

Regular School Board Meeting
September 22, 2008
5:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Dr. David Hunton, president, called the meeting to order. Other Board members present were Ms. Shannon Blatt, Ms. Jeannie Cole, Ms. Barbara Hathcock, Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin, Dr. Deanie Mehl, and Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr. 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 Mr. Wade gave the invocation and noted important events that had occurred in September in past years.

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

Dr. Gooden presented the 2008 Annual Report to the Public.

Ms. Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cole, to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2008 regular school board meeting. The vote for approval was 7/0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT:

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

Resignations

Casey Bodin
Stephanie McLemore
Bouasy Sengmany

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

Recommendations for Employment

Debbie J. Akers, Elementary
Amanda R. Butler, Literacy Interventionist
Edwin J. Hansen, Marketing
Shannon D. Huber, English

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

Leave of Absence

Holly Pixley

Ms. Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mehl, to approve the leave of absence. The vote for approval was 7/0.

Dr. Gordon Floyd reviewed the Student Services Report.

Dr. Gooden noted that the school board election was held Tuesday, September 16, and Dr. Deanie Mehl was elected, At-Large, Position 2 and Ms. Shannon Blatt was elected, Position 1, Zone II. The vote for continuation of the 36.5 mill school tax was 190 for the tax and 84 against the tax. Ms. Blatt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Barbara Hathcock, to accept the returns as a matter of record, and incorporate the results into the minutes. The vote for approval was 7/0. (A certified copy of the school board election results is attached).

FINANCE COMMITTEE
REPORT:

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

Ms. Blatt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to approve the Financial Report for August 25, 2008. The vote for approval was 7/0.

Ms. Blatt yielded to Dr. Gooden to review one ethics disclosure. Dr. Gooden noted that Ms. Katherine Johnston disclosed potential ethics issues with Johnston Towing and Recovery. Ms. Blatt made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mehl, to approve the disclosure resolution and to request approval by the Commissioner of Education. The vote for approval was 7/0.

PROPERTIES
COMMITTEE REPORT:

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

Ms. Cole made a recommendation from the Properties Committee to approve plans for renovation and additions to Barling Elementary School. The vote for approval was 7/0.

Ms. Cole made a recommendation from the Properties Committee to approve plans for renovation and additions to Cavanaugh Elementary School. The vote for approval was 7/0.

Ms. Cole made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to approve a resolution authorizing advertisement for sale of property located at 2620 Wheeler Avenue. This property was purchased in 2006 for additional space for the transportation area, but is no longer needed since the District will acquire the PRADCO property. The vote for approval was 7/0.

**CURRICULUM
COMMITTEE REPORT:**

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

Dr. Mehl made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to approve Special Education Assurances for the 2008-09 school year. These include assurances for (1) Special Education and related services; (2) Headstart services; and (3) and Preschool services. The vote for approval was 7/0.

**ELECTION OF NEW
OFFICERS:**

Ms. Hathcock made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to nominate the 2008-09 school board officers as follows:

- Ms. Jeannie Cole, President
- Dr. Deanie Mehl, Vice President
- Ms. Shannon Blatt, Secretary
- Mr. Bryan Hewitt, District Business Official/Treasurer

The vote for approval was 7/0.

Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to approve Ms. Jeannie Cole as the Primary Board Disbursing officer and Dr. Deanie Mehl as the Alternate Board Disbursing officer. The vote for approval was 7/0.

**BOARD MEMBERS
FORUM:**

Ms. Hathcock thanked Dr. Hunton for his leadership as board president during the past year.

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**CITIZEN
PARTICIPATION:**

There was no one present for citizen participation.

Ms. Cole noted that she attended activities at Darby Junior High School for the National Day of Encouragement and that they were very good.

ADJOURN:

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Dr. David Hunton, President

Dr. Deanie Mehl, Secretary