



Board of Education

Minutes of Regular School Board Meeting The Board of Education

A Regular School Board Meeting of the Board of Education of Fort Smith Public Schools was held February 24, 2020, beginning at 5:30 PM in the Service Center, Bldg B.

Ms. Susan McFerran, president, called the meeting to order. Other board members present were Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin, Mr. Greg Magness, Mr. Bill Hanesworth, Mr. Wade Gilkey, Ms. Jeannie Cole, and Ms. Talicia Richardson. Dr. Doug Brubaker, Superintendent, Dr. Terry Morawski, Deputy Superintendent, Mr. Martin Mahan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Darian Layes, Executive Director of Student Services, Ms. Sheri Penix, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Campus Support, Mr. Vance Gregory, Executive Director of Technology, Ms. Zena Featherston Marshall, Executive Director of Communication and Community Partnerships, and Ms. Nadine Brooks, Secretary to the Superintendent were also present.

A moment of silence was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. McFerran read the mission statement.

RECOGNITIONS

Superintendent's Star Award Winners - February

Halle Anderson, fifth-grader at Cavanaugh Elementary, Haley Biggs, sixth-grader at Barling Elementary, Reese Bone, first-grader at Bonneville Elementary, Yen Dao, first-grader at Ballman Elementary, Meri Folmar, third-grader at Beard Elementary, Gustavo Lozano, fifth-grader at Fairview Elementary, Chanel Oaties, kindergartener at Sunnymede Elementary, Zoey Pope, sixth-grader at Tilles Elementary, Kate Rego, kindergartener at Pike Elementary, and Malea Seubold, sixth-grader at Orr Elementary.

Amanda Fry and Ramsey Stock Market Winners

Amanda Fry's Career Development class at Ramsey Junior High participated in a state-wide Stock Market Game organized by Economics Arkansas. The students came in first place, one team consisting of Shane Nguyen and Frankie Vargas placed first in their region division among 83 other teams.

Southside High School Arkansas League of Legends Champions

Electronic sports, (eSports), are a form of sport competition using video games. Southside High School had a team of five students compete in the League of Legends State Championship and won first place. Team members are: Andrew Appleyard, Barrett Brown, Deanna Tran, Kevin Truong and Rafe Wilhite.

Ballman Elementary, Model PLC

Lori Griffin and staff at Ballman Elementary have been working for the past six years as a Professional Learning Committee, as a pilot for the district. Ballman Elementary has been recognized by Solution Tree as a Model PLC School. This recognition is based on strict criteria, including demonstration of a commitment to PLC concepts, implementation of these concepts for at least three years, and clear evidence of improved student learning over that period.

Southside High School Cheer- Top 5 in the Nation

The Southside High School Cheer team qualified to compete in the National Cheerleading Championship in Orlando, Florida for the first time in Maverick history. After several rounds against teams from all across the nation, the Maverick Cheer team won 4th in the Nation and was only 1.2 points behind the first-place team. Hannah Clifton is their sponsor.

All-State Musicians

Ramsey Honor Band

The Ramsey Junior High Ninth Grade band, directed by Kristen Shepherd and Kaitlyn Smith was selected by competitive and blind audition as the 2020 All-State Honor Band representing their class and grade. They performed an impressive program on Friday, February 21 at the Arkansas All-State Music Conference in Hot Springs, AR.

This year more than 100 students earned 90 positions in All-State Music groups. Five of these students earned first chair positions.

Pablo Cortez, Northside High School, earned first chair bass trombone in the Concert Band

Connor Evans, Southside High School, earned first chair, Tenor 2 in the Mixed Chorus.

Isabel Fuentes, Northside High School, earned first chair Soprano 1 in the Mixed Chorus.

Ryan Jacobs, Southside High School, earned first chair, percussion in the Jazz Band.

Alex Osburn, Southside High School, earned first chair, guitar in the Jazz Band.

Music teachers are: Sean Carrier, Gordon Manley, Gaye Mings, Katy Featherston, Curtis Hansen, Steven Hughes, Aaron Durham, Stephen Westbrook, Angie Clark, Adam Coats, Chris Ha, Darrin McKissick, Gabby Chandler, Kristen Shepherd, Kaitlyn Smith, Mike Burkepile, Keith Reeves, Nathan Lee, Eva Martin, Michael Rothmeyer, Jordan Smith, Rebecca Smith, Ellen Gonzalez, Karen Jeter, and Anthony Verge.

Tim Hearn/Fort Smith EMS

Fort Smith EMS was recognized for donating an ambulance to the Fort Smith Public Schools planned career and technology center, opening in the fall of 2021. In partnership with the University of Arkansas- Fort Smith, students will have the opportunity to earn technical concurrent credit and industry-recognized certifications in Healthcare Science pathways including nursing and responsive medicine. The district expressed gratitude to Tim Hearn and Fort Smith EMS for this generous and instructive contribution.

GREG MAGNESS AND JEANNIE COLE

Board members Magness and Cole were recognized for completing their service to the Fort Smith Public Schools Board of Education. Greg Magness, served on the school board for the past three years. Jeannie Cole, served on the school board for the past 23 years. Ms. Cole is the longest-serving school board member in the history that we have (this includes school board service by Judge Isaac Parker).

