

Board of Education Meeting
April 24, 2017

Minutes of Regular School Board Meeting

A Regular School Board Meeting of the Board of Education of Fort Smith Public Schools was held Monday, April 24, 2017, beginning at 5:30 PM in the Service Center, Bldg B.

The Board of Education Fort Smith Public Schools

Dr. Deanie Mehl, president, called the meeting to order. Other Board members present were Ms. Jeannie Cole, Mr. Wade Gilkey, Ms. Susan McFerran and Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin. Mr. Bill Hanesworth and Ms. Talicia Richardson were absent. Dr. Doug Brubaker, Superintendent, Dr. Gordon Floyd, Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Annette Henderson, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Support Services, Dr. Barry Owen, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services, Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Darian Layes, Director of Student Services, Mr. Dennis Siebenmorgen, Director of Buildings and Grounds, Ms. Zena Featherston Marshall, Director of Communication and Community Partnerships and Ms. Nadine Brooks, Secretary to the Superintendent were present.

The pledge of allegiance was recited and Dr. Barry Owen gave the Invocation.

The consent agenda included the minutes of the March 27 Regular School Board Meeting, the March Financial Report, and the April Student Services Report. Ms. Jeannie Cole made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to approve the consent agenda as presented. The vote passed 5/0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Professional Staff Recommendations

Dr. Doug Brubaker yielded to Dr. Annette Henderson to review the professional staff recommendations.

Resignations

Bodine, Alyssa
Howard, William
Uhrich, Joshua
Ballard, Rebecca
Siddons, Amanda

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Retirements

Spicer, Bill
Schluterman, Velta

Ms. Jeannie Cole made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wade Gilkey, to approve the resignations and retirements. The vote passed 5/0.

Recommendations for Employment

Sexton, Karen
Navato, Olivia
Adair, Heather
Bradshaw, Sarah
Mayer, Sarah Jane
Wallmark, Terri
Sexton, Shane
Cuevas-Herrera, Alexi
Sexton, Tara
Henry, Alicia
Jones, Michelle
Jones, Jeffery
Lemus, Jessica

Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Ms. Susan McFerran, to approve the recommendations for employment. The vote passed 5/0.

Recognitions

Dr. Brubaker and Dr. Mehl recognized the following students.

Arkansas PTA Reflections Contest winners recognized were: Kenneth Pham from Southside High School earned first place in Music Composition in the High School Division. Wesley Schwartz of Southside High School earned first place in Film Production in the High School Division. Karen Castro of Northside High School earned first place in Photography in the High School Division. Bailey Gammill who attends Chaffin Junior High earned first place in Literature in the Middle School Division. Ellie Deaver also of Chaffin Junior High earned first place in Literature in the Middle School Division. Adriel Aguilar of Barling Elementary School earned first place in Music Composition in the Middle School Division. Emily Anderson of Carnall Elementary earned first place in Visual Arts in the Special Artist Division. Austin Thomas of Carnall Elementary earned first place in Music Composition in the Special Division. Emily Jones from Euper Lane Elementary earned first place in Music Composition in the Primary School Division. Zahliese Robinson of Fairview Elementary earned first place in Photography in the Middle School Division. Steven Tran of Orr Elementary School earned first place in Dance Choreography in the Middle School Division. Luzarian Coney of Sunnymede Elementary earned first place in Visual Arts in the Middle School Division.

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Kim Friery was recognized as the 2017 Arkansas PTA Children's Champion. Hank Needham of Cavanaugh Elementary was recognized as the 2017 Arkansas State PTA Administrator of the Year.

Marcus Woodward of Chaffin Junior High was recognized as the Arkansas DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) 2016 Outstanding Teacher of American History. He was introduced as the state winner at their state convention awards ceremony in March.

Teacher Spotlight

Dr. Brubaker introduced and recognized the April Teacher Spotlight. Ms. Kimberly Holman and Mr. Ryan Curtis introduced the idea of the Ramsey Service Squad to Principal Amy Manley. This group is putting their civic lessons to work in their school and their community. The squad has participated in projects at local food banks, the Salvation Army, and the Sebastian County Humane Society where they sold bandanas to help shelter pets.

