

**TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES NOON MEETING MINUTES
April 9, 2013**

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, April 9, 2013, at the Hancock Leadership Center, 1920 Briar Ridge, Tupelo, Mississippi.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Beth Stone who welcomed guests attending the meeting.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Board members present during roll call were: Mr. Rob Hudson, Mr. Eddie Prather, Mrs. Beth Stone, and Mr. Kenneth Wheeler. Mrs. Stone announced a quorum and stated that the meeting was lawfully in Session. Attorney Otis Tims was also present. The District's next Board member, Mr. Joseph Babb and his wife, Lauren, were present and Mrs. Stone welcomed Mr. Babb to the TPSD Board of Trustees.

OATH OF OFFICE – MR. JOSEPH B. BABB

Attorney Otis Tims of Mitchell, McNutt and Sams administered the Oath of Office ceremony for Mr. Joseph Babb. A copy of the signed Oath of Office is marked EXHIBIT 1 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

CONFIRMATION OR AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

On a motion by Mr. Prather, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the agenda for April 9, 2013, as amended below:

- **ADD** Two Addenda to the Personnel Report under Section VIII. Superintendent's Report Item D. Number 1. Approval of Licensed Staff

The President of the Board declared the motion passed.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES

The minutes from the March 5, 2013, noon and five o'clock regular meetings were presented for consideration for approval. Two corrections were noted.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

RECOGNITIONS

Mrs. Stone announced that several recognitions were scheduled for the 5:00 p.m. meeting of the Board.

COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD

The following reports were presented to the Board of Trustees as information:

- A. Santa Rosa County School District, Santa Rosa, Florida Trip Report presented by Dr. Leigh Mobley (TPSD Goal #1)
- B. K-5 Clubs and Community Liaisons presented by Mrs. Diana Ezell (TPSD Goals #1 and #4)
- C. Summer Reading Program presented by Mrs. Kimberly Britton (TPSD Goal #1)
- D. ECEC Extended Day presented by Mrs. Kimberly Britton (TPSD Goal #1)

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

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Office of Finance Director Mrs. Linda Pannell (TPSD Goal #5)

- 1. Contractual Agreements
 - a. Contract #CO1320
 - b. Charter Bus Service Contracts #BC2012-2013-007 and #BC2012-2013-008
 - c. Rental of School Facilities #SFR1329 through #SFR1332
- 2. Donations #2012-2013-042 through #2012-2013-046
- 3. Permission to Submit TPSD Grant #1321
- 4. Permission to Accept TPSD Grants #1316 and #1322
- 5. Permission to Delete 29 items from the TPSD Asset List
- 6. Cash Flow Statements for Month Ending February 28, 2013

B. Office of Assistant Superintendent Dr. Matthew Dillon

- 1. Student Transfer Report presented by Mrs. Pamela Traylor
- 2. Request Permission to Advertise for the following bids:
 - BD1311 TMS Rubber Floor Gym – Phase One
 - BD1312 Milam Re-roof
 - BD1313 Rankin Re-roof
 - BD1316 THS Cafeteria Equipment
 - BDE1317 Milam Floors
- 3. Overnight Field Trip Requests (TPSD Goals #2 and #4)
 - THS/TMS Bridge Builders, National Bridge Builders, May 4-6, Providence, RI
 - THS DECA Nationals Competition, April 23-28, Anaheim, CA
 - THS Thespians, International Thespian Conference, June 24-30, Lincoln, NE
 - THS Madrigals, Smokey Mountain Music Festival Competition, April 18-21, Gatlinburg, TN

4. Summer Food Service Programs (TPSD Goals #1 and #2) presented by Mrs. Lynne Rogers
 - Pierce Street Elementary, Breakfast and Lunch, ESY for Special Education
 - King Early Childhood Center – Breakfast and Lunch
 - TMS – Breakfast and Lunch
 - Joyner Elementary School – Lunch Only
 - Lawndale Elementary School – Snack Program Only – Opportunity Camp

5. Career and Technical Local Plan Update for FY14 and Program Change Form (TPSD Goals #1 and #4) presented by Ms. Evet Topp

This proposed plan includes approval of Carl Perkins funds, state funding as it relates to salaries and adult education funds.

6. Interagency Agreement with TPSD and City of Tupelo (TPSD Goal #2) presented by Mrs. Julie Hinds

Consideration for approval of an Interagency Agreement to allow TPSD to install a new fence at the City Park Playground located by Joyner Elementary School. This will enclose the playground used by Joyner for the safety of our students.

