

**TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES NOON MEETING MINUTES
January 15, 2013**

The Board of Trustees of the Tupelo Public School District convened in a regular meeting of the Board held in open session at 12:00 P.M. on Tuesday, January 15, 2013, at the Hancock Leadership Center, 1920 Briar Ridge Road, 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: Mrs. Amy Heyer, Mr. Rob Hudson, Mr. Eddie Prather, Mrs. Beth Stone, and Mr. Kenneth Wheeler. Mr. Prather announced a quorum and stated that the meeting was lawfully in Session. Attorneys Otis Tims, Mitchell McNutt & Sams, and Ms. Kelly Stimpson were also present.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

On a motion by Mrs. Stone, seconded by Mrs. Heyer, the Board voted unanimously by all members present to confirm the agenda. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried by all members present, the President of the Board declared the motion passed and the agenda approved. A copy of the agenda is marked EXHIBIT 1 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Mrs. Heyer, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, to approve the minutes from the December 11, 2012, noon regular meeting with one noted correction. Mr. Prather announced that the motion passed by unanimous vote of all members present.

Motion was made by Mr. Wheeler, seconded by Mrs. Stone, to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2012, 2:30 P.M. special called meeting with one noted change. Mr. Prather announced that the motion passed by unanimous vote of all members present.

RECOGNITIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. Recognitions

No recognitions were scheduled for this meeting of the Board.

B. Public Comments

No public comments were requested for this meeting of the Board.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

A. Update on Tupelo High School Alumni Association (TPSD Goal #4)

Tupelo High School Alumni Scott Reed (class of 1976) and Eric Gibens (class of 1991) presented an update on the Tupelo High School Alumni Association. Mr. Gibens demonstrated the proposed alumni website and Mr. Reed announced that the financial aspect of the alumni association will flow through the CREATE Foundation

B. Response to Intervention (RTI) Program Update (TPSD Goals #1 and #4)

Mrs. Amy Ferguson and Dr. Leigh Mobley updated the Board on the Response to Intervention (RTI) program in the district. Mrs. Ferguson stated that this program was founded nationally in 2004 from the “No Child Left Behind” act.

C. New Teacher Orientation Report (TPSD Goal #3)

Assistant Superintendent Kimberly Britton reported on New Teacher Orientation in the district. Mrs. Britton stated that the implementation of this program during the 2012-2013 school year is in response to TPSD Goal #3 (to develop and retain human capital). Mrs. Britton reported that the district has 109 teachers new to Tupelo Public Schools. Mr. Prather requested a follow-up report on the retention rate of these 109 teachers at a later date.

D. Safety/Buildings and Grounds Update Report (TPSD Goals #2 and #5)

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Matthew Dillon provided a district safety update. Dr. Dillon reported that with the recent events at Sandy Hook, New Jersey, administrators have met with principals to discuss safeguards and the district's crisis management plan. Dr. Dillon also updated the Board on maintenance and building projects in preparation for spring orientation.

(A copy of the above reports are on file in the Superintendent's Office).

CONSENT AGENDA

In accordance with Dr. Loden's recommendations, Mr. Wheeler moved to approve and ratify the Consent Agenda as listed below:

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

1. Charter Bus Service Contract #BC12-13-03
2. Donations #2012-2013-024 through #2012-2013-036
3. Permission to Advertise -- #BD1308 Carver Sitework
4. Permission to Submit TPSD Grants #1313 and #1314
5. Cash Flow Statements for Month Ending November, 2012

B. Office of Assistant Superintendent Dr. Matthew Dillon

1. Student Transfer Report presented by Mrs. Pamela Traylor
2. Overnight Field Trip Requests
 - a. Tupelo High School Soundwave Show Choir, Nashville, TN
February 15-16, 2013, for Music City Show Shoppe Competition (This overnight Trip was approved by the Board at the December 11 regular meeting, however, the dates were incorrectly stated as February 19-20, 2013).
 - b. Tupelo High School Varsity Cheerleaders, Orlando, FL, for National Cheer Competition, February 7-12, 2013

The motion was seconded by Mr. Hudson and was approved unanimously by all members present. The President of the Board declared the motion passed. A copy of the Consent Agenda is marked EXHIBIT 2 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

Docket of Claims

As Mr. Prather reviewed the Docket of Claims prior to the meeting, he passed the gavel to Board Vice President Beth Stone and recommended approval as outlined below:

- Docket of Claims for the period December 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012, Docket of Claims #7120 through #7609, Accounts Payable Checks #4305 through #4598 in the amount of \$1,394,228.37 will be presented by Finance Director Linda Pannell.
- Tupelo High School Activity Check Register for the period December 2012, Checks #1159 through #1181 in the amount of \$6,370.55 will also be presented by Finance Director Linda Pannell.
- Athletic Activity Check Register for the period December 2012, Checks #1290 through #1299 in the amount of \$905.00 will also be presented by Finance Director Linda Pannell.

The grand total for all funds is \$1,401,503.92.

The motion was seconded by Mrs. Heyer and approved unanimously. Vice President Beth Stone declared the motion passed.

This affirms that the claims and check registers are legal and proper and they should be allowed and ratified as paid by the Superintendent or his designee pursuant to Section 37-9-14 (7) of the Mississippi Code of 1972 Annotated.

The Docket of Claims Report is marked EXHIBIT 3 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

Financial Statements for the Month Ending November 30, 2012

Mrs. Linda Pannell presented the Statements of Income and Expenditures for the month ending November 30, 2012, for approval. A listing by fund type is available for the Board's information and review.

On a motion by Mrs. Heyer, seconded by Mrs. Stone, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Statements of Income and Expenditures for the month ending November, 2012, as presented. Mr. Prather declared the motion passed.