Entry Plan Report

Dr. Brubaker reported on his first 90 Days as Superintendent of Fort Smith Public Schools. He has visited schools and participated in meetings with school board members, administrators, staff and faculties, students, civic groups, community leaders and legislators. He also reported on technology and expanding marketing efforts.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT:

Child Nutrition Free Breakfast Program

Mr. Gilkey yielded to Dr. Brubaker to present information on the free breakfast program. Dr. Brubaker reported that the recommendation is to continue the free breakfast program. The program has been a pilot for the past two years. The recommendation would include it in the District budget for future years. Mr. Gilkey made a motion to budget the necessary funds to continue to provide free breakfast meals to all Fort Smith Public School students for the school year 2017-2018. In addition, the free breakfast program will be incorporated under the normal budget process in future years. The motion passed with a 5/0 vote.

Child Nutrition Lunch

Federal regulations require that school districts periodically increase meal prices to reflect the relative cost of meals served. Fort Smith Public Schools increase meal prices for the school year 2017-2018. Ms. Donna Turnipseed, Child Nutrition Director, recommends an increase to all lunch meals by twenty five cents (\$0.25). The one exception is for the food bar which will be increased by \$0.35 for a cost of \$3.00. These price increases appear to be competitive and should not require another increase in the 2018-19 school year. Mr. Gilkey made a committee motion to increase paid lunch meal pricing for all full paid lunches for 2017-2018 by twenty five cents (\$0.25) and to increase the secondary food bar price by thirty five cents (\$0.35). The motion passed with a 5/0 vote.

Insurance

Mr. Gilkey made a committee motion to renew the district's student accident insurance policy with Reliance Standard Life Ins. Co. through the agency of Lawrence E. Smith & Associates, Inc. TPA for the school year 2017-2018 with the new premium price of \$80,055.00, a reduction of \$3,000.00 from last year. The motion passed with a 5/0 vote.

Personnel Contracts 2017-2018

Dr. Henderson reported that the list of employees presented for contract renewal have not indicated that they are retiring or resigning and the contracts will continue for the next year. Ms. Susan McFerran made a committee recommendation to accept the Personnel Contracts for the 2017-2018 school year as presented. The motion passed with a 5/0 vote.

Calendar Timeline

Dr. Brubaker presented a calendar to be used as a planning tool for scheduling purposes for committee and board meetings as well as allow District personnel the opportunity to get agenda items to the Board in ample time to review and ask questions if necessary. Ms. Susan McFerran made a committee motion to adopt the calendar/timeline as presented. The motion passed 5/0. Board members and Dr. Brubaker noted that upcoming meetings could be confirmed at prior meeting.

Property Purchase

Dr. Brubaker presented property located at 2201 Rogers Avenue for purchase. This property is adjacent to the Northside High School campus. Dr. Brubaker stated that the property appraised at \$260,000 and the District offer of \$250,000 was accepted. Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin made a committee motion to approve the purchase of the property at 2201 Rogers Avenue. The motion passed with a 5/0 vote.

Roof Bids

Dr. Brubaker reported that bids were received on April 11 for roof repairs and improvements at Ramsey Junior High School. The low bid for this project was Dale Crampton Company for \$1,014,068. He added that this project will be covered by insurance because of storm damage and came in well under the \$1,227,896.27 allowed. Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin made a committee motion to accept the bid of \$1,014,068 from Dale Crampton Company. The motion passed 5/0.

Salary Schedules 2017- 2018

Mr. Gilkey made a Finance Committee motion, seconded by Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin, to approve the certified base salary by \$200 and approve the 2017-2018 salaries as presented. The motion passed 5/0.

BOARD MEMBERS FORUM: Ms. Jeannie Cole encouraged board members to attend an Oscars celebration with students at Belle Point Tech Academy, on May 12 at 2:00 p.m. and the PTA City Council dinner on May 10 at 5:30 p.m.

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CITIZENS PARTICIPATION: There was no one present for Citizens Participation.

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Deanie Mehl, President

Bill Hanesworth, Secretary