

Regular School Board Meeting  
March 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, Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin, Dr. Deanie Mehl, and Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr. Board member David Hunton 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 Dr. Gordon Floyd gave the invocation.

Ms. Blatt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hathcock, to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2009 regular school board meeting. The vote for approval was 6/0.

Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to move the Personnel Committee Report to the end of the meeting. The vote for approval was 6/0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT:

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

Resignations

Jennifer Ham  
Brenda Hines  
Linda Prine  
Charisse Sutton  
Elaine Watson

Retirements

Gail Avery  
Debbie Bentley  
Charles Besancon  
Karen Brooks  
Pat Cross  
Dana Davenport  
Margaret Davis  
Sharon Faries  
Jackie Farrar  
Candy Foster  
Jeanene Godwin  
Betty Kai Hogue  
Jerry Jennings

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Retirements continued

John Lankford  
Lyle Lorensen  
Judy Owens  
Nancy Robertson  
Shari Rupp  
Nancy Smreker  
Connie Townley  
Duane Walker  
Laura Whitson

Ms. Blatt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to approve the resignations and retirements. The vote for approval was 6/0.

Recommendations for Employment

Veronica M. Jenkins  
Andrea S. Shrum

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

Dr. Gordon Floyd gave the Student Services Report.

Dr. Gooden recognized Ms. Debbie Everly, Arkansas PTA Convention Chair. Ms. Everly invited members of the School Board to attend the Arkansas PTA Convention being held in Fort Smith, April 24-25, 2009.

Dr. Gooden presented a brief history of Barling Elementary School.

Dr. Gooden also informed the Board that the Stimulus package would have an impact on Arkansas schools. He stressed that the funds should be considered one-time money and will be received through the Title I formula, IDEA, and the State Stabilization Fund. He also noted that a portion of the funds would be used for modernization, renovations and repair of existing facilities, and not construction of new facilities. The biggest challenge will be distributing the money equitably and making districts accountable for these funds.

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 February 2009. The vote for approval was 6/0.

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Dr. Mehl made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hathcock, to waive the reading of a resolution regarding an ethics disclosure. The vote for approval was

6/0.

Dr. Mehl made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to approve an ethics disclosure resolution disclosing Ms. Patricia Miller regarding purchase of commodities from Ralph's Pink Flamingo Restaurant. The vote for approval was 6/0.

PROPERTIES  
COMMITTEE REPORT:

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

Ms. Hathcock made a Committee recommendation to authorize the Superintendent to request bids and to approve construction on these projects as follows:

Southside High School Parking Lot;  
Barling Elementary School Addition and Renovation;  
Southside High School Window and Door Replacement; and  
Northside High School HVAC Renovation.

The vote for approval was 6/0.

COMMITTEE OF THE  
WHOLE REPORT:

Ms. Cole made a Committee recommendation to approve the proposed 2009-2010 personnel contract recommendations.

The vote for approval was 6/0.

BOARD MEMBERS  
FORUM:

There were no items for discussion.

CITIZEN  
PARTICIPATION:

There was no one present for citizen participation.

At 6:02 p.m., the Board moved to Closed Session to hear a termination appeal.

The Board reconvened at 7:10 p.m. Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to sustain the termination of the probationary Child Nutrition employee Ms. Bonni Manus. The vote for approval was 6/0.

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There was not further business and the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

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Ms. Jeannie Cole, President

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Ms. Shannon Blatt, Secretary