

Regular School Board Meeting
September 24, 2007
5:30 p.m.

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

The pledge of allegiance was recited and Ms. Keaton-Martin gave the invocation.

Ms. Hathcock welcomed representatives from the Children's Service League Board, Partners in Education Advisory Board, FSPS Foundation Board, City Council PTA and PTA Presidents and thanked them for their service and support for the Fort Smith Public Schools.

Dr. Gooden presented the 2007 Annual Report to the Public.

Dr. Hunton made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cole, to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2007 regular school board meeting. The vote for approval was 6/0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT:

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

Resignations
Mary Burkett
Melody Carson

Dr. Mehl made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to approve the resignations. The vote for approval was 5/0.

Recommendations for Employment
Sarah C. Buckingham, Speech-Language Pathologist
Kathy L. McNees, Kindergarten
Monique M. Poole, Elementary
Stacie Allison Russell, Elementary
Joanne Elbon, English

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

Dr. Gooden and Dr. Hunton presented certificates to Amanda Bulger for being named Arkansas Career Orientation Teachers' Association Teacher of the Year and Jeff Williams for receiving the 2007 Lowell Manning Coach of the Year Award from the Arkansas Activities Association.

Dr. Gooden noted that the school board election was held Tuesday, September 16, and Dr. David Hunton was elected, At-Large, Position 5 and Ms. Barbara Hathcock was elected, Position 6, Zone 1.

The vote for continuation of the 36.5 mill school tax was 1,455 for the tax and 332 against the tax. Ms. Cole made a motion, seconded by Ms Keaton-Martin to accept the returns as a matter of record, and incorporate the results into the minutes. The vote for approval was 6/0. (A certified copy of the school board election results is attached).

Dr. Gooden noted that all required ADE reports have been filed for Cycle 1, and thanked Ms. Ellen Terry and Dr. Brenda Sellers for their efforts in this monumental task.

He also noted that the Team Visit associated with District Accreditation by AdvancED, parent corporation of the North Central Association/Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement will occur on October 15-17.

The Arkansas School Board New Board member workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, October 16 in Little Rock and the ASBA Region 4 Meeting for our district is scheduled for Thursday, October 18, 2007, hosted by the Greenwood School District.

Dr. Gooden informed the Board that Howard Elementary School has been approved for a Tornado Shelter.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
REPORT:**

Ms. Hathcock recognized Ms. Cole for the Finance Committee Report.

Ms. Cole made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to approve the Financial Report for August 27, 2007. The vote for approval was 6/0.

Ms. Cole made a recommendation from the Finance Committee to approve a resolution authorizing the issuance and delivery of Qualified Zone Academy Bonds in the amount of \$3,085,000. The vote for approval was 6/0.

**CURRICULUM
COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Ms. Hathcock recognized Dr. Deanie Mehl for the Curriculum Committee Report.

Dr. Mehl made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to approve the proposed Elementary Textbook Adoption Committee for Social Studies for 2007-08. The vote for approval was 6/0.

**STUDENT AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Ms. Blatt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to move the student appeal to the end of the meeting. The vote for approval was 6/0.

**ELECTION OF NEW
OFFICERS:**

Ms. Blatt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to nominate the 2007-08 school board officers as follows:

Dr. David Hunton, President
Ms. Jeannie Cole, Vice President
Dr. Deanie Mehl, Secretary
Ms. Ellen Terry, Treasurer

The vote for approval was 6/0.

Ms. Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mehl, to approve Dr. David Hunton as the Primary Board Disbursing officer and Ms. Jeannie Cole as the alternate Board Disbursing officer. The vote for approval was 6/0.

BOARD MEMBERS
FORUM:

Dr. Mehl thanked Barbara Hathcock for her leadership as board president during the past year.

CITIZEN
PARTICIPATION:

Ms. Shannon Neeves and Mr. Richard Strunks stated their concerns about their children's safety on the playground at Beard Elementary School. They felt that there were not enough teachers available to watch all the children.

Ms. Cole suggested Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) program involving parent volunteers. Ms. Hathcock noted that the Board would review their concerns with FSPS administration.

ADJOURN:

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Ms. Barbara Hathcock, President

Dr. David Hunton, Secretary