

Regular School Board Meeting
February 23, 2009
5:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Ms. Jeannie Cole, president, called the meeting to order. Other Board members present were Ms. Shannon Blatt, Ms. Barbara Hathcock, Dr. David Hunton, 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. Wyman R. Wade, Jr. gave a brief history of Black History month.

Dr. Gooden presented a brief history of Fort Smith Senior High School.

Ms. Blatt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hathcock, to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2009 regular school board meeting. The vote for approval was 7/0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT:

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

Recommendations for Employment

Lisa M. Cater

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

Leaves of Absence

Kimberley Suzanne Brooks

Sarah Carrier

Kimberly Heath

Misty Jackson

Tommye Thompson

Dr. Mehl made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hathcock, to approve the leaves of absence. The vote for approval was 7/0.

Retirement

Ralph P. Brown, Jr.

Dr. Gordon Floyd gave the Student Services Report.

Dr. Gooden, Ms. Cole and Dr. Mehl presented certificates to Melinda Briscoe, Northside High School, Leavey Award for Excellence in Private Enterprise Education; Todd Watkins, Chaffin Junior High Schools, Arkansas Veterans of Foreign Wars Citizenship Education Teacher of the Year; Ramsey Junior High School Science Bowl Team Mollie Hicks, Landon Hunter, David Mai, Jorge Ramos, Dylan Wright; state championship; Francisco Diaz, Northside High School, all state first chair, first band, bassoon, Terrell Montgomery, Northside High School, all state first chair, first band, string bass, Zach Plumlee, Northside High School, all state first chair, jazz band, jazz guitar, Van Powell, Southside High School, all state orchestra, first string, bass, Marcus Terry, Southside High School, all state, first chair, first band, alto clarinet; Southside High School Bowling Team, Josh Canada, Jeremy Gillooley, Trever Hixson, Aaron Johnston, Chris Moore, Jeffrey Neu, Brent Northington, Michael Drew Powell, Justin Syrock, Zack Weihrauch, Korey Welch; state bowling championship; and Richard Kirksey, Southside High School, first place, 189 class.

Dr. Gooden informed the Board that Northside High School had received an AAIMS Grant (Arkansas Advanced Initiative for Math and Science) which will be used to enhance participation in Advanced Placement (AP) classes.

Dr. Gooden also stated that the Arkansas legislature was still in session in Little Rock. There is currently discussion regarding scholarship money to be distributed from lottery proceeds.

He also noted that the State would be receiving a considerable amount of money from the Economic Stimulus Package. He noted that this must be considered "one time money" and school districts must be vigilant about making sure the money is distributed properly. Dr. Gooden also noted his disappointment that direct funds for infrastructure for schools had been deleted from the package.

Dr. Gooden informed the Board that an Open House is scheduled for Sunday, March 15 2009 for Albert Pike and Howard Elementary Schools.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
REPORT:**

Ms. Cole recognized Dr. Mehl for the Finance Committee Report. Dr. Mehl made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hathcock, to approve the Financial Report for January 2009. The vote for approval was 7/0.

CURRICULUM
COMMITTEE REPORT:

Ms. Cole recognized Ms. Blatt for the Curriculum Committee Report.

Ms. Blatt made a Committee recommendation to approve the proposed secondary textbooks for business, career orientation and language. A list of the proposed textbooks is attached. The vote for approval was 7/0.

BOARD MEMBERS
FORUM:

There were no items for discussion.

CITIZEN
PARTICIPATION:

Ms. Terry Hunton and Ms. Amy Evans were present and presented a Power Point presentation noting concerns of several Chaffin parents regarding needed repairs and updates at Chaffin Junior High School. A copy of the power point presentation is attached.

Ms. Cole, Dr. Mehl, and Mr. Wade acknowledged these concerns and noted that the District has a 10-year master facility plan. This plan is continually reviewed and updated and approved by the Board. The concerns noted in the meeting will be reviewed and addressed, as funds are available.

ADJOURN:

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

Ms. Jeannie Cole, President

Ms. Shannon Blatt, Secretary