



Board of Education

Minutes of
The Board of Education

A Regular School Board Meeting of the Board of Education of Fort Smith Public Schools was held Monday, February 2, 2026, beginning at 5:30 PM in the Service Center, Bldg. B, Auditorium, 3205 Jenny Lind, P.O. Box 1948, Fort Smith, AR 72901.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Dalton Person, president, called the meeting to order noting six board members were present. Other board members present were: Mr. Phil Whiteaker, Ms. Brittney Hall, Mr. Brad Harding, Ms. Lynnett Lott, and Ms. Maria Martinez. District administrators present included: Mr. Marty Mahan, Superintendent; Dr. Tiffany Bone, Deputy Superintendent; Dr. Chris Davis, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Campus Support; Dr. Kellie Cohen Minton, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction; Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer; Dr. Michael Farrell, Executive Director of Student Services; Mr. Shawn Shaffer, Executive Director of Facility Operations; Mr. Vance Gregory, Director of Technology; Ms. Kimberly Mundell, Executive Director of Communications and Engagement; and Ms. Leslie Phelps, Office Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent. Mr. Marshall Ney, of Friday, Eldridge, and Clark, District Attorney, was in attendance via Zoom.

Ms. Susan Krafft entered the meeting at 5:32 PM.

RECOGNITIONS

In celebration of School Board Appreciation Month, the Fairview Elementary choir performed. A video was also shown.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

Mr. Sam Sicard spoke on the right sizing of schools.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Mahan called the Board's attention to the consent agenda, specifically the recommendation to hire Mr. Rusty Bush as Athletic Director.

Mr. Mahan reported that members of the Board earned 89 training hours in 2025, with all members in good standing and having met their required training hours.

Mr. Mahan reported that, due to significant facility maintenance projects and their impact to the capital improvement budget, the Administration will be presenting information regarding construction bonds as early as this summer.

Mr. Mahan's Good Things Going on in the District include: while visiting the Museum of Discovery in Little Rock, fifth-grade students from Cavanaugh Elementary received a compliment from a museum board member who was impressed with the student's engagement, curiosity, and behavior; Southside freshman Quiz Bowl team won the Guy Fenter Educational Co-op Tournament-Joanna Gaborni and Elaine Martin earned All-Tournament honors; Ms. Williams' fourth-grade class at Tilles Elementary was presented with a Caught Being Good trophy; Chaffin Middle School celebrated students' academic successes and perfect attendance for the second nine weeks of school; and the Office of Education Policy Awards highlighted Cavanaugh Elementary, Kimmons Middle School, and Northside High School for earning Beating the Odds in Math recognition.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda included the December Financial Report, December 15 Minutes, February 2 Professional Staff Recommendations, and Approving an Ethics Disclosure Resolution.

Mr. Whiteaker made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harding, to approve the consent agenda as presented. The vote passed 7-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE ATTENDANCE ZONE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CARNALL AND SPRADLING ELEMENTARY

Dr. Bone provided additional information on the proposed attendance zone adjustments for Beard, Cavanaugh, Sutton, Morrison, and Sunnymeade Elementary Schools.

The Administration recommends that the Board approve closing Carnall Elementary at the end of the 2025-2026 school year. And approving Proposal "A" in adjusting the Beard Elementary and Cavanaugh Elementary boundary attendance lines to absorb the Carnall Elementary students.

The Administration also recommends that the Board approve closing Spradling Elementary at the end of the 2025-2026 school year. And approving Proposal "A" in moving the entire Spradling Elementary attendance zone into the Sutton Elementary attendance zone.

Ms. Krafft made a motion, seconded by Mr. Whiteaker, to approve the Carnall Elementary boundary proposal "A" as recommended. The vote passed 6-1 with Ms. Martinez opposing.

Ms. Krafft made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lott, to approve the Spradling Elementary boundary proposal "A" as recommended. The vote passed 6-1 with Ms. Martinez opposing.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CONSTRUCTION GMPS AND SALE OF BELLE POINT PROPERTY

Mr. Shaffer presented three projects that are seeking approval for the contractors Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP). These projects are the Southside Fine Arts re-roof, the Peak Innovation Center drainage Phase 3, and the Hill Center demolition project.

Mr. Shaffer also presented a recommendation to list the sale of the Belle Point building at the appraised value of \$1,140,000.

Mr. Harding made a motion, seconded by Mr. Whiteaker, to approve the guaranteed maximum prices for the Southside Fine Art re-roof, Peak drainage Phase 3, Hill Center demolition, and the listing and sale of the Belle Point property at its appraised market value. The vote passed 7-0.

CONSIDER ACCEPTING THE 2024-2025 ADUIT REPORT

Mr. Mark Lux with Przybysz & Associates, CPAs presented the findings of the independent financial audit for the year ended June 30, 2025. Mr. Lux's report included a balance sheet which represented the general fund, special revenue, and aggregate capital projects. As well as the fund balance report and fund balance reconciliation. The results of the audit include an unmodified opinion from the auditor based on the regulatory basis of accounting.

Mr. Whiteaker made a motion, seconded by Ms. Krafft, to accept the audit report for the year ending June 30, 2025 as prepared by Przybysz & Associates, CPAs. The vote passed 7-0.

ACADEMIC PRESENTATION – K-10 ATLAS INTERIM RESULTS

Dr. Cohen Minton and Ms. Laura Gladden, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment presented an overview of the K-10 ATLAS interim assessment results in English language arts, mathematics, and science. These assessments were administered in November and December 2025.

This is a presentation item only. No action is required.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:09 PM the Board and Mr. Mahan went into executive session to discuss pre-litigation and litigation matters.

Board members and Mr. Mahan returned to open session at 7:57 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS FORUM

Board training will be conducted on February 16, 2026, at 5:30 PM at the Marshals Museum.

The next regular scheduled board meeting will be Monday, February 23, 2026.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:01 PM.

Dalton Person, President

Susan Krafft, Secretary