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## Board of Education

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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 January 28, 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, and Mr. Bill Hanesworth. Ms. Jeannie Cole and Mr. Wade Gilkey were absent. Ms. Talicia Richardson arrived at 5:40 p.m. Dr. Doug Brubaker, Superintendent, Dr. Terry Morawski, Deputy Superintendent, Mr. Martin Mahan, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Campus Support, Dr. Barry Owen, Chief Academic Officer, Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer, Ms. Zena Featherston Marshall, Executive Director of Communication and Community Partnerships, Mr. Darian Layes, Executive Director of Student Services and Ms. Nadine Brooks, Secretary to the Superintendent were present.

A moment of silence was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. McFerran read the mission statement.

The consent agenda included the minutes of the December 17 Regular School Board Meeting, December Financial Report, and January Student Services Report. Mr. Hanesworth made a motion, seconded by Mr. Greg Magness, to approve the consent agenda items as presented. The vote passed 4/0.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Brubaker yielded to Mr. Mahan to present the professional staff recommendations. Mr. Mahan noted that there were no leaves of absence.

### **Professional Staff Recommendations**

#### **Resignation**

Tucker, Sheri Michelle

Palmer, Charlotte

Davis, Ashley,

Henehan, Jennifer Sanchez

Rich, Mikayla

### **Retirement**

Rosen, Susan  
King, Marla Kay  
Copley, Constance  
Echols, Susan  
King, Delana  
McAllister, Danielle  
Taylor, Patricia

Mr. Hanesworth made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to accept the resignations and retirements as presented. The vote passed 4/0.

### **Recommendations for Employment**

Lee, Nathaniel  
Richardson, Patricia  
Smith, Nicole

Mr. Hanesworth made a motion, seconded by Mr. Magness, to approve the recommendations for employment as presented. The vote passed 4/0.

### **PPC Election Update**

Dr. Brubaker updated board members on the PPC election process.

### **Recognitions**

Superintendent's Star Award Winners: Sarah Baldwin, fifth grader at Howard Elementary, Mackenzie Driver, sixth grader at Orr Elementary, Kelly Faitala, fifth grader at Ballman Elementary, Parker Jennen, fifth grader at Beard Elementary, Lauren LaClair, sixth grader at Barling Elementary, Kevin Luna, sixth grader at Tilles Elementary, Laron Moore, kindergartener at Pike Elementary School, Natalee Quintanilla Libbey, sixth grader at Trusty Elementary, Paola Ramirez Barrientos, sixth grader at Sunnymede Elementary, Kaylene Sierra, sixth grader at Fairview Elementary, Jayden Tran, at Cavanaugh School.

Arkansas All-State Athletes: The following students are the FSPS Fall Sports **All-State Athletes**. Some of the students were also named to All-State teams and have represented Fort Smith Public Schools in all-state games around the state.

Volleyball 6A All-State: Lexie Mosby: Northside High School, Hannah Hogue, Southside High School, Emily Bass, Southside High School, Avery Fitzgerald, Southside High School,

Volleyball 6A All-State Tournament Team: Nicole Medlin, Northside High School, Hannah Hogue, Southside High School, Emily Bass, Southside High School, Hannah Holland, Southside High School, Tennis 6A All-State: Kate Files, Northside High School,

Golf 6A All-State: Lucas Teoh, Southside High School, Terry Uhm, Southside High School,

Football 7A All-State: Derrick Wise, Northside High School, Stevie Young, Northside High School, Anthony Travis, Northside High School, Darin Davenport, Southside High School, Taye Gatewood, Southside High School

Dr. Martin Luther King, Junior Day Parade Float

For the past two years, the Superintendent's Star Award winners have been featured during the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade. Behind the scenes, students representing the Senior Councils at Northside and Southside were recognized for designing and building the float for their younger counterparts. These senior students were publicly thanked for the work they accomplished honoring the work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Southside Senior Council: Khoi Chu, John Freeny, Jonathan Humphrey, Michael Teagle, Elise Cano, Allison Brannan, Walli Zaman, Mackenzie Shell, Hannah Schmidt, Terry Uhm. Oretha Ferguson is their sponsor.

Northside Senior Council: Greg Washington, Sophie Stites, Christa Head and Isabel Hernandez, Leigh Ann Hasley is their sponsor. All of these students were assisted by Courtney Hardcastle, Amy Fairfield and Ken Fletcher.