7. ICC Enrollment/Dual Credit Agreement (TPSD Goal #1)

Consideration for approval of proposed ICC Enrollment Dual Credit Agreement presented by Dr. Matthew Dillon

C. Office of Assistant Superintendent Mrs. Kimberly Britton (TPSD Goals #1 and #5)

1. 2013-2014 Consolidated Federal Program Application presented by Mrs. Dale Warriner
2. Summer 2013 Camp Possibility presented by Mrs. Dale Warriner

D. Office of Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction Dr. Leigh Mobley (TPSD Goal #1)

2013 Summer Curriculum Project

The 2013 Summer Curriculum Project details and logistics are as follows:

Summer Project Orientation/Training: June 10 8:00 AM

Summer Curriculum Development Project: June 10 - June 14

Project Goals:

Revise/supplement TPSD pacing guides in all state tested content areas K-8, and K-2 English Language Arts and Mathematics, to address feedback gathered from stakeholders during 2012-13 school year.

Organization:

Staff: Up to 60 certified staff

Positions:

- **Project Leads-** Curriculum Specialists from the Office of Curriculum and Instruction will provide training and support for curriculum teams, set goals, monitor progress, and address emergent questions, concerns, or needs.
- **Curriculum Team Leaders-** Lead teachers with content and curriculum expertise will lead curriculum teams, set agendas, delegate tasks, and be responsible for ensuring all project tasks are completed. They will communicate regularly with project leads, evaluate and edit work using defined standards, and write curricula.
15 of the 60 certified staff rate of pay: 24.00/hr
- **Curriculum Team Writers-** Teachers with content and curriculum expertise in a assigned area will undergo training, participate in curriculum teams, work to complete project tasks as assigned by Curriculum Team Leaders, including the development and/or revision of pacing guides to meet district goals.

Up to 45 of the certified staff Rate of pay: 24.00/hr

Hours of work: 40

Proposed Site for Summer Work: Church Street School

Estimated Costs

- **Staff \$ 57,600.00**
- **Materials and supplies \$ 1,000.00**
- **Printing cost \$ 5,000.00**

TOTAL: \$ 63,600.00

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Office of Director of Finance Mrs. Linda Pannell (TPSD Goal #5)

1. Docket of Claims

Board Member Rob Hudson reviewed the Docket of Claims and Check Registers prior to the meeting and advised that at the 5:00 p.m. meeting of the Board he will recommend approval of the Docket of Claims for the period February 26, 2013 through March 28, 2013, Docket of Claims #8859 through #9685, Accounts Payable Checks #5421 through #5888 in the amount of \$1,245,774.96; Tupelo High School Activity Check Register for the period February 2013, Checks #1190 through #1216 in the amount of \$6,628.61; and the Athletic Check Register for February 2013, Checks #1345 through #1371 in the amount of \$3,224.75. The grand total for all funds is \$1,255,628.32.

2. Financial Statement for the Month Ending January 31, 2013

Finance Director Linda Pannell presented the Financial Statement for the month ending February 28, 2013 for consideration for approval.

B. Office of Assistant Superintendent Matthew Dillon (TPSD Goal #2)

Student Case #76-2012-2013 and Student Case #85-2

Mrs. Pamela Traylor and Dr. Matthew Dillon presented information regarding Student Discipline Case #76-2012-2013 and Student Discipline Case #85-2.

C. Office of Assistant Superintendent Mrs. Diana Ezell (TPSD Goal #1)

1. Proposed Revision to TPSD Policy IHA – Grading

Mrs. Ezell recommended that TPSD Policy IHA Grading be amended based on a modified grading scale that will give our students the opportunity to be competitive with other students in Mississippi and across the nation. A modified ten-point scale will allow students' GPA to more accurately reflect their level of performance. The new scale will permit students to compete for and receive both academic and athletic scholarships. The scale will also increase the chance of students being awarded good student status for insurance discounts.

2. Summer 2013 Opportunity Camp

Mrs. Ezell recommended for consideration for approval that half-day Opportunity Camps be held at Lawndale Elementary and Tupelo High School during June 3-28, 2013.

D. Office of Director of Human Resources Mr. Jim Turner

Personnel Recommendations

Mr. Turner presented Licensed Staff recommendations for consideration for approval.

Included in the Personnel Report was the retirement of Mrs. Dale Warriner and Mr. Danny Porter effective June 30, 2013. The Board expressed their appreciation to both Mrs. Warriner and Mr. Porter.

Addendum to Personnel Report

Dr. Loden recommended that the Board accept the resignation of Mrs. Anna Guntharp as principal at Parkway Elementary School effective June 30, 2013. Dr. Loden further recommended that Mrs. Anna Guntharp be employed as the district's Federal Programs Director, effective July 1, 2013.

Addendum to Personnel Report

Dr. Loden also recommended the employment of Mr. Andy Schoggin as Athletic Director at Tupelo High School effective July 1, 2013.

Mrs. Guntharp and Mr. Schoggin were present at the meeting and expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to serve the district.

