

Minutes of Regular School Board Meeting

A Regular School Board Meeting of the Board of Education of Fort Smith Public Schools was held Monday, May 22, 2017, beginning at 5:30 PM in the Service Center, Bldg B.

The Board of Education Fort Smith Public Schools

Ms. Susan McFerran, vice-president, called the meeting to order. Other Board members present were Ms. Jeannie Cole, Mr. Wade Gilkey, Ms. Susan McFerran, Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin, Mr. Bill Hanesworth and Ms. Talicia Richardson. Dr. Deanie Mehl was 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 Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin gave the Invocation.

The consent agenda included the minutes of the April 24 Regular School Board Meeting, the April Financial Report, and the May Student Services Report. Mr. Bill Hanesworth made a motion, seconded by Ms. Talicia Richardson to approve the consent agenda as presented. The vote passed 6/0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Professional Staff Recommendations

Resignations

Sikes, Carol
Jeremiah, Katelyn
Holland, Kristin
Hays, Kelly
Presson, Jody
Evans, David Brent
Pankey, Coley
Skimbo, Johnny
Akers, Lynne
Peoples, Abbi
Tester Williams, Kristian
Relland, Michael
Carmack, Robert
Segress, Teresa
Decker, Kelsey

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Martin, Amy
Harrison, Anna
Akins, Meredith

Retirements

Bakker-Capron, Brooke
Ferstl, Carolyn
Duncan, Jackie
Burgett, Kenneth
Walker, Belinda
Kleman, Julie
Bullock, Kara

Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wade Gilkey to approve the resignations and retirements. The vote passed 6/0.

Recommendations for Employment

Key, Abigail
Jacobs, Kala
May, Erika
Chandler, Gabrielle
Roper, Davina
Wood, Kevin
Abernathy, Joy
Medina, Cynthia
Morawski, Courtney
Westbrook, Stephen
Brooks, Sydney
Struckhoff, Kelsey
Roper, Paul
Magie, Christina
Marshall, Hilary
Shankle, Kary
Vearrier, Jessica
Pierce, Avery
Blymiller, Jonathan
Wylie, Regina
Hart, Shelbie
Bardin, Hillary
Bruce, Candice

Ms. Jeannie Cole made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bill Hanesworth, to approve the recommendations for employment. The vote passed 6/0.

Introduction of New Administrators

Dr. Brubaker made these introductions: Gina Mann who will serve as principal of Euper Lane Elementary School; Taneka Tate will serve as principal of Carnall Elementary School; Courtney Morawski will serve as principal of Cook Elementary School; Dr. Morawski could not be here tonight but will be here at another time.

Melissa Braddy will serve as the new Special Education Specialist.

Recognitions

Dr. Brubaker and Ms. McFerran recognized the following students.

Arkansas Scholastic Press Association Winners (ASPA):

Maggi Bodiford from Southside High School earned first place in On-Site Newspaper Advertising Design along with Best of ASPA in Newspaper Advertisement. Jacob DeFay from Southside High School earned first place in the Arkansas Press Women Newspaper Design. He was named Newspaper Editor of the Year. He received Best of ASPA in News Story. He was also named an All-Arkansas Newspaper Editor. Abby Dahlem from Southside High School received Best of ASPA in Advertising Layout and was named the Business Manager of the Year. Joanna Kerns from Southside High School was named an All-Arkansas Yearbook Editor. Sarah House from Southside High School was also named an All-Arkansas Yearbook Editor. Emily Cobb from Southside High School earned Best of ASPA in News Photo. Will Robinson from Southside earned Best of ASPA in Music Video.

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Award Winners:

Southside High School Chapter was once again named the Largest FBLA Chapter in Arkansas and received the Arkansas Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit. Savannah Sosebee, Alesha Thach, Martin Tran and Kevin Tran earned the National Community Service Award. This award goes to those who have contributed at least 500 hours community service hours. Tyler Saitang from Southside High School earned first place in Computer Problem Solving. Alex Fenwick, Claire Pinter and Brittany Tran earned first place in their Business Financial Plan. Hannah Forsgren, Grace Scallion and Emily Stouffer earned first place in Mobile Application Development. John Freeny, Terry Uhm and Walli Zaman earned first place in Introduction to Business Presentation. Breanna McNaughton from Southside received the National Business Achievement Award at the America Level. Ms. McNaughton is the first student from Fort Smith Public Schools to have earned all four levels of the FBLA National Business Achievement Awards program which focuses on advanced business skills, leadership, community service and FBLA involvement.

State Nutrition Poster Winner

Ms. McNaughton is also being recognized for her first place win in the Senior Division of the annual Arkansas School Nutrition Association Education Poster Contest. The theme this year was "Put Your Best Fork Forward". For this award, she will receive a \$300 scholarship check.

Her art advisor is Marcia Tomlin who will receive \$100 for art supplies in her classroom.

National French Exam Winner

Melya Bouchart from Southside High School French exchange student who earned #1 in the state and in the nation for her top score in the National French Exam.

