

**TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES  
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING  
JUNE 29, 2018**

The Board of Trustees of the Tupelo Public School District convened in a special called meeting of the Board held in open session at noon on Friday, June 29, 2018, at Pickwick Landing State Park Inn, Park Road, Pickwick Dam, Tennessee.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Board President Eddie Prather called the meeting to order.

**II. ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM**

The following School Board members were present during roll call:

Members Present: Mr. Joe Babb  
Ms. Sherry Davis  
Mr. Rob Hudson  
Mr. Eddie Prather  
Mr. Kenneth Wheeler

Incoming Superintendent Rob Picou, Board Attorney Otis Tims of Mitchell, McNutt and Sams, and Ms. Patrice Tate, Board Clerk, were also present.

Mr. Prather announced a quorum and stated that the Special Called meeting was called pursuant to Mississippi Open Meeting Law (MS Code Sections 25-41-1 through 25-41-17). A copy of the Notice calling the meeting is marked **EXHIBIT 1** and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

**III. APPROVAL OF CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS #CO1941 AND #CO1042**

Mrs. Davis made a motion to approve the following contractual agreements as submitted:

- #CO1941      Cost: \$98,077.50  
Company: TE21, Inc. (Case 21)  
Renewal for the purpose of benchmark assessments provided by Case21. The term of the contract is July 15, 2018 through July 14, 2019.
- #CO1942      Cost: \$63,910.00  
Company: SchoolStatus, LLC  
Renewal of contractual agreement with SchoolStatus, LLC for school improvement system along with Feedback comprehensive teacher appraisal system and channel subscription to engage parent communication for the 2018-2019 school year. The term of the contact is July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

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

**IV. ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS #2017-2018-065 AND #2017-2018-066**

Mr. Hudson moved to acknowledge and accept the following donations on behalf of the school district:

**Donation # 2017-2018 – 065**

**Description:** 63 – Dell 5190 Google Chromebooks with 4 year extended warranty  
\$22,995

**Given By:** Trinity 3 LLC

**Purpose:** Instructional use only

**Site:**

Lawndale – 8	\$2,920
Milam – 11	\$4,015
Pierce – 8	\$2,920
Rankin – 9	\$3,285
TMS – 27	\$9,855

**Donation # 2017-2018 – 066**

**Description:** 5 – Epson LCD Projectors \$8,000.30

**Given By:** Sullivan Enterprises, Inc

**Purpose:** replacements for original ones damaged by contractor during renovations

**Site:** TMS

Mr. Babb seconded the motion which was approved unanimously. Mr. Prather declared the motion passed.

**V. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Prather suggested that there was a need for consideration of entering into Executive Session to discuss Student Discipline Appeal Case #27-2-2017-2018 and a personnel matter. Mr. Wheeler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Babb, to go into temporary Executive Session. The motion was adopted unanimously, and Mr. Prather declared the motion passed. The room was then cleared.

The temporary Executive Session was called to order with the following people present: Mr. Joe Babb, Ms. Sherry Davis, Mr. Eddie Prather, Mr. Rob Hudson, Mr. Ken Wheeler, Dr. Rob Picou, Mr. Otis Tims, and Ms. Patrice Tate. The Board first considered the reason for entering Executive Session. Mr. Prather stated that there was a need to discuss and take action on Student Discipline Appeal Case #27-2-2017-2018 and to discuss a personnel matter. Upon a motion by Mr. Wheeler, with a second by Mr. Babb, the Board voted unanimously to remain in Executive Session. The President of the Board declared the motion passed and went out into the hallway to let everyone know that the Board would remain in Executive Session.

First, Incumbent Superintendent Rob Picou discussed a personnel matter with the Board.

After the personnel matter was discussed, due to a potential conflict of interest in regards to Student Discipline Appeal Case #27-2-2017-2018, Board Member Joe Babb left the Executive Session.

At this point, Mr. Otis Tims gave summary information regarding Student Discipline Appeal Case #27-2-2017-2018. After discussion, Mr. Wheeler moved to return to Open Session.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Hudson, and adopted unanimously by all members present. Mr. Prather then left the room and announced that the Board was again in Open Session.

## **VI. OPEN SESSION**

### **1. Student Discipline Appeal Case #27-2-2017-2018**

Mr. Ken Wheeler moved to approve the following regarding Student Discipline Appeal Case #27-2-2017-2018:

Modify administration's decision to expel student from TPSD for one calendar year to provide that the student be assigned to and enrolled in the District's alternative school program for one calendar year, with educational services to be provided to him at the Lee County Justice Center. After successful completion of the one-year alternative school program, if a psychiatric evaluation concludes that the student is not a danger to himself or others or property, he can be assigned to another school in the District.

The motion was seconded by Mrs. Davis and approved unanimously by all members present. Mr. Prather declared the motion passed.

Detailed information regarding Student Discipline Case #27-2-2017-2018 is marked **EXHIBIT 2** "Sealed and Confidential" and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

Mr. Joe Babb returned to the meeting at this point.

### **2. Employment of Communications Director**

Upon the recommendation of Dr. Rob Picou, Mr. Ken Wheeler moved to employ Mr. Greg Ellis as Communications Director (replacing Ms. Mary Ann Plasencia) effective July 16, 2018, Position #01-008004, STEP 91, \$70,236.00 on the 238 Day Salary Guide. (STEPS 72 through 105, \$58,140.00 - \$80,736.00). The motion was seconded by Mrs. Davis and approved unanimously. Mr. Prather declared the motion passed.

## **VII. Adjournment**

As the purpose of the called meeting was fulfilled, Mrs. Davis made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Wheeler seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously, and the Board stood adjourned at 1:08 p.m.

**APPROVED:**  
**TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**ATTEST:**

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**Eddie M. Prather, President**

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**Robert L. Hudson, II, Secretary**