E. Office of Superintendent of Schools Dr. Gearl Loden (TPSD Goals #3 and #4)

1. Reemployment of TPSD Licensed Staff for 2013-2014 School Year, Reemployment of TPSD Licensed Staff Contingent Upon Receipt of Valid Endorsed License for 2013-2014 School Year and Reemployment of TPSD Administrative Personnel for 2013-2014 School Year

Superintendent Gearl Loden recommended the reemployment of TPSD licensed staff for the 2013-2014 school year, reemployment of TPSD licensed staff contingent upon receipt of a valid endorsed license for the 2013-2014 school year, and reemployment of TPSD administrative personnel for the 2013-2014 school year.

2. Information Items

Information was provided regarding the following items:

1. Substitute Pay, Supplement Comparison Study and Bus Driver Comparison Study
2. FY14 Budget Meetings
3. Discussion of possible need for Special Called Meeting on April 24 or 25 to award bids for the THS cafeteria and Carver flooring projects.
4. Mrs. Beth Stone has recently been recommended for appointment to the Mississippi School Boards Association Board of Directors.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Awarding of Advertised Bid #BD1310 THS Re-Roof Project

Dr. Loden summarized Advertised Bid #BD1310 THS Re-Roof Project and recommended that the bid be awarded to the lowest and best bid which was received by Graham Roofing in the amount of \$386,495.00.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution of Intent – Qualified School Construction Bond #3

Mrs. Linda Pannell recommended adoption of the Resolution of Intent for the issuance of notes for borrowing of money in the maximum principal amount of \$4,600,000. This is the last money that remained in the State's money allocated for the Construction Bonds. This is the low interest money that the district was awarded after submitting a request to the State for several projects including the Early Childhood Center Expansion, Tupelo High School Cafeteria Expansion, and Tupelo High School Baseball Field Renovation, and other smaller projects if funding permits.

2. Consideration for Approval – AEE Grants Recommended for Funding in School Year 2013-2014

AEE President Brent Waldrop recommended approval of nineteen (19) grants in the amount of \$66,105.81 for school year 2013-2014. (This report was moved forward to accommodate Mr. Waldrop's schedule).

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

A. Future Agenda Topics (May 14)

1. Recruiting Update
2. Approval of 2013-2014 Student Handbooks
3. Discipline Update
4. Safe Splash Update

B. Executive Session

Board President Beth Stone suggested to the School Board a temporary executive session to determine the need for a permanent executive session for the purpose of discussing student, personnel, and pending litigation matters.

On a motion by Mr. Prather, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, the Board voted unanimously to enter temporary executive session for the purpose of determining a need for permanent executive session. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the President of the Board declared the motion passed.

The room was cleared and the temporary executive session was called to order by Mrs. Stone with the following people present: Mr. Joe Babb, Mr. Rob Hudson, Mr. Eddie Prather, Mrs. Beth Stone, Mr. Ken Wheeler, Dr. Gearl Loden, Mr. Otis Tims, Ms. Patrice Tate, Mrs. Kimberly Britton, Dr. Matt Dillon, Ms. Niki Peel, Mrs. Pamela Traylor, and Mr. Terry Hatch.

The executive session was called to order and the Board first considered the reason for entering executive session. Upon a motion by Mr. Prather, with a second by Mr. Wheeler, the Board voted unanimously to remain in executive session for the purpose of discussing student, personnel, and pending litigation matters. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the President of the Board declared the motion passed.

Mrs. Stone reopened the meeting to tell all those in attendance the reason for going into executive session was to discuss student, personnel and pending litigation matters.

The Board heard background information regarding Student Appeal #73 from Mrs. Kimberly Britton and Ms. Niki Peel. Then, Ms. Peel left the meeting. Next, the parents of Student #73 entered the meeting and addressed the Board. After that, the parents left the meeting.

Ms. Peel re-entered the meeting at this point for additional questions by the Board. Following the discussion, Ms. Peel, Mrs. Traylor and Mr. Hatch left the meeting.

Thereafter, the Board deliberated on the matters presented at the appeal.

Next, the Board entertained discussion concerning personnel matters.

At this point of the meeting, pending litigation matters were presented by Board Attorney Otis Tims.

Following the discussion, Mr. Prather moved to come out of Executive Session. Mr. Wheeler seconded the motion, and upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the President of the Board declared the motion passed and the Board in Open Session.

Mrs. Stone reopened the meeting to tell all in attendance that the Board was back in Open Session. Everyone waiting re-entered the meeting, and Mrs. Stone stated that the Board was back in Open Session.

ACTION BY THE BOARD – APPEAL OF STUDENT #73

On a motion by Mr. Wheeler, seconded by Mr. Babb, the Board voted unanimously by all members present to uphold the action of the District Disciplinary Committee in regards to Student #73. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the president of the Board declared the motion passed.

Detailed information regarding Student Discipline Case #73 is marked EXHIBIT 2 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Wheeler, seconded by Mr. Hudson, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The President of the Board declared the motion passed and the meeting in adjournment at 3:00 p.m.

APPROVED:
TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ATTEST:

Elizabeth Stone, President

Kenneth Wheeler, Secretary