The Financial Statements are marked EXHIBIT 4 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

B. Office of Director of Human Resources Mr. Jim Turner (TPSD Goal #3)

Consideration of Licensed Staff

Human Resources Director Jim Turner presented Consideration of Licensed Staff for approval. Mr. Wheeler moved to approve the Consideration of Licensed Staff as presented. Mr. Hudson seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously. The President of the Board declared the motion passed. The Consideration of Licensed Staff Report is marked EXHIBIT 5 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

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

Student Discipline Report

Case #06-02-2012-2013

Presentation was made for ratification of administrative decision to expel Student #06-02-2012-2013 from the Structured Day Program for one calendar year (November 7, 2012 through November 7, 2013) for violation of TPSD Policy JK-E5.

Mrs. Heyer moved to ratify this administrative decision. Mrs. Stone seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the president of the Board declared the motion passed.

Additional information regarding Student Case #06-02-2012-2013 is marked EXHIBIT 6 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

Case #25-02-2012-2013

Presentation was made for ratification of administrative decision to expel Student #25-02-2012-2013 from the Structured Day Program for one calendar year (November 13, 2012 through November 13, 2013) for violation of TPSD Policy JK-E5.

Mrs. Stone moved to ratify this administrative decision. Mr. Wheeler seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the president of the Board declared the motion passed.

Additional information regarding Student Case #25-02-2012-2013 is marked EXHIBIT 7 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

Case #26-2012-2013

Presentation was made for ratification of administrative decision to expel Student #26-2012-2013 from Tupelo Middle School for one calendar year (September 21, 2012 through September 21, 2013) for violation of TPSD Policy JK-E3.

Mr. Wheeler moved to ratify this administrative decision. Mrs. Heyer seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the president of the Board declared the motion passed.

Additional information regarding Student Case #26-2012-2013 is marked EXHIBIT 8 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

D. Office of Superintendent Dr. Gearl Loden (TPSD Goals #1, #4, and #5)

1. Dr. Loden presented the following information items to the Board:
 - a. Mississippi Association of School Superintendents Winter Conference, Jackson, MS, January 26-30, 2013
 - b. Mississippi School Boards Association Annual Conference, Jackson, MS, February 25-27, 2013
 - c. National School Boards Association Annual Conference, San Diego, CA, April 13-15, 2013
2. Assistant Superintendent Matthew Dillon presented an ADA Enrollment Report.
3. Assistant Superintendent Diana Ezell presented a First Semester 2012-2013 Summary Report.
4. Mrs. Ezell also presented an initial draft of the proposed 2013-2014 TPSD School Calendar.
5. Dr. Matthew Dillon and Mrs. Kay Bishop reported on the Second Nine Weeks Honor Roll marketing campaign. A total of 3,347 honor roll signs have been distributed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

NEW BUSINESS

infosnap® Online Re/Registration and Administrative Portal

Superintendent Gearl Loden recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the purchase of infosnap®, an online re/registration and administrative portal to collect information at registration time and to update family information throughout the year. This purchase is noted as Single Source Purchase #1315 in the amount of \$33,000.00.

On a motion by Mr. Wheeler, seconded by Mrs. Stone, the Board voted unanimously by all members present to approve Single Source #1315 to infosnap® in the amount of \$33,000.00. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the president of the Board declared the motion passed. A copy of Single Source #1315 is marked EXHIBIT 9 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

A. Future Agenda Topics

1. At Risk Senior Report (February, 2013)
2. PSAT Update Report (February, 2013)
3. Learning Foundation Board Meeting (February, 2013)
4. Mr. Wheeler requested that Dr. Dillon and Mrs. Hinds explore the feasibility of student tracking with access/Smart cards. Mr. Tims will explore the legal ramifications of this endeavor.

B. Executive Session

Board President Eddie Prather suggested to the School Board a temporary Executive Session to determine the need for a permanent Executive Session for the purpose of discussing confidential personnel matters.

On a motion by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mrs. Heyer, 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 Mr. Prather with the following people present: Mrs. Amy Heyer, Mr. Rob Hudson, Mr. Eddie Prather, Mrs. Beth Stone, Mr. Ken Wheeler, Dr. Gearl Loden, and Mr. Otis Tims.

The Executive Session was called to order and the Board first considered the reason for entering Executive Session. Upon a motion by Mr. Hudson with a second by Mrs. Heyer,

the Board voted unanimously to remain in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the President of the Board declared the motion passed.

Mr. Prather reopened the meeting to tell all those in attendance the reason for going into Executive Session was to discuss a personnel matter.

The Board entertained discussion concerning a personnel matter. Dr. Loden left the Executive Session and Recording Secretary Patrice Tate entered the meeting.

Following the discussion, Mr. Hudson moved to come out of Executive Session. Mrs. Heyer 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.

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

On a motion by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mrs. Heyer, the Board voted unanimously by all members present to authorize Attorneys Otis Tims and Kelly Stimpson to craft a policy regarding superintendent evaluation being held in January and August of each year. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the president of the Board declared the motion passed.

In other business, Mr. Prather announced that the Board had completed Dr. Loden's evaluation as required by law, and on a motion by Mrs. Heyer, seconded by Mrs. Stone, the Board voted unanimously to amend Superintendent Gearl Loden's contract extending his contract one more year effective July 1, 2013.

A copy of Superintendent Loden's amended contract and superintendent evaluation is marked EXHIBIT 10 and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Wheeler, seconded by Mrs. Stone, 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 3:35 p.m.

APPROVED:
TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ATTEST:

Eddie M, Prather, President

Rob Hudson, Secretary