

Regular School Board Meeting
June 22, 2009
5:30 p.m

PRESENT:

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

The pledge of allegiance was recited and Dr. Gordon Floyd gave the invocation.

Ms. Hathcock made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2009 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

Andrea Bailey
Susan Bishop
Zach Edwards
Victor Hart
Carter Mauldin
Amber Morrow
Kelly Painter
Holly Pixley
Tiffany Reeves
Lisa Stearman

Retirements

Judy Caperton
Larry Jones

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

Recommendations for Employment

Rebecca D. Ballard
Jessica R. Cochenour
Adrienne S. Davis
Shannan V. Davis

Recommendations for Employment

Rebecca D. Ballard
Jessica R. Cochenour
Adrienne S. Davis
Shannan V. Davis
Malissa E. Evans
Justin J. Foftenot
Rachel A. Fontenot
Kyra L. Frederick
Melissa L. Gillespie
Kelsey L. Goheen
Marcus B. Goode
Kelsey L. Karber
Mary Amanda Lee
Brandy m. Lewis
Fran J. Munsell
David Keith Reeves
Judith A. Riley
Pamela H. Sackschewsky
Aaron M. Satterfield
Carolyn j. Smith
Susan L. Stranathan
Brandi M. Summerhill
Gina L. Tabor
Mallory A. Thoompson
Eva M. Walker
Tara L. Wall
Malarie K. Yocum

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

Dr. Gordon Floyd gave the Student Services Report.

Dr. Gooden and Ms. Cole presented certificates to the Noon Lions Club, Fort Smith Rotary Club, Commissary Kiwanis Club, and the Junior League of Fort Smith in appreciation of service and support for the students of the Fort Smith Public Schools.

Mr. Mitch Llewellyn was present and updated the board regarding the decision on our recent lawsuit against the State. The District accused the State of misusing public trust funds. He stated he was surprised and disappointed in the ruling against us.

Dr. Gooden informed the Board that Southside High School was included on the Newsweek list of "America's Best High Schools." In addition, *Education Week* featured Fort Smith Public School as number three out of 50 urban schools in the nation in its Diplomas Count 2009 report. No other Arkansas districts made the Education Week list.

Dr. Gooden noted that the school board election is scheduled for Tuesday, September 15, 2009. Three positions are open:

Position 3, Zone IV currently held by Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin
Position 4, At Large currently held by Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr.
Position 7, Zone III currently held by Ms. Jeannie Cole.

Petitions can be filed from Friday, July 10, 2009 through noon Friday, July 17, 2009.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
REPORT:**

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

Ms. Blatt left the meeting briefly.

Ms. Cole made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hathcock, to approve the Financial Report for May 2009. The vote for approval was 5/0.

Dr. Mehl made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hathcock, to approve Hiland Dairy for milk products for the 2009-10 school year. The vote for approval was 5/0.

Dr. Mehl made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to approve Earthgrains Baking Company for bread products for the 2009-10 school year. The vote for approval was 5/0.

Ms. Blatt returned to the meeting.

Dr. Mehl made a recommendation, seconded by Ms. Hathcock, to approve an agreement for legal services for Mr. Mitch Llewellyn for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2009 and extending through June 30, 2010 at an hourly rate of \$175.00. The vote for approval was 6/0.

**COMMITTEE OF THE
WHOLE REPORT:**

Ms. Cole noted that the Committee met April 27, 2009 to review revisions to student policies as a result of changes in the Student Handbook.

Dr. Mehl made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hathcock, to dismiss the formal reading of the policies. The vote for approval was 6/0.

Ms. Cole made a committee recommendation to approve for second and final reading revisions to the following student policies:

- JEC Eligibility Enrollment
- JECA-Admission
- JFC-Student Conduct Not Permitted on School Premises or at Any Activity Related to School
- JGDA-Suspension Procedures
- JGEA-Expulsion Procedures
- JED-Guidelines for Excused and Unexcused Absences

The vote for approval was 6/0.

Dr. Mehl made a committee recommendation to approve the proposed 2010-2011 proposed budget of expenditures to be published in the Times Record to comply with school board regulations. The vote for approval was 6/0. (A copy of the budget is attached).

Dr. Mehl made a committee recommendation to approve the proposed tentative American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan for the Fort Smith Public Schools. The vote for approval was 6/0.

Dr. Gooden noted that the District would receive \$20.2 million in federal stimulus package funds over a two year period. He stated about 50 percent will go to facilities improvements, 18 percent to equipment and technology, 16 percent for direct services to students, and 10 to 12 percent to instructional training for staff. Gooden also noted that district officials held two public meetings and meetings with faculty and staff for input on the stimulus spending.

Ms. Blatt moved to approve bids for the following facility projects:

Albert Pike Elementary School Basement Renovation-
Beshears Construction, \$280,500

Sunnymede Elementary School, Restroom Renovation and HVAC
Replacement – Turnkey Construction, \$589,875

Chaffin Junior High School, Asbestos Abatement and Reinsulation
Fireproofing -Snyder Environmental & Construction, \$341,827

The vote for approval was 6/0.

Ms. Blatt made a Committee recommendation to extend Dr. Gooden's 3-year contract to June 30, 2012 and his salary to remain \$196,100. The vote for approval was 6/0.

PROPERTIES
COMMITTEE REPORT:

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

Ms. Hathcock made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to approve the purchase of property located at 2215-19 Rogers Avenue, at the appraised value of \$180,000. The property formerly housed Day and Nite Cleaners and is located across "B" Street from the Northside High School campus. The vote for approval was 6/0.

PERSONNEL
COMMITTEE REPORT:

Ms. Cole recognized Mr. Wade for the Personnel Committee Report.

Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin to dispense with the formal reading of the personnel policies to be presented.

Mr. Wade made a Committee recommendation to approve for second and final reading, revisions to the following certified and classified personnel policies:

Certified

- GCBA - Salary Schedule
- GCBE - Vacation
- GCKD - Employee Identification
- GCKE - Lost or Stolen Property
- GCBDBA - Sick Leave
- GCBDBB - Family Illness

Classified

- GDBDCC - Family Illness - Transportation
- GDBDD – Death in the Immediate Family - Office Personnel
- GDBDDA - Death in the Immediate Family - Bldg and Grounds/
Child Nutrition
- GDBDDB - Death in the Immediate Family - Paraprofessionals
- GDBDDC - Death in the Immediate Family -Transportation
- GDBDDA - Funeral Leave - Office Personnel
- GDBDDAA - Funeral Leave - Bldg and Grounds/Child Nutrition
- GDBDDAB - Funeral Leave - Paraprofessional
- GDBDDAC - Funeral Leave -Transportation

- GDBDH - Civic Duties - Office Personnel
- GDBDHA - Civic Duties - Bldg and Grounds/Child Nutrition
- GDBDHB - Civic Duties - Paraprofessional
- GDBDHC - Civic Duties - Transportation
- GDBDB - Sick Leave -Office Personnel

The vote for approval was 6/0.

PUBLIC/STUDENT
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
REPORT:

Ms. Cole recognized Ms. Keaton-Martin for the Student Affairs Committee Report.

Ms. Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wade, to approve the expulsion of a student from Southside High School until the end of the current semester for terroristic threatening. The vote for approval was 6/0.

BOARD MEMBERS
FORUM:

Mr. Wade expressed sympathy for Ms. Shannon Blatt in the loss of her father.

CITIZEN
PARTICIPATION:

No one was present for citizen participation.

ADJOURN:

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Ms. Jeannie Cole, President

Ms. Shannon Blatt, Secretary