

Board of Education

Minutes of Work Session The Board of Education

A Work Session of the Board of Education of Fort Smith Public Schools was held September 10, 2018, beginning at 5:30 PM at Barling Elementary School.

Board Members Present: Ms. Susan McFerran, Ms. Jeannie Cole, Mr. Bill Hanesworth, Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin, Mr. Greg Magness and Mr. Wade Gilkey. Ms. Talicia Richardson was absent. Administrators and Staff Present: Dr. Doug Brubaker, Superintendent, Dr. Terry Morawski, Deputy Superintendent, Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer, Dr. Barry Owen, Chief Academic Officer, Ms. Zena Featherston Marshall, Executive Director of Communication and Community Partnerships, Mr. Martin Mahan, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Campus Support, Mr. Darian Layes, Executive Director of Student Services, Dr. Kellie Cohen, Director of Student Achievement and Accountability, and Ms. Nadine Brooks, Secretary to the Superintendent.

Ms. McFerran, president, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE 2018-2019 METHODOLOGY ASSURANCES

Mr. Mahan reported that Sec. 1118 (b) (1) of Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as amended by Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that Federal funds supplement, not supplant, non-federal funds. He reported that to demonstrate compliance with the supplement not supplant requirement, a Local Education Agency (LEA) must demonstrate that the methodology used to allocate State and local funds to its schools ensures that each Title I school receives all of the State and local funds it would otherwise receive if it were not receiving Title I funds. LEAs in which all schools are Title I participating are excluded from submitting a Methodology.

The administration recommended at the September 24 Board meeting, the Board approve the 2018-2019 Methodology Assurances and authorize the Superintendent and Board President to sign the assurances so they may be submitted to the Arkansas Department of Education on or before the October 15, 2018.

2018 FORT SMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS SUMMER READING CAMP PRESENTATION

Ms. Cathey Ford and Dr. Kellie Cohen presented on the Summer Reading Camp piloted this past June to provide intensive reading instruction to 7th grade students attending Darby Junior High and Kimmons Junior High and 5th and 6th grade students attending Sunnymede, Sutton, Morrison, Trusty, Howard, Pike, and Tilles elementary schools. The 40 students invited to attend the camp were selected by the principal of each building from students identified as scoring in the 25th percentile and below in Reading on the 2016-2017 ACT Aspire Summative Assessment. Of the 40 student invited to attend, 34 were present the first day, with the camp celebrating 31 graduates on the last day. Ms. Ford reported that the goal to improve each student's reading scores by one grade-level was accomplished with most participants making multiple grade-level gains.

MILLAGE 2018 AND SECURITY UPDATE PRESENTATION

Dr. Morawski presented an update to the Board on the progress on Millage 2018 facility improvements and security upgrades. He reported that In Fall 2017, a Strategic Planning committee met and recommended district improvements, including addressing facility needs and security upgrades. Dr. Morawski reported on security recommendations which included additional security officers on campuses and campus security upgrades which included secure entrances and alarm upgrades.

Ms. McFerran thanked Mr. Hill for the tour and for hosting the meeting that evening. Board members also thanked Ms. Ford and Dr. Cohen on the Summer Reading Camp presentation.

There was no other business and the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Susan McFerran, President

Yvonne Keaton-Martin, Secretary