

Regular School Board Meeting
January 27, 2010
5:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Dr. Deanie Mehl, president, called the meeting to order. Other Board members present were Ms. Shannon Blatt, Ms. Jeannie Cole, Ms. Barbara Hathcock, Dr. David Hunton, Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin, 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 Dr. Gordon Floyd gave the invocation.

The Board had no items to be removed from the consent agenda. The consent agenda, including the December school board minutes, the December Financial Report and the Student Services Report, were approved unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT:

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

Resignation
John Bushkuhl

Ms. Cole made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to approve the resignation. The vote for approval was 7/0.

Recommendations for Employment
Amanda G. Hart
Brandy D. Thornburg

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

Dr. Gooden informed the board that four elementary schools, Woods, Cook, Bonneville and Cavanaugh Elementary Schools have been recognized by the 2009 Just for the Kids Campaign for Higher Performing Schools in Arkansas Best Practices. The award is measured by growth in literacy and math in grades 3, 4 and 5.

He also noted that 12 of our schools had received \$121,000 from the Arkansas Department of Education based on improvement in test scores through the "Gains Model."

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Dr. Gooden informed the Board that beginning Monday, January 25, the District implemented our newly formed partnership with the Fort Smith Police Department by placing a school resource officer (SRO) at Northside and Southside High Schools.

Dr. Gooden also informed the Board that the Governor's office has adjusted stabilization funds by approximately one-third, possibly \$4,000,000 for the Fort Smith School District. Funds that were allotted to school districts will be "taken back." This shortfall in funds, which most certainly have been encumbered by many school districts, will create a financial burden throughout Arkansas.

Dr. Gooden and Dr. Mehl presented certificates to Chaffin Junior High School 7th and 8th Grades, Knowledge Master Open Team, Samantha Black, Blake Larkin, Erin Conrad, Bret Pinter, Eriq Deaver, Sarah Swaim, Alex Emms, Darby Taylor, Brianna Gant, Allison Thompson, Clara Hubbard, Alec Saygnaphay, Ian Johns, Jesse Warren, and Sandra Aaron, sponsor; Chaffin Junior High School 9th Grade Knowledge Master Open Team, Rima Bhakta, Marrissa Garr, Tye Brown, Emily Langham, Crystal Creel, Christopher Pham, Rachel Davis, Alan Pinter, Langdon Emms, and Sami Sexton and Sandra Aaron, coach; and five teachers receiving their National Board Certification, Diane Willis, Euper Lane Elementary School, Stephanie Freeman, Northside High School, Gaye McClure, Southside High School, Keri Rathbun, Northside High School, and Karen Williamson, Sunnymede Elementary School.

**PROPERTIES
COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Ms. Hathcock made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin to approve the Master Facility Plan 2011-2013 update for electronic submission to the Division of Academic Facilities and Transportation. The vote for approval was 7/0.

Ms. Hathcock made a motion, seconded by Dr. Hunton to approve one stimulus change order for Kimmons Junior High School. The vote for approval was 7/0.

**BOARD MEMBERS
FORUM:**

Dr. Mehl congratulated the five new National Board Certified teachers on their accomplishment.

Ms. Cole noted that she was going to Washington, D.C. next week for the Federal Relations Network Conference sponsored by the Arkansas School Boards Association and the National School Boards Association.

Mr. Wade noted that it was the 24-year anniversary of the space shuttle Challenger disaster when school teacher Christa McAuliffe was killed.

CITIZEN
PARTICIPATION:

There was no one present for citizen participation.

ADJOURN:

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at
5:52 p.m.

Dr. Deanie Mehl, President

Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr., Secretary