

Regular School Board Meeting  
October 23, 2006  
5:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr. vice president. Board members present were Ms. Shannon Blatt, Ms. Jeannie Cole, Dr. David Hunton, Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin, and Dr. Deanie Mehl. Ms. Barbara Hathcock was not present. Also present were Dr. Benny Gooden, superintendent, Dr. Johnny Owen, Deputy Superintendent and Ms. Nadine Brooks, secretary.

The pledge of allegiance was recited and Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr. recited a Native American prayer.

Ms. Cole made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2006 regular school board meeting. The vote for approval was 5/0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT:

Dr. Benny Gooden yielded to Dr. Johnny Owen for the professional staff recommendations.

Resignation

Linda Bugeja

Ms. Blatt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to approve the resignation. The vote for approval was 5/0.

Recommendations for Employment

Amanda R. Cummings, elementary

Kelly Y. Painter, science

Cynthia L. Slate, special education

Dr. Mehl made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cole, to approve the recommendations for employment. The vote for approval was 5/0.

Dr. Johnny Owen reviewed the student services report.

Dr. Gooden informed the Board that he sent a letter to all FSPS parents regarding safety in our schools and our focus on prevention and specific action we take on a daily basis. Ms. Cole noted that she had met at Woods Elementary earlier in the week with the principal, PTA representatives and our safety and security supervisor, Mr. Eric Huber.

Dr. Gooden awarded Dr. David Hunton, Ms. Shannon Blatt and Dr. Deanie Mehl their Outstanding Board Member pins from Arkansas School Board Association. All FSPS board members comply with Arkansas statutes for school board training.

Dr. Gooden informed Board members that an Open House has been scheduled for Kimmons and Darby Junior High Schools on November 12, 2006 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. New science additions are ready at both schools. He also noted that the Northside Activity Center will possibly be ready in mid-November. The Region 2 Marching Band contest will begin Tuesday, October 24, 2006, at 1:00 p.m. at Mayo Thompson Stadium.

The state volleyball tournament will be held at Southside High School in November. (Dr. Hunton arrived).

He also reminded board members about the upcoming election which included a constitutional amendment for bingo and a higher education bond issue.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE  
REPORT:**

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

Ms. Cole made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mehl, to approve the Financial Report for September 30, 2006. The vote for approval was 6/0.

**CURRICULUM  
COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Mr. Wade recognized Dr. Deanie Mehl for the Curriculum Committee Report.

Dr. Mehl made a recommendation from the Curriculum Committee to approve the 2006-07 special education assurances. The vote for approval was 6/0.

Ms. Cole made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to dispense with the formal reading of Policy IIAA. The vote for approval was 6/0.

Dr. Mehl made a motion from the Curriculum Committee to approve Policy IIAA, Textbook Selection and Adoption Committee for first reading. The vote for approval was 6/0.

Dr. Mehl made a motion from the Curriculum Committee to approve the secondary textbook adoption committee for health and science textbooks. The vote for approval was 6/0.

PROPERTIES

Mr. Wade recognized Ms. Keaton-Martin for the Properties Committee

COMMITTEE REPORT:

Report:

Ms. Keaton-Martin made a recommendation from the Properties Committee to approve a resolution in order for the Fort Smith School District to comply with Arkansas Department of Education partnership program requirements. This partnership allows the District to qualify for approximately 24 percent of approved construction costs for:

Howard Elementary—Construct storm shelter/PE facility  
Cavanaugh Elementary—Construct additional classrooms,  
media center and office space  
Barling Elementary—Construct additional classrooms and  
redesign cafeteria  
Belle Point Alternative Center—Construct paved parking area

The vote for approval was 6/0.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Dr. Mehl made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to approve Ms. Hathcock as a representative, Ms. Cole as an alternate, at the governing assembly at the upcoming ASBA conference held in December.

BOARD MEMBERS  
FORUM:

Dr. Mehl noted that science teacher Ms. Linda Bugeja will be missed.

CITIZEN  
PARTICIPATION:

There was no one present for citizen participation.

ADJOURN:

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

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Ms. Barbara Hathcock, President

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Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr., Vice President