

Regular School Board Meeting
August 22, 2005
5:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. David Cordell, president. Board members present were Mr. Lewis Eady, Ms. Barbara Hathcock, Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin, Dr. David Hunton, and Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr. Ms. Jeannie Cole 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 the invocation given by Mr. David Cordell.

Ms. Hathcock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Eady, to approve the minutes of the July 25, 2005, 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

Jana Hayes

Hannah Morris

Retirements

Carmeletta Withers

Dr. Hunton made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hathcock, to approve the resignations and retirements. The vote for approval was 5/0. Mr. Wade abstained from voting.

Recommendations for Employment

Daniel A. Bardin

Rebecca L. Burch

Erin L. Chronister

Virginia Derkovitz

Pamela L. Ehnle

Gaylon E. Freeman

Erica Danielle Hasty

Casey L. Landry

Joy A. Lovelady

Michael J. Maxwell

Wendy L. Parker

Melody D. Priester

Joanna L. Schoolcraft

Heather K. Wright

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

Dr. Gooden noted that, after the second day of school, enrollment had increased by 400 students, with the largest growth in kindergarten. The District had reassigned several teachers and approximately 100 students to comply with class-size standards.

Dr. Gooden noted that the new nutrition guidelines have been released and that they appeared to be in conflict with our contract with Coca-Cola. The contract expires in 2007. He stated that the District is continuing discussion with the Arkansas Department of Education, but that we intend to comply with our contract.

Ms. Hathcock made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to approve a resolution to authorize publication of official notice of the Annual School Board Election, listing all polling places, scheduled for September 20, 2005. Dr. Gooden made note that all polling places will be open as all positions are contested. The vote for approval was 6/0.

Mr. Cordell noted that Mr. Richard Griffin had requested to speak and asked to be addressed before the Finance Committee report. Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hathcock, to move citizen participation to accommodate the request. The vote for approval was 6/0.

CITIZEN
PARTICIPATION:

Mr. Richard Griffin was present to note his concerns about constructing the proposed Northside High School Indoor Activity Center using metal instead of brick. He stated he felt the building would be a detriment to the neighborhood and unattractive for years to come.

Dr. Gooden agreed that the District had similar concerns and had spoken with the architect. He further noted that the architect planned to use brick veneer and different colors to blend the building into the neighborhood as well as possible. No action was taken.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
REPORT:

President Cordell recognized Mr. Eady for the monthly financial report.

Mr. Eady made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hathcock, to approve the July 2005 Financial Report. The vote for approval was 6/0.

Mr. Eady made a recommendation from the Finance Committee to approve the concept of the construction of an indoor activity center on the Northside High School campus and to authorize the Superintendent to pursue plans for construction. The vote for approval was 7/0.

Mr. Eady made a recommendation from the Finance Committee to approve a resolution for second lien Qualified Zone Academy Bonds (QZAB) in the amount of \$634,242. The vote for approval was 6/0.

Mr. Eady made a recommendation from the Finance Committee to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to apply for Federal funds for the Fort Smith School District. The vote for approval was 6/0.

Mr. Eady made a recommendation from the Finance Committee to approve the Deborah G. Dunston Adolescent Treatment Center of Montgomery County to provide services for students who are residents of the Fort Smith School District. The vote for approval was 6/0.

PERSONNEL
COMMITTEE REPORT:

Ms. Keaton-Martin made a recommendation from the Personnel Committee to approve a list of Contract Disclosure forms for employees for the 2005-06 school year. Dr. Gooden read each employees name and the company being disclosed. The vote for approval was 6/0.

PROPERTIES
COMMITTEE REPORT:

Dr. Hunton made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hathcock, to approve Ramsons, Inc., the low bid in the amount of \$3,569,000, subject to negotiated cost reductions, for construction of the Kimmons Junior High School addition-Phase II. The vote for approval was 6/0.

BOARD MEMBERS
FORUM:

There were no items for discussion.

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ADJOURN: There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Hathcock, secretary

David Cordell, president