

Regular School Board Meeting
January 23, 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. Johnny Owen gave the invocation.

Dr. Mehl made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to approve the minutes of the December 19, 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 recommendations for employment.

Resignations
Amanda Heyser
Lisa Johnson
Caleb Fitting

Recommendations for Employment
Emily S. Durham
Felipa Garcia
Darla K. Lewis
Francesca M. Williams

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

Dr. Johnny Owen reviewed the Student Services Report.

Dr. Gooden and Ms. Keaton-Martin recognized the 2005 Chaffin Junior High School Knowledge Master Open Team, Katelyn Bartlett, Emily Brown, Caroline Chen, Ty Ferguson, Sarah Foster, Emily Gammill, Meredith Pitsch, Will Roberts, and Johanna Walker for winning for first place in the State of Arkansas.

Dr. Gooden recognized Mr. Michael Farrell, principal, Darby Junior High School. Mr. Farrell, two students and a teacher from Darby presented a report on Darby's "teaming" concept.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
REPORT:

Ms. Keaton-Martin recognized Dr. Mehl for the Finance Committee Report in Dr. Hunton's absence.

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

Dr. Mehl made a motion to approve a proposal from John Przybysz & Associates to perform the independent audit for the Fort Smith Public Schools for a three year period from 2005-06 through 2007-2008. 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 10-year Master Facility Plan. The detailed plan for 2006-2009 was included. The vote for approval was 6/0.

Ms. Cole made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to approve the advertisement of bids for the sale of following pieces of excess/obsolete school district equipment:

1988 Chevrolet/Am/Tran 65 passenger school bus, 114,734 miles;
1988 GMC/AmTran 65 passenger school bus, 74,447 miles;
1989 GMC/AmTran 65 passenger bus, 112,401 miles
1970 Chevrolet Pick-up, 184,000 miles;
1975 Chevrolet Pick-up. 114,000 miles;
1974 Dodge Van 153,000 miles; and
1 lot consisting of 625 retired/obsolete computer processors with hard drives erased, 615 computer monitors, and 100 printers.

These items will be sold to the highest bidder.

The vote for approval was 6/0.

STUDENT AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE REPORT:

Ms. Keaton-Martin recognized Mr. Wyman R. Wade for the Student Affairs Committee Report.

Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to move the student appeal to the last item on the agenda. The vote for approval was 6/0.

Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cole, to approve the expulsion of two students, one from Belle Point Center for the current school year, for attacking a student and threatening staff and students, and one from Northside High School for 365 days for the possession of a weapon. The vote for approval was 6/0.

Mr. Wade noted that the Student Affairs Committee needed to consider a request from Ms. Patricia Javid to secure a permit for beer sales at Petro Plus located at 2300 Rogers Avenue, across the street from Northside High School.

Ms. Javid was present and requested to speak. She stated that her family owns the J-Mart at 3627 Midland Blvd and was planning to purchase the Petro Plus at 2300 Rogers Avenue. The business is located within 1,000 feet of Northside High School. She further stated that the Arkansas Beverage Control Agency had informed her that they had no objection, but that she would need approval from the Fort Smith Board of Education.

Mr. Wade said the statute regarding operation of a retail liquor business within 1,000 feet of a school stood on its own merit and did not allow the sale of alcohol. He stated he was puzzled as to why the Board of Education had even been approached. After a consensus of other board members no action was taken.

BOARD MEMBERS
FORUM:

Dr. Mehl stated that she and Board member Jeannie Cole had recently served with Dr. Brenda Sellers, Assistant Superintendent for personnel and support services, in planning Leadership Fort Smith Education Day. Dr. Mehl noted that it was the most anticipated event planned for the organization. She felt that the success of the day was because of Dr. Sellers efforts and commended her.

She also stated that she recently attended a high school basketball game and observed the bad behavior and poor sportsmanship of students from other school districts. She noted that she very much appreciated the fact that the Fort Smith School District expected a

much higher standard of behavior and that our students demonstrate good sportsmanship.

Mr. Wade recalled shortly after January 28, 1986, he attended a school board meeting to request that Euper Lane Elementary School be renamed for teacher Christa McAuliffe, who had been killed in the explosion of the space shuttle, *The Challenger*. He stated how much he appreciated her dedication and her courage as a teacher and she represented the very best of all our teachers.

CITIZEN
PARTICIPATION:

There were no requests to speak.

ADJOURN:

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Yvonne Keaton-Martin, President

Wyman R. Wade, Jr., Secretary