

Regular School Board Meeting
August 28, 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. David Hunton, Dr. Deanie Mehl, and Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr. 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 Ms. Keaton-Martin gave the invocation.

Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to approve the minutes of the July 24, 2006 regular school board meeting. The vote for approval was 7/0.

Dr. Brenda Sellers, Ms. Robyn Shotzman and Ms. Sharla Whitson made a presentation to the Board informing them about the New Teacher Induction Program.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT:

Dr. Benny Gooden yielded to Dr. Johnny Owen for the professional staff recommendations.

Resignations
Jennifer Hampton
Marty Morris
Freda Ogle

Ms. Cole made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to approve the resignations. The vote for approval was 7/0.

Recommendations for Employment
Michael Darlene Bell
Judith L. Bigham
Trisha K. Boardman
Natalie L. Brown
Julia D. Coleman
Laura E. Cone
Karen B. Davis
Laura M. Davis

Recommendations for Employment (continued)

Keith J. Elting, III
Kathy M. Fox
Devonny A. Grinder
Nicole M. Grizzle
Amanda M. Jeremiah
Kendra L. Jones
Brenda K. Person
Joshua B. Ray
Sarah G. Ray
Michael L. Rhodes
Amanda M. Stockdale
Emily P. Walker

Ms. Hathcock, made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mehl, to approve the recommendations for employment. The vote for approval was 7/0.

Leave of Absence
Lyle Lorenson

Ms. Blatt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cole, to approve the leave of absence. The vote for approval was 7/0

Dr. Gooden read a resolution to be adopted stating that because no more than one person has been certified as a candidate for any vacancy on the Board of Education, and no proposed change in the rate of tax is being proposed, the Fort Smith School District requests that the Sebastian Board of Election Commissioners conduct the annual school election for 2006 to provide for only absentee and early voting by the Sebastian county clerk. Dr. Hunton made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hathcock, to approve the resolution as stated. The vote for approval of the resolution was 7/0. Early voting begins, Tuesday, September 5.

Dr. Gooden noted that as of Friday, August 25, our enrollment was 13,606, an increase of 400 students from this time last year. He also noted that 175 students had been transferred to comply with class-size standards.

Dr. Gooden stated that the School Improvement List was recently announced. FSPS elementary schools on the list are Howard, Trusty, Pike, Morrison, Sunnymede, Sutton and Tilles. Secondary schools are Northside, Belle Point, Darby, Kimmons, and Ramsey.

He also noted that Fort Smith School District was in compliance with federal standards on fully licensed teachers in our classrooms.

Dr. Gooden informed the Board that the Picus/Odden Adequacy Study was complete. One suggested method for funding student transportation could result in FSSD losing \$2 million. He has submitted comments objecting to this method and will continue to monitor.

The new program "Transition to Success" was held August 17 for 7th graders in all junior highs and Dr. Gooden and Dr. Mehl noted they had received many favorable comments.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
REPORT:

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

Ms. Blatt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hathcock, to approve the Financial Report for July 31, 2006. The vote for approval was 7/0.

Ms. Hathcock made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to apply for Federal funds for the Fort Smith School District. The vote for approval was 7/0.

Dr. Hunton made a recommendation from the Finance Committee to approve the 2006-07 Fort Smith Public School Budget. The vote for approval was 7/0. Dr. Gooden briefly reviewed budget highlights.

PERSONNEL
COMMITTEE REPORT:

Ms. Keaton-Martin recognized Ms. Shannon Blatt for the Personnel Committee Report.

Ms. Blatt noted that the Ethics Disclosures for the 2006-07 school year should be reviewed and approved.

Dr. Gooden reviewed the names as follows:

Mary Kay King	Dean's Carpet
Gaye Dishner	Titan Security and Sound
Deborah Greer	RSE-Environmental Company
Lucy Edson	Alpha Metal Mfg.
Nicole Grizzle	Vic's Tire
Melissa Knittig	Balfour Graduate Services

Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Dr. Hunton, to approve the ethics disclosures and accompanying resolutions. The vote for approval was 7/0.

BOARD MEMBERS
FORUM:

There were no items for discussion.

CITIZEN
PARTICIPATION:

There was no one present for citizen participation.

ADJOURN:

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Yvonne Keaton-Martin, President

Wyman R. Wade, Jr., Secretary