

## Board of Education

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Minutes of Special School Board Meeting  
The Board of Education

A Special School Board Meeting of the Board of Education of Fort Smith Public Schools was held March 12, 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 Mr. Greg Magness, Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin, Ms. Jeannie Cole and Ms. Talicia Richardson, Mr. Wade Gilkey and Mr. Bill Hanesworth. Dr. Doug Brubaker, Superintendent, Dr. Gordon Floyd, Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Terry Morawski, Chief Operations Officer, Dr. Barry Owen, Chief Academic Officer, Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer, Ms. Zena Featherston Marshall, Executive Director of Communication and Community Partnerships, Mr. Martin Mahan, Executive Director of Human Resources, Mr. Darian Laves, Executive Director of Student Services and Ms. Nadine Brooks, Secretary to the Superintendent were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin gave the Invocation.

Ms. McFerran read the mission statement.

### **PRESENTATION ON SAFETY AND SECURITY**

Dr. Morawski provided a presentation on Safety and Security. He reported that as part of the Strategic Plan, the Learning Environment/ Facilities Action team directed District personnel to align resources, facilities and technology equitably to maximize security and enhance the learning environment. Dr. Morawski recognized the FSPS employees who make up the Safety and Security team for the District. He reviewed the District safety and security procedures that are currently in place and noted the items included in the current millage proposal. Board members and administrators discussed safety in great detail.

### **PRESENTATION ON MILLAGE PROPOSAL**

Dr. Morawski provided a presentation on the reduced millage proposal based on direction from the Board to further reduce the 6.888 millage rate that the Citizens Committee had proposed on February 26. He noted that the Citizens Committee was in agreement with the Board to further reduce the proposed 6.888 millage rate. Changes to the Citizens Committee Proposal included 1) Reduced interest rate calculation from 4.5% to 4.0%, 2) Staffing recommendations removed, 3) Ramsey Junior High Security Entry added, 4) Student device 1:1 project cost reduced, and 5) Wireless networking to support 1:1 removed. He reviewed the proposed projects and initiatives which include securing all campuses, expanding technology, a career and technical education facility and creating efficiencies throughout the district. He reviewed the student population adjustments by moving sixth-graders to middle schools and ninth

graders to high schools. Dr. Morawski reported that with these additional reductions the proposed increase is now 5.558 to be added to the existing 36.5 mills for a total of 42.058

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED BUDGET AND ALLOW THE DISTRICT TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH STEPHENS INC. TO SERVE AS MUNICIPAL ADVISOR AND THE FRIDAY LAW FIRM AS BOND COUNSEL**

Dr. Brubaker presented the updated 2018-2019 Proposed Budget to achieve an increase of 5.558 mills. He reported that to call a millage increase election for May 22, 2018, the accompanying resolution needed to be adopted to allow the District to enter into an agreement with Stephens to serve as Municipal Advisor and the Friday Law Firm as bond counsel. Dr. Brubaker read the resolution aloud. He noted that the administration recommended the Board adopt the resolution. Mr. Hanesworth made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cole, to approve the resolution to adopt the proposed budget and allow the district to enter into an agreement with Stephens Inc. to serve as Municipal Advisor and the Friday Law Firm as bond counsel. The motion passed 7/0.

**BOARD FORUM**

Mr. Hanesworth commended the Citizens Committee and administration on their work. Ms. Richardson suggested providing citizens with what is on the ballot. Mr. Magness said how important it is to let citizens know exactly what the millage will provide for each campus.

**CITIZENS PARTICIPATION**

There was no one present for Citizens Participation.

**ADJOURN**

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

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Susan McFerran, President

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Yvonne Keaton-Martin, Secretary

