

Board of Education

Minutes of
The Board of Education

A Called School Board Meeting of the Board of Education of Fort Smith Public Schools was held Monday, November 28, 2022, beginning at 5:30 PM in the Service Center, Bldg. B, Auditorium, 3205 Jenny Lind, P.O. Box 1948, Fort Smith, AR 72901.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Blackwell, president, called the meeting to order noting seven board members were present. Other board members present were: Ms. Talicia Richardson, Mr. Dalton Person, Mr. Matt Blaylock, Mr. Davin Chitwood, Ms. Sandy Dixon and Mr. Phil Whiteaker. District administrators present included: Dr. Terry Morawski, Superintendent; Dr. Chris Davis, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Campus Support; Ms. Shari Cooper, Director, Communications; and Ms. Leslie Phelps, Office Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent. Mr. Marshall Ney, of Friday, Eldridge, and Clark, District Attorney was also in attendance.

MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

At 5:31 PM, Ms. Blackwell announced that the Board would go into closed session to discuss a personnel matter.

After testimony, the Board moved into the hearing room for executive session at 6:16 PM and came out of executive session at 6:29 PM and reconvened in open session.

RECOMMENDATION

Ms. Blackwell reported that the decision of the Board was unanimous on the following conclusions:

Admittedly making an inappropriate joke to the students in his class.

Demonstrating a lack of sensitivity to and respect for people of all races and ethnicities as required by the District.

The teacher's conduct violated District Policy No. 3.27.

The teacher engaged in conduct that violated Standard One of the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators.

The teacher's conduct caused a substantial disruption to the educational environment in the District.

The teacher engaged in conduct that caused the District to lose trust and confidence in the teacher.

The teacher's conduct interferes with the continued performance of his duties as he has lost respect of staff, parents, and students

There is just and reasonable cause.

Mr. Person made a motion, seconded by Ms. Richardson, to adopt the written conclusions as read. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Person made a motion, seconded by Ms. Dixon, to uphold the recommendation for termination of the teacher. The motion passed 7/0.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 6:32 PM.

Talicia Richardson, Vice President

Dalton Person, Secretary