

Regular School Board Meeting  
May 18, 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. Nadine Brooks, secretary to the superintendent was also present. Ms. Blatt arrived at 6:10 p.m.

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

Ms. Hathcock made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to approve the minutes of the April 27, 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

Joanne Elbon  
Katie Mankins

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

Recommendations for Employment

Britt T. Bauer  
Ryan C. Curtis  
Stacy L. Hess  
Star L. Iglesias  
Nora Michelle Mudd  
Angela K. Wehunt

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

Leave of Absence

Felicia Fletcher

Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mehl, to approve the leave of absence. The vote for approval was 6/0.

Dr. Gordon Floyd reviewed the Student Services Report.

Dr. Gooden and Ms. Cole presented certificates to Katie Rogers, Ramsey Junior High School, Junior High Editor of the Year and *The Rampage*, All Arkansas Award; Paige Stewart, Ramsey Junior High School, 1<sup>st</sup> place, Copy Editing; Southside Rebels, 2009 7A State Track Champions, also from Southside, Neil Braddy, 1<sup>st</sup> Place, 100 Meter Dash; 1<sup>st</sup> Place 400 Meter Dash; Micah Washington, 1<sup>st</sup> Place High Jump; 1<sup>st</sup> Place Triple Jump; Caleb Hanson, 1<sup>st</sup> Place, 1600 Meter Run; Josh Burgett, Andrew Hubbard, Greg Phillips, and Paul Williams, 4x400 Relay.

Dr. Gooden informed the Board that Mr. Charles Warren has been selected as Director of Financial Services for the Fort Smith Public Schools. Mr. Warren will begin July 1, 2009.

Dr. Gooden reminded the Board that graduation for Southside High School is Thursday, May 28, and Northside High School, is scheduled Friday, May 29. The Partners in Education Luncheon is Tuesday, June 2.

Dr. Gooden informed the Board that the District received our annual accreditation report from the Arkansas Department of Education, and all campuses are fully accredited, with one citation regarding teacher certification. He also noted that oral arguments before the Supreme Court begin May 21, 2009 with regard to our Amendment 74 suit.

Dr. Gooden noted that the Board had met on Monday, April 27 regarding the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds. More meetings are scheduled to review distribution of funds with staff members. Meetings for the public will be June 8 at Kimmons Junior High School and June 9 at Ramsey Junior High School at 5:30 p.m.

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

Dr. Mehl made a recommendation, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to approve the proposed 2009-2010 salary schedules. The vote for approval was 6/0. Dr. Gooden noted that the basis for the salary recommendations are the revenue projections based on local and state revenue. The \$100 base salary increase represents a 1.29% average increase of \$644.

COMMITTEE OF THE  
WHOLE REPORT:

Ms. Cole recognized Ms. Keaton-Martin for the Committee of the Whole Report pertaining to Student Affairs.

Ms. Keaton-Martin made a Committee recommendation to approve revisions made to the Student Handbook in its entirety, which includes revisions to six corresponding student policies for first reading. The policies are:

- JEC - Eligibility for 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.

Board member Shannon Blatt arrived at the meeting

**ATHLETIC/ACTIVITIES  
COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Ms. Cole recognized Dr. Hunton for the Committee of the Whole Report pertaining to the Athletic/Activities Committee.

Dr. Hunton made a Committee recommendation to approve a reserved seat ticket/parking package raising reserved seat tickets from \$6 to \$8 per game, and an additional \$5 per game or \$25 per season, for a reserved parking space. The vote for approval was 7/0.

**PERSONNEL  
COMMITTEE REPORT:**

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

Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mehl, to waive the reading of the personnel policies. The vote for approval was 7/0.

Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to approve the revisions to the certified personnel policies for first reading as follows:

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

The vote for approval was 7/0.

Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to waive the reading of the classified personnel policies. The vote for approval was 7/0.

Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mehl, to approve the revisions to the classified personnel policies for first reading as follows:

GDBDC - Family Illness - Office Personnel  
GDBDCA - Family Illness - Bldg and Grounds/Child Nutrition  
GDBDCB - Family Illness - Paraprofessionals  
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 7/0.

PROPERTIES  
COMMITTEE REPORT:

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

Ms. Hathcock made a recommendation, seconded by Dr. Hunton, to approve the following contracts:

Sutton Elementary School – Restroom Improvements  
Southern Building Services - \$128,900

Kimmons Junior High School – Restroom upgrades  
Turn Key Construction Management - \$138,899  
Woods Elementary School – HVAC Systems and Controls  
Hawkins Company - \$191,846  
Trusty Elementary School and Spradling Elementary School  
Parking Lot and Drainage Improvements  
Steve Beam Construction Company - \$199,699

Chaffin Junior High School – restroom renovation, ADA compliance issues, installation of a lift, HVAC improvements, lighting and ceiling improvements

Turn Key Construction Mgt. - \$2,095,000

BOARD MEMBERS  
FORUM:

Ms. Hathcock recognized two Boy Scouts attending the Board meeting for Citizenship in the Community merit. She also reported that the 40<sup>th</sup> year celebration for Chaffin Junior High School was a wonderful evening and well attended.

Ms. Cole noted that she had spent two days at the Arkansas Leadership Academy and it was very informative.

CITIZEN  
PARTICIPATION:

There was no one present for citizen participation.

ADJOURN:

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

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Jeannie Cole, President

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Shannon Blatt, Secretary