

**TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES NOON MEETING MINUTES
December 10, 2013**

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 Tuesday, December 10, 2013, at the Hancock Leadership Center, 1920 Briar Ridge, Tupelo, Mississippi.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Rob Hudson who welcomed guests attending the meeting.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Board members present during roll call were: Mr. Joseph Babb, Mrs. Sherry Davis, Mr. Rob Hudson, and Mr. Eddie Prather. Mr. Hudson announced a quorum and stated that the meeting was lawfully in Session. Attorney Otis Tims was also present. (Mr. Ken Wheeler entered the meeting later).

OATH OF OFFICE – MRS. SHERRY DAVIS

Attorney Otis Tims of Mitchell, McNutt and Sams administered the Oath of Office ceremony for Mrs. Sherry Davis. A copy of the signed Oath of Office is marked EXHIBIT 1 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Mr. Prather, seconded by Mr. Babb, the Board voted unanimously by all members present to adopt the agenda as presented.

The President of the Board declared the motion passed. A copy of the Agenda is marked EXHIBIT 2 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

November 19, 2013, 9:30 A.M. Special Called Meeting (Work Session)

A motion was made by Mr. Babb, seconded by Mr. Prather, to approve the minutes from the November 19, 2013, 9:30 a.m. Special Called Meeting as submitted. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously by all members present, the President of the Board declared the motion passed.

November 19, 2013, Noon Regular Meeting

Motion was made by Mr. Prather, seconded by Mrs. Davis, to approve the minutes from the November 19, 2013, Noon Regular Meeting as presented. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously by all members present, the President of the Board declared the motion passed.

November 19, 2013, 5:00 P.M. Regular Meeting

Motion was made by Mr. Babb, seconded by Mrs. Davis, to approve the minutes from the November 19, 2013, 5:00 P.M. Regular Meeting as presented. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously by all members present, the President of the Board declared the motion passed.

RECOGNITIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. Recognitions

No recognitions were held at this meeting of the Board.

B. Public Comments

No public comments were requested for this meeting of the Board.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

A. Early Childhood Education Center (ECEC) (TPSD Goal #1)

Mrs. Anita Buchanan presented an Early Childhood Education Center report sharing information regarding student demographics; use of OWL (Opening the World of Learning) screener reading program; and Early Prevention of School Failure data.

Board Member Kenneth Wheeler entered the meeting during the above report.

B. Response to Early Intervention (RTI) (TPSD Goal #1)

Mrs. Amy Ferguson updated the Board on the district's RTI (Response to Intervention) Program explaining that RTI is a method of academic intervention used in the United States to provide early, systematic assistance to children who are having difficulty learning.

C. Wellness Center Update (TPSD Goal #3)

Mr. Jim Turner provided an overview of the district's Wellness Center participation. Mr. Turner reported that 1,029 staff are eligible with 385 people participating. Tupelo High School Teacher Jeramy Turner addressed the Board stating that he has lost 202 pounds since May, 2012.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

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

A. Office of Finance Director Mrs. Linda Pannell (TPSD Goal #4)

1. Contractual Agreement #CO1404
2. Permission to Add Two (2) Items from the TPSD Asset List and Delete 26 Items from the Asset Listing
3. Permission to Dispose of Items No Longer of Value or Use to the District
(There are items which are not considered assets; however, are property of the School District. When these items are no longer needed or useful to the District, permission to dispose of the items is required from the School Board. The current items meeting this description are food service tables and chairs removed from Tupelo High School during the renovation of the cafeteria. We would like to advertise these to other school districts in the area or state. State law allows a district to give such items to another state public school district. Hopefully, our district will be able to help another district that might have a need for these items.)
4. Cash Flow Statement for Month Ending October 31, 2013

B. Office of Assistant Superintendent Dr. Matthew Dillon

1. Student Transfer Report presented by Mrs. Pamela Traylor
2. Change Order Number One (1) – Tupelo High School Baseball Field Renovations (TPSD Goals #2 and #4)

This change order would increase the contract amount by \$30,778.29 for the change from vinyl coated chain link fence to decorative steel fence along Industrial Drive as well as to rebuild the retaining wall next to the home dugout which had washed out.

C. Office of Assistant Superintendent Dr. Diana Ezell

Ratification of administrative recommendation to dismiss early on Friday, December 6, 2013, so that students and parents interested in attending the 6A state football championship game between Tupelo High School and Oak Grove in Jackson, Mississippi, may do so.

D. Office of Assistant Superintendent Mrs. Kimberly Britton (TPSD Goal #4)

Federal Programs Director Anna Guntharp presented for consideration for approval a summary of Title I Part A expenditures for school year 2013-2014.

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Office of Director of Finance Mrs. Linda Pannell (TPSD Goal #5)

1. Docket of Claims

Mr. Joe Babb reviewed the Docket of Claims prior to the meeting and recommended approval as outlined below:

- Docket of Claims for the period November 11, 2013 through November 30, 2013, Docket of Claims #15192 through #15464, Accounts Payable Checks #9350 through #9543 in the amount of \$641,490.88.
- Tupelo High School Activity Check Register for the period November 2013, Checks #1358 through #1372 in the amount of \$6,005.55.
- Athletic Activity Check Register for the period November 2013, Checks #1682 through #1721 in the amount of \$4,519.01.

