



Board of Education

Minutes of Work Session
The Board of Education

A Work Session of the Board of Education of Fort Smith Public Schools was held January 8, 2018, beginning at 5:30 PM in the Service Center, Bldg B.

Board Members Present: Ms. Susan McFerran, Ms. Talicia Richardson, Ms. Jeannie Cole, Mr. Bill Hanesworth, Mr. Greg Magness, and Mr. Wade Gilkey. Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin was absent.

Administrators and Staff Present: Dr. Doug Brubaker, Superintendent, Dr. Gordon Floyd, Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Terry Morawski, Chief Operations Officer, Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer, Dr. Barry Owen, Chief Academic Officer, Ms. Zena Featherston Marshall, Executive Director of Communication and Community Partnerships, Mr. Martin Mahan, Executive Director of Human Resources, Mr. Darian Layes, Executive Director of Student Services, and Ms. Nadine Brooks, Secretary to the Superintendent.

Ms. Susan McFerran, president, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

SECONDARY SCIENCE TEXTBOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Brubaker reported that Next Generation Science Standards were finalized and adopted by the state of Arkansas. With the new standards, a new textbook adoption to support instruction and learning is appropriate. In September, the Fort Smith Public Schools Board of Education approved a science textbook committee consisting of teachers, parents, community members, content coordinators, and administrators. Dr. Brubaker reported that the members of the committee met multiple times in study sessions and with vendors during formal presentations. Science departments at each secondary campus met to review vendor samples as a means of providing feedback.

After discussion between board members and selection committee, the administration recommends that the textbooks be adopted for secondary science as presented at the January 22 Board of Education Meeting.

AMENDMENT TO MUNICIPAL ADVISORY AGREEMENT

Mr. Warren reported that the board approved the Municipal Advisory Agreement on May 22, 2017. Stephens Inc., has requested the board approve the attached amendment. The amendment outlines assistance Stephens will provide for the District's Annual Disclosure Report and Audited Financial Statements. No additional costs to the District will be incurred for the services listed in the amendment.

The administration recommends the board approve the amendment to the Municipal Advisory Agreement at the January 22 Board of Education Meeting.

2017-2018 AUDIT REPORT

Marc Lux, of Przybysz & Associates, presented the June 30, 2017 Audit with an unmodified opinion and affirmed that the financial statements are fairly stated. Mr. Lux continued with a power point presentation summarizing the financial statements with no GASB 68 (net pension liability) impact. He discussed changes in balance sheet, revenue and expense items from the previous year. A governance letter from the auditor is also attached. This letter concludes that no audit findings nor audit adjustments were made for the audit report.

After discussion, the recommendation is that the board, at the January 22 Board meeting, accept the audit report for the year ending June 30, 2017 as prepared by Przybysz & Associates, CP.

FACILITY ASSESSMENT PRESENTATION

Dr. Brubaker introduced Mr. Steve Hulse, Corgan and Childers Architects, representing one of the two architect firms conducting a facility assessment for the district the past several months. Mr. Hulse presented the process, findings and recommendations to the board. This was informational and came with no action recommendation.

Dr. Brubaker provided the Board with the Citizens Committee schedule and offered the District's appreciation for the time commitment from these individuals.

Dr. Brubaker reported that the board will hold work sessions at school campuses.

ADJOURN

The work session adjourned at 7:35 p.m.