Project Application

Special Education Director Mary Ruth Wright presented for review and consideration for approval the AARA 2010 Reallocation IDEA and Preschool Funds Project Application funding. Mrs. Wright reported that fiscal year 2010 funds are approved for obligation July 1, 2009, through September 30, 2011. These reallocation dollars will be used for equipment and services.

On a motion by Mr. Tucker, seconded by Mr. Prather, the Board voted unanimously to approve the ARRA 2010 Reallocation IDEA and Preschool Funds Project Application as submitted.

The President of the Board declared the motion passed. A copy of the AARA 2010 Reallocation IDEA and Preschool Funds Project Application is marked EXHIBIT 10 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

C. Resolution Authorizing Sale of \$2,275,000 Note

Finance Director Linda Pannell presented for review and consideration for adoption the following Resolution authorizing the sale of the \$2,275,000.00 Note, and also the approval of the form of the proposal:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE
ISSUANCE OF TWO MILLION TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY-
FIVE THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$2,275,000.00)
PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOTES OF THE TUPELO PUBLIC
SCHOOL DISTRICT.

On a motion by Mr. Nail, seconded by Mrs. Stone, the Board voted unanimously to approve the aforementioned Resolution as recommended.

The President of the Board declared the motion passed. A copy of the Resolution authorizing the sale of the \$2,275,000 Note is marked EXHIBIT 11 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Future Agenda Topics

1. Mr. Tucker requested that TPSD Board Policy BEDH – Public Participation in Meetings be placed on a future agenda with a view toward amending it to allow easier access for community members to address concerns or speak at TPSD board meetings.
2. Mr. Prather requested that a Board Work Session be scheduled in the near future.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Prather, seconded by Mr. Nail, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The President of the Board declared the motion passed and the meeting in adjournment at 1:30 p.m.

APPROVED:
TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ATTEST:

Arlissa C. Heyer, President

Elizabeth Stone, Secretary