

Regular School Board Meeting
April 24, 2006
5:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin, president. Board members present were Ms. Shannon Blatt, Ms. Jeannie Cole, Ms. Barbara Hathcock, Dr. Deanie Mehl, and Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr. Dr. David Hunton was not present. Also present were Dr. Benny Gooden, superintendent, Dr. Johnny Owen, deputy superintendent and Ms. Carolyn Kincaid, executive secretary.

The pledge of allegiance was recited and Dr. Randy Bridges gave the invocation.

Ms. Cole made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hathcock, to approve the minutes of the March 27, 2006 regular school board meeting. The vote for approval was 6/0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT:

Dr. Benny Gooden yielded to Dr. Johnny Owen who reviewed the resignations and retirements.

Resignations

Lisa Alsup
Jeanne Cheyne
Nicki Petrucci

Retirements

Melanie Adams
Dianne Baer
Eleanor Foltz
Ann Reynolds

Ms. Hathcock made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to approve the resignations and retirements. The vote for approval was 6/0.

Recommendations for Employment

Catherine E. Cassingham, Special Education
Merranda S. Bush, Elementary
Rusty J. Bush, Physical Education/Health/Coach
Sara S. Davis, Elementary Counselor
Shelley L. Furlow, Special Education
Delana J. King, Elementary
Marilyn A. Neely, Spanish/English

Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to approve the recommendations for employment. The vote for approval was 6/0

Dr. Johnny Owen reviewed the Student Services Report.

Dr. Gooden and Ms. Keaton-Martin presented certificates to PTA Reflection winners, McKenna Barclay, Fairview Elementary, first place, visual arts, primary division; Elizabeth Hartstein, Fairview Elementary, first place, visual arts, intermediate division; Michael Maloney, Ramsey Junior High School, first place, visual arts, middle/junior division; Rory-Ann Austin, Northside High School, first place, visual arts, senior division; Dustin McRoberts, Southside High School, first place, photography, senior division; and Andrew Austin, first place, computer concepts by the Future Business Leaders of America.

Dr. Gooden reminded the Board that the Chamber of Commerce Honors Banquet is Monday, May 1, 2006 at the Holiday Inn City Center and the FSPS Awards and Retirement Banquet is Tuesday, May 2, 2006 at Beverly Enterprises.

He also noted that the District will again operate the Summer Meals Program. Beginning June 5, breakfast and lunch will be served at Tilles, Trusty and Spradling Elementary Schools. Lunch only will be provided at Sunnymede, Howard and Ballman Elementary Schools. These meals are provided for all youth who are 18 years and under. Last year over 26,000 meals were served.

Dr. Gooden also provided the Board with a list of 39 acts passed by the 85th General Assembly Extraordinary Session, noting that 22 of these acts were regarding education.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
REPORT:**

Ms. Keaton-Martin recognized Dr. Mehl for the Finance Committee Report.

Dr. Mehl made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cole, to approve the Financial Report for the month of March. The vote for approval was 6/0.

Dr. Mehl made a motion from the Finance Committee to approve the issuance of \$6,625,000 in second lien bonds and to include approximately \$500,000 to pay off short term-debt at First National Bank. The vote for approval was 6/0.

PROPERTIES
COMMITTEE REPORT:

Ms. Keaton-Martin recognized Ms. Jeannie Cole for the Properties Committee Report.

Ms. Cole made a recommendation from the Properties Committee to approve the proposed improvements to Fairview Elementary School to include a double lane entry driveway with a student drop-off, additional parking for Fairview Elementary and Ramsey Junior High, six additional classrooms, an addition to the cafeteria and remodeling the administrative area. The vote for approval was 6/0.

Ms. Cole made a recommendation from the Properties Committee to approve proposed improvements to the Food Service Warehouse/ Office Additions. The vote for approval was 6/0.

BOARD MEMBERS
FORUM:

Ms. Cole gave a report on the Arkansas State PTA Convention held in Fort Smith on April 7-8, 2006. She thanked Dr. Gooden and other administrators for their assistance in making the convention a success.

CITIZEN
PARTICIPATION:

Dr. Sarikun Tjandra and Ms. Sity Chen were present to address the Board about allowing their daughter, a student at Chaffin Junior High School, to take an Advanced Placement Course without a full-year prerequisite course required by the District. Their daughter will be a student at Southside High School next year.

Mr Wayne Haver, Southside High School principal was present. He informed the Board that the six-week refresher course Katherine took at the University of Arkansas, Fort Smith does not equate with a full year pre AP course at Southside High School. If Katherine is allowed to take the advanced placement course she would also have an advantage over other sophomore students in computing class rank.

Ms. Hathcock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wade, to extend citizen participation another 10 minutes. The vote for approval was 6/0.

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After further discussion, Dr. Mehl made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to defer the issue to the Curriculum Committee for further review. The vote for approval was 4/2, with Ms. Cole and Ms. Keaton-Martin abstaining.

ADJOURN: There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Yvonne Keaton-Martin, President

Wyman R. Wade, Jr., Secretary