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

There was no one present for Citizens Participation.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Professional Staff Recommendations

Dr. Brubaker yielded to Ms. Penix to present the professional staff recommendations. There were no leaves of absence.

Resignations

Certified

Albright, Alice
Wheat, Randall
Otto, Frances
Ford, Heather
Dove, Kaci
Southerland, Mary
Mazariegos, Jessika Aguilar

Classified

Corcoran, Marla
Adair, Valerie
Hollander, Gloria
Perryman, Melissa
Pippin, Brianna

Doan, Khiem
Craig, Erin

Retirements

Certified

Reith, Julie
Tomlin, Jeff
Brence, Karen
Neumeier, Lana
Clark, Lesley
Perry, Sally
Glidewell, Katherine
Goodpaster, Mike
Bobb, Christine
Henson, Rae Ann
Price, Kathy
Welch, Sami Sue
Montgomery, Caroline
Wear, Linda
Bliss, Joy
Carty, Marquita
Daniels, Kelly
Hunter, Jerry
Martens, Beverly
Boutin, Deborah
Goodpaster, Mary
Leeper, Kathleen

Classified

Snyder, Melissa
Craft, Darlene
Lee, Wanda Hinkle
Gaunt, Valerie
Hall, Deborah
Iglesia, Efren
Pullen, Michael
Pierce, Angelin
Heidenthal, John

Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cole, to accept the recommendation for resignations and retirements as presented. The vote passed 7/0.

Employment

Certified

None

Classified

Hays, Visitacion

Mason, Paul

Hampton, Nicole

Polanco, Rosa Garcia

Reichert, Mark

Gordon, Kristina

Lee, David

Ms. Cole made a motion, seconded by Ms. Richardson, to approve the recommendations for employment as presented. The vote passed 7/0.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda included the minutes of the January 27 School Board Meeting and the February 10 Work Session, January Financial Report, February Student Services Report, approval of updated 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 District Calendars, Second Reading of Student Policies, and Second Reading of Personnel Policies.

Mr. Hanesworth made a motion, seconded by Mr. Greg Magness, to approve the consent agenda as presented. The vote passed 7/0.

CAREER TECHNOLOGY CENTER UPDATE

Dr. Morawski and Dr. Udouj presented an update on the Career Technology Center design and branding. Dr. Udouj reported that the District has been working with Smartegies to develop the branding and marketing efforts. This process has involved multiple meetings with community stakeholders, students and staff of both UA Fort Smith and the District dating back to August 2019. During this process, 20 different names were considered by stakeholders during six rounds of recommendations and two large in-person focus groups. The PEAK Innovation Center with the tagline Inspiring Transformative Learning was the name chosen for the center. Mr. Eric Horstman of Corgan Architects presented renderings and design of the interior and exterior.

This was an information item. No recommendation was required.

ADOPTION OF BOARD RESOLUTION AS REQUIRED BY POLICY 4.5

Mr. Layes stated that Board Policy 4.5 concerning School Choice states that school boards will adopt a resolution containing the capacity standards for the District. The resolution will contain the acceptance determination criteria identified by academic program, class, grade level, and individual school. Mr. Layes added that the District is not obligated to add any teachers, other staff, or classrooms to accommodate choice applications. The District may only deny a Standard School Choice application if the District has a lack of capacity by the District having reached ninety percent (90%) of the maximum student population in a program, class, grade level, or

school building authorized by the Standards or other State/Federal law. The resolution meets this requirement. The administration's recommendation was that the board approve the resolution presented.

Mr. Hanesworth made a motion, seconded by Ms. Richardson, to adopt the resolution setting 90% as the capacity criteria for denying school choice applications. The vote passed 7/0.

APPROVAL OF FACILITIES RENTAL AGREEMENT

Mr. Bill Hollenbeck, Director of Security and Facilities and administrators developed an updated Rental Agreement Procedure for School facilities. This rental agreement was presented with additional revisions after board members reviewed it at the February 10 Work Session. The administration recommended the Board of Education approve the Fort Smith Public Schools Rental Procedures for Facilities with revisions noted.

Ms. Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hanesworth, to approve the updated rental procedures as presented. The vote passed 7/0.

BOARD MEMBERS FORUM

Mr. Hanesworth commended and thanked Ms. Cole for her years of service on the board.

Mr. Hanesworth and Mr. Gilkey attended a Visioning Conference that they found very informative.

Mr. Gilkey stated that he is very inspired by what will be available to students at the Peak Innovation Center.

Mr. Magness was recognized for his service on the board also. He thanked everyone and said he had enjoyed being a part of it and was excited for the future of Fort Smith Public Schools.

Ms. McFerran reported that new board members will be elected on March 3 and a slate of officers will be presented at the March 16 Board meeting.

Ms. Penix was asked to give a brief overview of the VIP tour. Ms. Penix and Ms. Marshall were asked to come back in March and give a presentation on the VIP tour.

Ms. Cole reported on attending the National School Board Association Advocacy Institute Conference in Washington, DC.

Ms. Cole expressed appreciation to board members and staff for the years she served on the Board of Education.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Susan McFerran, President

Yvonne Keaton-Martin, Secretary