

**TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
February 13, 2018**

The Board of Trustees of the Tupelo Public School District convened in a regular meeting of the Board held in Open Session at noon on Tuesday, February 13, 2018, at the Hancock Leadership Center, 1920 Briar Ridge Tupelo, Mississippi.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Eddie Prather who welcomed guests attending the meeting.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Board members present during roll call were: Mr. Joe Babb, Mrs. Sherry Davis, Mr. Rob Hudson, Mr. Eddie Prather and Mr. Kenneth Wheeler. Mr. Prather announced a quorum, and stated that the meeting was lawfully in session. Attorney Otis Tims was also present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mrs. Davis moved to approve the agenda for the February 13, 2018, regular meeting subject to the following changes:

- Move THS Update (Item VI. C.) to Executive Session
- Addendum to the Personnel Report (under Section VIII., Item B. #1., Licensed Personnel Recommendations)

The motion was seconded by Mr. Babb and the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda for the regular February 13, 2018, Board meeting with the announced change. The President of the Board declared the motion passed.

A copy of the agenda is marked **EXHIBIT 1** and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

January 19, 2018 Noon, Regular Meeting, Hancock Leadership Center

Mr. Hudson made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 19, 2018, noon, regular meeting as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wheeler and approved unanimously. Mr. Prather declared the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No requests for public comments were received for this meeting of the Board.

RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Loden recognized Lawndale Principal, Mrs. Melissa Thomas, as TPSD'S Administrator of the year.

COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD

The following informational reports were presented to the Board of Trustees:

A. First Semester GPA and MHSAA Scholar Athlete Team Update (TPSD Goal #1)

Athletic Director, Dr. Eddie Moore, gave a report on the annual academic comparisons for a three year period, including GPA, class averages, and attendance. The report also included ranking charts to track individual team scholastic achievements in each of these categories.

Dr. Loden announced that Dr. Eddie Moore was named Mississippi's Athletic Director of the Year, and that Coach Trent Hammond and his staff was named Coaching Staff of the Year by MHSAA.

B. Special Education Department Update (TPSD Goals #1)

Special Education Director Gena McAlpin shared an update on the Special Education Department. The report included information on enrollment trends and how the department is funded. She also shared information on the various trainings the department has received.

C. Ad Valorem Collections through January, 2018

Finance Director Rachel Murphree reported that collections for Operations for November received by the District in December were 11.35% of the amount requested compared to 9.27% in the previous year.

The collections for Debt Service for November received by the District in December were 11.33% of the amount requested compared to 8.37% in the previous year.

The collections for Operations for December received by the District in January were 26.70% of the amount requested compared to 31.99% in the previous year.

The collections for Debt Service for December received by the District in January were 26.71% of the amount requested compared to 31.64% in the previous year. (TPSD Goal #4, TPSD Policy DFA)

Copies of the above reports are on file in the Superintendent's Office.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following Consent Agenda items were presented for consideration for approval.

A. Office of Finance Director Mrs. Rachel Murphree (TPSD Goal #4)

1. Contractual Agreements (TPSD Policy DJAAB Contract Signing Authority)
 - a. Contracts to be Acknowledged and Awarded: #CO1859, #CO1861 and #CO1862; Charter Bus Contract BC#2017-2018-004 through BC#2017-2018-006; Rental of School Facilities #SFR1823
 - b. Ratification of Contractual Agreements #CO1860
2. Donations #2017-2018-035 through #2017-2018-040
3. Request Permission to Submit TPSD Grant #1813
4. Request Permission to Accept Grants (TPSD Policy DEEG Grant Management) TPSD Grant #1807 and #1812
5. Single Source Purchase SS1802 College Board
6. Permission to Delete 78 Assets from the TPSD Asset Listing (TPSD Policy DM)

B. Office of Assistant Superintendent Mr. Andy Cantrell (TPSD Goal#1)

1. Student Transfer Report (TPSD Policy JBCD Transfers and Withdrawals of Students)
2. Overnight Field Trips (TPSD Goal #3 and #4)
 - THS Debate Team, Debate Tournament, Jackson, MS, 2/23-24/18

C. Office of Director of Federal Programs Mrs. Corlis Curry (TPSD Goal #4)

1. Permission to Submit Title V 2017-2018 Grant Assurances

D. Office of Director of Finance Mrs. Rachel Murphree (TPSD Goal #2)

1. Approval of 2017-2018 School Wellness Policies

No Board member requested the removal of any item from the Consent Agenda.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Office of Director of Finance Mrs. Rachel Murphree (TPSD Goal #4)

1. Docket of Claims and Athletic Ref Pay

- Docket of Claims for the period January 6 through February 2, 2018, Docket of Claims #50228 through #50886, in the amount of \$1,697,276.40.
- Athletic Activity Ref Pay paid officials and fees in the amount of \$3,695.56 for the period of January 1 through February 2, 2018.

The grand total for all funds is \$1,700,971.96. Mr. Hudson reviewed the docket and stated that he was prepared to make a motion at the 5:00 meeting.