The grand total for all funds is \$652,015.44.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Wheeler and approved unanimously. President Rob Hudson 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 Report is marked EXHIBIT 4 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

2. Financial Statements for the Month Ending October 31, 2013

Mrs. Linda Pannell presented the Statements of Income and Expenditures for the month ending October 31, 2013, for approval. A listing by fund type is available for the Board's information and review.

On a motion by Mr. Prather, seconded by Mrs. Davis, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Statements of Income and Expenditures for the month ending October 31, 2013, as presented. Mr. Hudson declared the motion passed.

The Financial Statements are marked EXHIBIT 5 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

B. Office of Assistant Superintendent Dr. Diana Ezell

1. Proposed Revisions to Existing TPSD Policies BDE, JDD, JCAA, JCDAE and DJB

TPSD Policy BDE Review of Board Policy

On a motion by Mr. Babb, seconded by Mr. Prather, the Board voted unanimously to amend Policy BDE Review of Board Policy as submitted. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the President of the Board declared the motion passed.

TPSD Policy JDD Suspension

On a motion by Mr. Prather, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, the Board voted unanimously to amend Policy JDD Suspension as submitted. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the President of the Board declared the motion passed.

TPSD Policy JCAA Student Due Process Rights

On a motion by Mr. Prather, seconded by Mrs. Davis, the Board voted unanimously to amend Policy JCAA Student Due Process Rights as submitted. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the President of the Board declared the motion passed.

TPSD Policy JCDAE Possession of Weapons on School Property

On a motion by Mr. Wheeler, seconded by Mrs. Davis, the Board voted unanimously to amend Policy JCDAE Possession of Weapons on School Property as submitted. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the President of the Board declared the motion passed.

TPSD Policy DJB Petty Cash Accounts

On a motion by Mr. Prather, seconded by Mr. Babb, the Board voted unanimously to amend Policy DJB Petty Cash Accounts as submitted. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the President of the Board declared the motion passed.

Copies of the abovementioned policies are marked EXHIBIT 6 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

2. First Reading of New TPSD Policy GBKAR Licensed Personnel Reduction in Force

Dr. Diana Ezell presented new TPSD Policy GBKAR Licensed Personnel Reduction in Force for first reading. No action was requested at this meeting of the Board.

C. Office of Director of Human Resources Mr. Jim Turner (TPSD Goal #3)

Approval of Licensed Staff Recommendations

Mr. Turner presented Consideration of Licensed Staff for approval. Mr. Wheeler moved to approve the Consideration of Licensed Staff as presented. Mr. Wheeler seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously. The President of the Board declared the motion passed. The Personnel Report is marked EXHIBIT 7 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

D. Office of Superintendent Dr. Gearl Loden (TPSD Goals #1, #4, and #5)

Dr. Loden presented the following information items to the Board:

1. Initial Review of 2014-2015 School Calendar
2. Retiree Luncheon, December 12, 2013, 11:00am, Hancock Leadership Center
3. Pre-K Grant Update
4. Race-to-the-Top Grant Update

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No "Unfinished Business" items were presented at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval to Purchase Four (4) New Buses

Superintendent Gearl Loden and Finance Director Linda Pannell recommended the district purchase four (4) 77-passenger buses at a cost of \$77,724.00 each from Truck Center as identified on the Mississippi State Approved List of Buses. The total cost for all four buses is \$310,896.00.

On a motion by Mr. Babb, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, the Board voted unanimously to approve the purchase of four buses as described above. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the President of the Board declared the motion passed.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

A. Future Agenda Topics

Dr. Loden: Tentative Agenda Items for January 11, 2014, Board Meeting

- First Semester Enrollment Report
- First Semester Discipline Report
- First Semester Achievement Report

Board Member Eddie Prather requested a report in the future regarding savings from the Wellness Center benefit in regards to lower substitute teacher costs, etc.

B. Executive Session

Board President Rob Hudson 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. Wheeler, seconded by Mr. Babb, 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 Mr. Hudson with the following people present: Mr. Joe Babb, Mrs. Sherry Davis, Mr. Rob Hudson, Mr. Eddie Prather, Mr. Ken Wheeler, Dr. Gearl Loden, Mr. Otis Tims, and Ms. Patrice Tate.

The Executive Session was called to order and the Board first considered the reason for entering Executive Session. Upon a motion by Mr. Wheeler, with a second by Mr. Babb, 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.

Mr. Hudson reopened the meeting to tell all those in attendance the reasons for going into Executive Session was to discuss a personnel matter.

Superintendent Gearl Loden left the meeting. At approximately 2:30 p.m. Board Member Sherry Davis left the meeting, but returned to the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Following the discussion, Mr. Wheeler moved to come out of Executive Session. Mr. Babb 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.

Mr. Hudson reopened the meeting to tell all in attendance that the Board was back in Open Session. No one was waiting to re-enter. Mr. Hudson stated that the Board was back in Open Session. Mr. Hudson announced that the Board had completed the Superintendent's Mid-Year Evaluation.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Prather, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The President of the Board declared the motion passed and the meeting in adjournment at 4:10 p.m.

APPROVED:
TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ATTEST:

Rob Hudson, President

Job Babb, Secretary