

Regular School Board Meeting
July 27, 2009
5:30 p.m

PRESENT:

Ms. Jeannie Cole, president, called the meeting to order. Other Board members present were Ms. Shannon Blatt, Dr. David Hunton, and Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr. Ms. Barbara Hathcock, Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin, and Dr. Deanie Mehl were not in attendance. Dr. Benny Gooden, Superintendent, Dr. Gordon Floyd, Deputy Superintendent and Ms. Carolyn Kincaid, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent were also present.

The pledge of allegiance was recited and Dr. Barry Owen gave the invocation.

Dr. Hunton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wade, to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2009 regular school board meeting. The vote for approval was 4/0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT:

Dr. Benny Gooden yielded to Dr. Gordon Floyd to review the professional staff recommendations.

Resignations

Anita Hill
Rachel Reeves
Andrea Shrum

Ms. Blatt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wade, to approve the resignations. The vote for approval was 4/0.

Leave of Absence

Jane Bittle

Dr. Hunton made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to approve the leave of absence. The vote for approval was 4/0.

Recommendations for Employment

Thomas C. Bryan, Special Education
Adrienne L. Harless, English
Candice R. Ketchum, Elementary Music
Donna M. Lucas, Special Education
Staci E. Matthews, Elementary
Elizabeth A. Nevenhoven, Elementary
Natasha L. Shoate, Elementary

Dr. Hunton made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to approve the recommendations for employment. The vote for approval was 4/0.

Dr. Gooden noted that the Board needed to approve a resolution giving official notice of the Annual School Election and polling places scheduled for September 15, 2009. Ms. Blatt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wade, to approve the resolution. The vote for approval was 4/0.

Dr. Gooden noted that Mr. Charles Warren has assumed the position Director of Financial Services, and should be appointed as District Business Official/Treasurer as required by Arkansas statutes and regulations adopted by the State Board of Education. Mr. Warren will be reaffirmed in September with the election of school board officers, but should correctly be named the Chief Financial Officer while the budget and reporting process is underway.

Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to approve Mr. Charles Warren as District Business Official/Treasurer. The vote for approval was 4/0.

Dr. Gooden reminded the Board that on Wednesday, August 12, the General Teachers Meeting will be held at the Civic Center and the speaker will be Dr. Ruby Payne, a noted educator and author, on teaching children from poverty. Also, this Friday, July 31, is the Nuts 'N Bolts Meeting and board members are invited to lunch at Ramsey Junior High school with all administrators.

There was also discussion about extensive construction at several schools, i.e. Southside High School, Chaffin Junior High School, Cavanaugh Elementary and Barling Schools. These projects will not be complete before school starts on August 19, 2009.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
REPORT:**

Ms. Cole recognized Dr. Hunton for the Finance Committee Report

Dr. Hunton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wade, to approve the Financial Report for June 2009. The vote for approval was 4/0.

**COMMITTEE OF THE
WHOLE REPORT:**

Ms. Cole noted that the Board met as a Committee of the Whole on July 13, 2009. Ms. Cole recognized Ms. Blatt for the report on Northside High School Improvements.

Ms. Blatt reviewed Phase I and Phase II of the extensive construction underway at Northside High School.

Ms. Blatt made a Committee recommendation to proceed with the improvements at Northside High School. The vote for approval was 4/0.

Ms. Cole recognized Ms. Blatt for a report on Qualified School Construction bonds.

Ms. Blatt made a recommendation, seconded by Mr. Wade, to waive the reading of a resolution regarding Qualified School Construction Bonds. The vote for approval was 4/0.

Ms. Blatt made a Committee recommendation to approve a resolution to make application for Qualified School Construction Bonds. These bonds are one aspect of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The vote for approval was 4/0.

Ms. Cole recognized Dr. Hunton for a report on assurances for funding under the McKinney-Vento Act.

Dr. Hunton made a Committee recommendation to approve assurances required for funding under the McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children Act. The vote for approval was 4/0.

Ms. Cole recognized Mr. Wade for a report on the selection of School Improvement Program Specialists.

Mr. Wade made a Committee recommendation to approve JBHM Education Group as School Improvement Program Specialists for those schools in levels of School Improvement requiring outside intervention. The vote for approval was 4/0.

BOARD MEMBERS
FORUM:

Dr. Hunton noted that he had received comments regarding the new sculpture in front of Southside High School.

CITIZEN
PARTICIPATION:

No one was present for citizen participation.

ADJOURN:

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Ms. Jeannie Cole, President

Ms. Shannon Blatt, Secretary