2. Required Monthly Financial Reports – Month Ending 12/31/17

In accordance with MS Code 37-9-18 the following Financial Reports for the month ending December 31, 2017, were reviewed:

- Summary Report of Reconciled Bank Statements with Certification
- Statement of Revenue and Expenditures with Current Budget Status
- Cash Flow Report for District Maintenance Fund
- Combined Balance Sheet for all General and Special Revenue Funds
- Monthly Financial Statements – not required
(TPSD Goal #4, TPSD Policy Section D. Fiscal Management)

3. Online Submission of Bids

Finance Director, Mrs. Rachel Murphree, requested to use Plan House as a platform as a way of offering electronic submission of bids.

4. Resolution Approving the Purchase of Transportation Equipment

Attorney Otis Tims, presented a resolution requesting approval of the purchase of two driver's education vehicles and one district vehicle, and that the District is hereby authorized to use funds available from its 2016 limited-tax notes to purchase the transportation equipment described hereinabove. The resolution also states that the Superintendent be authorized to take such actions as may be useful to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

B. Office of Director Human Resources Mr. Jim Turner

1. Job Description—Law and Public Safety Vocational Teacher

Mr. Jim Turner presented a job description for consideration of approval.

2. Licensed Personnel Recommendations

Mr. Jim Turner presented the Licensed Personnel Recommendations including an Addendum for consideration for approval.

C. Office of Assistant Superintendent Mrs. Kimberly Britton (TPSD Goals #1-#4)

1. Revision of TPSD Policy DFC—Federal Aid

Mrs. Kimberly Britton presented policy DFC for consideration of approval. These revisions are a result of new state requirements and have been reviewed by attorney Kelly Stimpson.

D. Office of Assistant Superintendent Mr. Andy Cantrell (TPSD Goals #2 and #4)

1. Student Discipline Case #50-2017-2018

Recommend ratification of administrative decision to expel Student #50-2017-2018 from TPSD for one calendar school year for violation of TPSD Policy JCDAE (2), and JD-E5.

E. Office of Superintendent Dr. Gearl Loden (TPSD Goals #3)

1. Information Items:

a. CTE Program Update

Mr. Andy Cantrell gave an update on new classes for the CTE Program. The program currently has 668 students with 14 Programs. Mr. Cantrell said that they will be adding another section of Culinary Arts, and a new class called Law & Public Safety.

b. Graduation Rate Update

Ms. Paige Tidwell shared information on the district's graduation rate. The report showed a 7 year trend among subgroups.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No "Unfinished Business" items were presented at this meeting of the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of Winter Weather Calendar

Mrs. Kimberly Britton presented a revision to the 2017-2018 school year calendar, adding a day to the end of the school year due to inclement weather on January 12, 2018. It was also discussed that all hourly and 12 month employees make up hours prior to June 30, 2018, or take a vacation day.

B. Permission to change date of May Board Meeting from May 15th to May 8th.

Dr. Loden requested permission to change the May Board Meeting from May 15th to May 8th.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

A. Future Agenda Topics – Superintendent Gearl Loden

March 20, 2018, Regular Board Meeting

- 9:00 a.m. Board Work Session, Noon Annual Organizational Meeting
- Hire Principals

- Grants Report
- Curriculum Update
- Parent of the Year

B. Future Agenda Topics – Board Members

No specific agenda topics were requested by Board Members at this meeting of the Board.

C. Executive Session

Mr. Prather suggested that there was a need for consideration of entering into Executive Session to discuss a student matter, personnel matters and for Mr. Tims to give a legal update. Mr. Hudson made a motion that the Board enter temporary Executive Session. Mr. Wheeler seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously by all members present. Mr. Prather declared the motion passed. The room was then cleared.

The temporary Executive Session was called to order with the following people present: Mr. Joe Babb, Mrs. Sherry Davis, Mr. Rob Hudson, Mr. Eddie Prather, Mr. Kenneth Wheeler, Mr. Otis Tims, Dr. Gearl Loden, Mrs. Kimberly Britton, Mr. Andy Cantrell, Mr. Jim Turner, Mrs. Rachel Murphree, Mr. Art Dobbs, and Mrs. Modesty Shumpert. The Board first considered the reason for entering Executive Session. Mr. Prather stated that there was a need to discuss a student matter, personnel matters and a legal update. Upon a motion by Mr. Hudson, with a second by Mr. Wheeler, the Board voted unanimously by all members present to remain in Executive Session. The President of the Board declared the motion passed and went out into the hallway to let everyone know that the Board would remain in Executive Session.

Upon Mr. Prather's return and the opening of the Executive Session, Board members engaged in a discussion of the appeal of Student Discipline Case #49-2017-2018. The student and his parents did not attend the meeting at which this appeal was discussed. No action was taken during Executive Session on this matter.

The Board then moved into the discussion on the first personnel matter. At the completion of this discussion, it was decided that no action needed to be taken on this matter.

The next discussion involved a legal update given by Board Attorney Otis Tims. There was also no action taken on this matter.

The final discussion involved a second personnel matter. The Board took no action on this matter.

Mr. Hudson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, that the Board return to Open Session. The motion was adopted unanimously, and Mr. Prather left the room to announce that the Board was now in Open Session.

Open Session

Mr. Prather stated that the Board had discussed Student Discipline Case #49-2017-2018, personnel matters, and a legal update in Executive Session, but that no action had been taken.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mrs. Davis, the Board voted unanimously by all members present to adjourn the meeting. The President of the Board declared the motion passed and the meeting in adjournment at 4:01 p.m.

APPROVED:
TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ATTEST:

Eddie Prather, President

Rob Hudson, Secretary