Teacher Spotlight

Stem Educators Laurie Baldrige, Leslie Brodie and Angela Miller discussed STEM education as the Teachers Spotlight for May. About 3,000 students compete over three days from the third grade to the ninth grade. This is the third year our district has had STEM Wars.

Charles Warren & Dennis Siebenmorgen presented the District Arkansas Facilities Partnership Program for the 2017-2019 Funding Cycle. Mr. Siebenmorgen reported that on April 27, 2017, the District was awarded funding for six projects and outlined the timeframe for the projects agreed upon by both the District and State. Mr. Warren reported on the State determination of funding based on enrollment, square footage, categories and available funds.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT:

Bond Refunding Series 2017

Bill Hanesworth reported that the District has the opportunity to save an estimated \$562,000 in debt service costs over the lifetime of the bonds. An estimated \$407,000 of this savings will be available in 2018. Mr. Hanesworth read the resolution provided by Stephens Inc., and the certification and agreements.

Mr. Hanesworth made a committee motion to authorize Stephens, Inc. to refund the outstanding 2013 bonds in 2017 and approve the resolution and required documentation. The motion passed 6/0.

Special Education - IDEA Assurances

Ms. Cole presented the 2017-2018 Statement of Intent and the IDEA Assurances and Agreements for Preschool and K-12 school aged children. She noted that the District must submit these forms on an annual basis to the Arkansas Department of Education to verify that our district budgets and expends state and federal funds to provide a program of services in accordance with federal and state guidelines.

Ms. Cole made a committee motion to authorize the Preschool Statements of Intent and accompanying Special Education Assurances and Agreements for board approval and submission to the Arkansas Department of Education. The motion passed 6/0.

Ms. Cole made a committee motion to authorize the K-12 Statements of Intent and accompanying Special Education Assurances and Agreements for board approval and

submission to the Arkansas Department of Education. The motion passed 6/0.

United Way - Parents as Teachers Grant

Ms. Cole presented the Parents as Teachers grant which helps fund preschool services salaries. Ms. Cole made a motion to waive the reading of the grant. The motion passed 6/0. Ms. Cole make a motion to approve the \$50,000 grant as presented. The motion passed 6/0.

Student Handbook Policies 2017-2018

Ms. McFerran made a motion to waive the formal reading of the handbook changes. The motion passed 6/0. Ms. Richardson presented the changes to the 2017-2018 Student Handbook for the following sections. She noted minor changes to one heading.

Section I. Attendance Policies, New Letter C., McKinney-Vento, page 2

Section I. Attendance Policies, Attendance, A. Absences, 2. Parental Permission, b. page 5

Section I. Attendance Policies, Attendance, A. Absences, 2. Parental Permission, b., page 5

Section III. Student Health, G. Immunization Requirements for Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 4., page 11

IX. Eligibility for Athletic Competition, In District Transfers, page 24

XVII. Transportation Rules for Students, Bus Rules, #6

Ms. Richardson made a committee motion to approve the five section changes to the 2017/2018 Student Handbook. The motion passed 6/0.

Personnel Policy - First Reading

Dr. Brubaker presented a change to Policy GCL Professional Development to reduce the number of required hours by six hours. He noted that this change had been discussed in committee. Ms. Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cole to waive the formal reading of the policy. The vote passed 6/0. Ms. Keaton-Martin made a committee motion that Policy GCL - Professional Development be approved for First Reading. The motion passed 6/0.

Properties - Beard Elementary Roof Repairs

Ms. Richardson presented the lowest qualifying bid from Dale Crampton for roof repair at Beard Elementary. She noted that this roof repair is fully covered by insurance proceeds and made a committee motion to accept the bid from Dale Crampton Company in the amount of \$97,856.00. The motion passed 6/0.

Strategic Planning

Dr. Brubaker reported that the District sought proposals to facilitate the development of its 2018-2023 Strategic Plan. Three firms submitted proposals by the April 19 deadline. He noted that Cambridge Strategic Services, LLC, submitted the proposal that represents the best value for the district and was recommended to the committee on June 12. Ms. Cole made a committee motion to award the contract for strategic planning facilitation services to Cambridge Strategic Services, LLC, with a not-to-exceed amount of \$36,410. The motion passed 6/0.

BOARD MEMBERS FORUM:

Ms. Keaton-Martin praised the staff for well organized and orderly graduation ceremonies. Mr. Gilkey asked that the administration look into reorganizing graduations by possibly splitting them so that current facilities could work. Dr. Brubaker noted that administrators were planning to address this and discussing how to better prepare for future ceremonies.

Ms. Cole reported that the FSPS Foundation awarded approximately \$57,000 to teachers. She also attended the PTA Awards Banquet, and the Southside High School Thespian Club drama celebration. Ms. McFerran added that Belle Point had a red carpet award ceremony and the Board received the Outstanding Community Partnership award.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

No one was present for citizen participation.

ADJOURN:

Ms. Keaton-Martin made a motion seconded by Mr. Hanesworth, to adjourn at 6:55 p.m.

Deanie Mehl, President

Bill Hanesworth, Secretary