National Board Certification

Certification by the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards is among the most prestigious professional certifications available to educators. The certification is supported by the Arkansas Department of Education with a \$5,000 per year stipend. The District also supports this important designation with an additional \$2,000. Three teachers have completed the process and have been duly certified: Katie Mankins-Chaffin Junior High- School Counseling- Early Childhood through Young Adulthood, Dejah Stephens-Orr Elementary- English Language Arts-Early Adolescence, Pamela Secrest-Trusty Elementary- Literacy: Reading-Language Arts- Early and Middle Childhood

Mr. Hank Needham was recognized as an Achievement Award winner because of his work in the community and leadership in the academic performance and growth at Cavanaugh. Legislators Mat Pitsch, Justin Boyd and now Mayor George McGill secured an Arkansas House of Representative Citation issued by the 91st General Assembly recognizing all of Mr. Needham's many accomplishments.

Fort Smith Board of Education

January is School Board Recognition Month. Elementary school students' art was displayed for the January Board meeting. These posters reflected words that schools and their school board members have in common. The Board of Education Directors are important volunteers. The District is grateful for their work for children and the future of Fort Smith Public Schools.

Current Bids and Proposals

Mr. Warren presented information for three current bids and proposals for transportation routing software, purchasing operations review, and behavioral energy savings program. He reported that this is an information item and no recommendation is required.

### **Board Required Hours**

Dr. Brubaker reported that Ark. Code Ann. §6-11-105, §6-13-629, and Act 589 of 2017 stipulates the amount of training required by members of a local school district board of directors. He noted that as the report indicates, all members of the FSPS Board of Directors have met their training requirements for 2018. This is an information item and does not come with a recommendation. As legally required, this information will be referenced in the minutes of the January Regular Board Meeting.

### **PRESENTATION - INNOVATION IN COMPUTER SCIENCE SCHOOL GRANT PROGRAM**

Ms. Eden Buegler and Dr. Samantha Hall received notification from the Arkansas Department of Education that a grant application for \$24,800 has been funded. The grant proposal is focused on bridging the gap between the elementary and high school computer programming initiatives. The goals are to increase enrollment in high school computer science, physics and higher-level math courses, increase awareness within the school & community of computer science career opportunities and increase teacher capacity and understanding of computer science standards and initiatives. An overview of the grant program included goals, objectives, curriculum and resources.

### **PRESENTATION - VISION 2023 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

Dr. Morawski and Mr. Warren presented a general overview of finances related to the projects and activity of the last few months. Dr. Morawski reported that meetings had taken place with the Millage Advisory Committee, campus building committees and staff on campuses. Mr. Warren provided a current financial update. Mr. Jay Kirpatrick presented an update on Northside and Southside high schools, Darby and Ramsey junior high schools, and Barling, Cook, Morrison and Woods elementary schools.

### **PRESENTATION - GOAL MONITORING OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS NWEA MAP ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW**

Dr. Kellie Cohen, Ms. Caroline Neel and Ms. Lucia presented an overview of the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) Interim Assessments which are administered to students in grades 3-10. The data gathered from the NWEA Map assessments gives an overall picture of student learning in the district, and allows drill down to individual student learning targets to improve student achievement. This is also one source of data used in monitoring progress towards schools meeting the goals of their school improvement plans. Dr. Cohen reported that the Arkansas Department of Education requires that all schools, starting in 2018-2019, submit to the District by May 1 of the current school year a School Improvement Plan for the upcoming school year. The plans were approved by the School Board on June 25, 2018, and posted to each school's website. The Goal Monitoring sheets reflect the progress that each school is making towards meeting the Goals outlined in their school improvement plan. The templates were completed by the principals based upon input from their school leadership teams, and then discussed during quarterly data visits held with the schools and members from the District Leadership Tea.

**CONSIDER RESCINDING THE \$1,000,000 CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND RESERVATION**

Mr. Warren reported that on July 21, 2008, the School Board passed a resolution for the Superintendent of Schools to complete the necessary documents to purchase the PRADCO property located at 3601 Jenny Lind at the price not to exceed \$1 million. The Board of Education directed that a reserve fund be established from available district operating reserves to make payment for said property at the time of the closing. Mr. Warren reported that the administration has confirmed that PRADCO no longer has plans to sell buildings and property located at 3601 Jenny Lind Road. By removing the reservation, the \$1 million will be available to spend on other capital project needs of the District. If circumstances change and the PRADCO property become available in the future, available capital project funds can still be used to fund the purchase. The administration recommended that the board approve the repeal of the \$1 Million reservation held in the Capital Projects Fund.

Mr. Hanesworth made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to rescind the \$1 Million reservation placed in the Capital Projects Fund for the purchase of PRADCO property. The vote passed 5/0.

**BOARD MEMBERS FORUM**

Ms. Richardson expressed thanks for the District's participation in the Martin Luther King Jr. Parade.

**CITIZENS PARTICIPATION**

There was no one present for citizens' participation.

**ADJOURN**

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

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Susan McFerran, President

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Yvonne Keaton-Martin, Secretary