

Regular School Board Meeting
June 23, 2008
5:30 p.m

PRESENT:

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

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

Ms. Cole made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to approve the minutes of the May 26, 2008 regular school board meeting. The vote for approval was 5/0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT:

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

Resignations

Mary E. Baker
Mandy Becker
Judy Bigham
Joann Black
Darren Chandler
Sharon Cook
Jason Elbon
Amanda Ming
Tracey Patterson Smith
Leeann Stine
Jarah Sutherland
Michelle Tucker

Retirements

Marcia Dye
Kenneth Peerson
Linda Richmond
Charles Shipman
Rebecca Shipman

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

June 23, 2008

Recommendations for Employment

Rolana K. Adair
Lori J. Bauer
Stacy K. Beck
Casey D. Bodin
Dustin S. Brown
Mona B. Calaway
Donald A. Fiser
Maria R. Galvan
Brenda K. Grinder
Lorie A. Horn
Sara A. Hubbs
Emily R. Johnson
Marilynn S. Lee
Cassy D. Long
Nicole M. Marsh
Ginni E. McDonald
Angela D. Miller
Margaret L. Moore
Ashlee D. Parker
Amy E. Ray
Kathi A. Ross
Ryan K. Solley
Vickie L. Terry
Bradley T. Webber

Ms. Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cole, to approve the recommendations for employment. The vote for approval was 5/0.

Dr. Gooden and Dr. Hunton presented a certificate to Mr. Wayne Haver for Southside High School for being named a "Best Practice" High School.

Dr. Gooden informed the Board that the District scores from Benchmark testing have been published, but the final tabulations will not be available until August. He noted that our students had made gains at almost all levels, and that final scores will be reviewed in August.

Dr. Gooden noted that the District is serving over 1,000 meals each day at seven different school locations to children throughout the District through the Summer Feeding Program.

Dr. Gooden noted that the school board election is scheduled for Tuesday, September 16 and position 1, Zone II and position 2, At Large will be on

the ballot. These positions are currently held by Ms. Shannon Blatt, Zone II, and Dr. Deanie Mehl, At Large.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
REPORT:

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

Ms. Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cole, to approve the Financial Report for May 2008. The vote for approval was 5/0.

Ms. Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cole, to approve Hiland Dairy for milk products for the 2008-09 school year. The vote for approval was 5/0.

Ms. Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mehl, to approve Earthgrains for bread products for the 2008-09 school year. The vote for approval was 5/0. (A copy of the prices is attached).

Ms. Keaton-Martin made a recommendation from the Finance Committee to approve a resolution adopting the following:

1. the proposed 2009-2010 budget of expenditures;
2. preparation of the ballot and submit the question of a total school tax as described in the budget and hold the annual school election;
3. the retention of Stephens Inc. as fiscal agent for the District in connection with the sale and issuance of the proposed bonds;
4. the publication of notice of the election and notice of polling places for the election; and
5. authorizing the Superintendent to offer the proposed bond issue described in the budget for public sale.

The vote for approval was 5/0.

Ms. Keaton-Martin made a recommendation from the Finance Committee to approve an agreement for legal services for Mr. Mitch Llewellyn for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2008 and extending through June 30, 2009 at an hourly rate of \$175.00. The vote for approval was 5/0.

CURRICULUM
COMMITTEE REPORT:

Dr. Hunton recognized Dr. Mehl for the Curriculum Committee Report.

Dr. Mehl made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cole, to waive the formal reading of Policy IKF, Graduation Requirements. The vote for approval was 5/0.

CURRICULUM
COMMITTEE REPORT:

Dr. Hunton recognized Dr. Mehl for the Curriculum Committee Report.

Dr. Mehl made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cole, to waive the formal reading of Policy IKF, Graduation Requirements. The vote for approval was 5/0.

Dr. Mehl made a motion from the Curriculum Committee, to approve revisions to Policy IKF, Graduation Requirements for first reading. The vote for approval was 5/0.

COMMITTEE OF THE
WHOLE REPORT:

Dr. Hunton noted that the Board met June 10, 2008 as a Committee of the Whole to evaluate the Superintendent of Schools. Ms. Cole made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hathcock, to increase Dr. Gooden's total compensation \$6,100 to \$196,100 and to extend his 3-year contract to 2011. The vote for approval was 5/0. The Board thanked Dr. Gooden for his good work for the Fort Smith School District.

BOARD MEMBERS
FORUM:

Ms. Keaton-Martin recognized Tony Jones, a former student at Chaffin Junior High School and who is a member of her church. Tony attended the Board meeting as required by a community project he is involved in.

Dr. Mehl noted the construction at the Southside Activity Center. Dr. Gooden stated there was good progress on restroom renovation at Southside High School and Mayo Thompson stadium. Major construction continues through the summer at Albert Pike Elementary School.

CITIZEN
PARTICIPATION:

Ms. Mary Atkerson was present for citizen participation.

She informed the Board that her granddaughter graduated from Southside High School in May. She is a severely disabled student and Ms. Atkerson alleged that she was abused before and during the graduation ceremony. She also alleged neglect and abuse during school hours.

Ms. Atkerson's daughter was present and distributed photographs to Board members that were taken at graduation. Ms. Atkerson also stated she felt her granddaughter should have been able to sit with other class members during graduation. Ms. Atkerson encouraged the Board to investigate the treatment of severely disabled students at Southside High School.

Dr. Hunton thanked Ms. Atkerson for her presentation and noted they would review the matter with school administration.

ADJOURN:

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Dr. David Hunton, President

Dr. Deanie Mehl, Secretary