



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 December 16, 2019, 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 and Ms. Jeannie Cole. Ms. Talicia Richardson was absent. 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, Dr. Chris Davis, Supervisor 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

Board of Education Recognitions

Superintendent's Star Award Winners

Alison Bonilla, fifth-grader at Orr Elementary. Lucy Garcia, sixth-grader at Tilles Elementary, Maggie Hesson, sixth-grader at Cavannaugh, Samson Hill, sixth-grader at Ballman Elementary, Alli LaPerle, sixth-grader at Barling Elementary, Raycash McCullough, fourth-grader at Beard Elementary, Rhett Moss, sixth-grader at Fairview Elementary, Samantha Nguyen, second-grader at Sunnymede Elementary, and Ambrielle Walker, first-grader at Pike Elementary,

Staff and School Recognitions

Ballman Elementary Principal Lori Griffin, in her 27th year as an educator, is an Arkansas Department of Education Arkansas Master Principal and a leader in the Professional Learning Communities. She was recognized as the Arkansas Association of Education Office Professional's Education Administrator of the Year.

GAINS

Chaffin Junior High School and Woods Elementary School earned scores that rank both of these schools in the top 6-10 percent of all test-takers in the entire states in the ACT Aspire assessment data. All public school students in grades 3-10 take this test and this awards program recognizes the highest achievement in literacy and mathematics. Both schools will receive rewards money for their accomplishments. Chaffin Junior High will receive \$41,400 and Woods Elementary will receive \$28,450.

Board Member Jeannie Cole was recognized by Arkansas School Board Association during the Annual ASBA Conference with the 2019 President's Award for school board service. This award recognizes school board members who have earned more than 500 hours of school board training.

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

Brooks, Sydney
Walters, Cassidy

Classified

Hernandez, Norma Meza
Peraza, Jennifer
Anderson, Jennifer
Biggs, Ronald
Torres, Lizette
Hart, Karey

Retirement

Certified

Bray, Shirley Janelle

Classified
None

Mr. Hanesworth made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to accept the recommendation for resignations and retirement as presented. The vote passed 6/0.

Employment

Certified
Lowdermilk, James

Classified
Lewis, Sherria

Ms. Keaton Martin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hanesworth, to approve the recommendations for employment as presented. The vote passed 6/0.

Current Proposal, Bids and Renewals

Mr. Warren provided information related to background check services and Human Resource Consulting. This was an informational item and no action was required.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda included the minutes of the November 18 School Board Meeting, December 2 Work Session, November Financial Report, and December Student Services Report, Calendar Options for 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 School Years, the 2018-2019 Audit Report, and Approval of the Ethics Disclosures.

Mr. Magness made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gilkey, to approve the consent agenda as presented. The vote passed 6/0.

2020 UNITED WAY - FSPS PARENTS AS TEACHERS CONTRACT AGREEMENT- Action

Mr. Marty Mahan presented the 2020 United Way—FSPS Parents as Teachers Contract Agreement. The administration recommended that the Board approve the 2020 contract. Mr. Hanesworth made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gilkey, to approve the operation of the FSPS Parents as Teachers program. The vote passed 6/0.

PRESENTATION - EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (ESSA) SCHOOL LETTER GRADE REPORT

Dr. Kellie Cohen Minton and Ms. Caroline Neel presented information concerning the 2017-18 and 2018-19 elementary and secondary school letter grades. The information included ESSA indicators for success, student and school value added growth, student and school success scores and graduation rate. This was a presentation item and no action was required.

PRESENTATION VISION 2023 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. George Watts, CCM, LEED AP, HPM, and Dr. Morawski presented updates to the Vision 2023 Capital Improvement Program at Northside High School and Southside High School.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS TESTING AND SPECIAL INSPECTION SERVICES

Mr. George Watts, HPM, presented the timeline and recommendation for the Request for Qualifications for Construction Materials Testing and Special Inspection Services. He noted that these best industry practices include: 1) validate construction quality and compliance with designers' specifications, 2) controlled testing environment – manage public safety and the environment, and 3) test characteristics of soils, structural materials, and components used in building projects. Mr. Watts stated that the recommendation is to engage all three firms that submitted RFQ's. The three firms that responded were Geotechnical Testing Services, Inc., Data Testing, Inc., and Building and Earth Sciences, Inc. The recommendation is to engage all three firms under separate contracts on an indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity (IDIQ) basis.

Mr. Hanesworth made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gilkey, to recommend these firms for Construction Materials Testing and Special Inspection Services. The vote passed 6/0.

PRESENTATION - PROPERTY UPDATE

Dr. Morawski reported that on November 18 the administration had brought underutilized and surplus property to the board for consideration of sale or lease. He introduced, Mr. Bob Cooper, the district's real estate consultant who provided an overview of the Lincoln property value and options that the District had regarding lease or sale. Mr. Cooper stated that there is a buyer who expressed interest if the District decided to sell. Mr. Marshall Ney, Legal Counsel was available for questions that Board members might have. Mr. Morawski explained that charter schools have options to purchase the property and that there is legalities and a process as defined with the State Division. Ms. McFerran stated that this update was presented as an information item. No recommendation was required.

BOARD MEMBERS FORUM

Board members congratulated Ms. Cole on her ASBA award.

Mr. Gilkey asked for an update on the AAA's decision to split Northside High School and Southside High School into two conferences and the District's desire to keep the schools in the same conference.

Mr. Hanesworth asked that the District pursue speaking with legislators. Dr. Brubaker stated that he had met with one legislator and was scheduled to meet with others that week.

Mr. Ney was available to answer concerns about this issue.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Susan McFerran, President

Yvonne Keaton-Martin, Secretary