Regular School Board Meeting
August 22, 2011
5:30 p.m.

PRESENT:
Ms. Shannon Blatt, Esq., president, called the meeting to order. Other Board members present were Ms. Jeannie Cole, Ms. Barbara Hathcock, Dr. David Hunton, Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin, Dr. Deanie Mehl and Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr., Esq. Also present were Dr. Benny Gooden, superintendent, Dr. Gordon Floyd, deputy superintendent, and Ms. Carolyn Kincaid, executive secretary to the superintendent.

The pledge of allegiance was recited and Dr. Randy Bridges gave the invocation.

The Board had no items to be removed from the consent agenda. The consent agenda includes the July 31, 2011 school board minutes and the July Financial Report. Ms. Cole made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hathcock, to approve the consent agenda as presented. The vote for approval was 7/0.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:
Dr. Benny Gooden yielded to Dr. Gordon Floyd to review the professional staff recommendations.

Resignations
Virginia Derkovitz
Angela Graham
Kelsea McBride
Malinda Wesley

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

Recommendations for Employment
Isabel M. Ayala
Larry C. Coleman
Quendy G. Gaither
Ashley N. Lemley
Maria T. Lindquist
Michelle N. Mickle-Jones
Hannah J. Neely
John Shannon Rhea
James Logan Satterfield
Jennifer E. Shure

Recommendations for Employment
Dr. Hunton made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin, to approve the recommendations for employment. The vote for approval was 7/0.

Dr. Gooden and Ms. Blatt presented certificates to Mr. Joshua Ray, Southside High School, Outstanding Young Band Director, and Southside High School, Sportmanship Award, received by Principal Wayne Haver and several Southside High School cheerleaders.

Dr. Gooden introduced Dr. Barry Owen, Asst. Superintendent for Instructional Services, to give an overview of newly mandated Common Core State Standards. Dr. Owen noted that over 40 states have adopted the new standards in an effort to teach a similar nationwide curriculum. He introduced Dr. Kellie Cohen, Director of Student Achievement and Accountability, who reviewed details of the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics for Grades Kindergarten-12th grade. (A copy of her power point is attached.)

Dr. Gooden informed the Board that today enrollment is up 35 students, 250 students have been transferred due to overcrowding and there are now eight split classes. He also noted that, despite new additional classrooms at Albert Pike Elementary, the school is already full.

Ms. Blatt recognized Ms. Barbara Hathcock for the Curriculum portion of the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Ms. Hathcock made a Committee recommendation to approve the proposed secondary textbook adoption committee. The vote for approval was 7/0. (A copy of the committee members is attached).

Ms. Hathcock made a Committee recommendation to approve Dr. Benny Gooden as the legal representative of the Fort Smith School District for the purpose of applying for federal funds.

The vote for approval was 7/0.

Ms. Blatt recognized Ms. Jeannie Cole for the Properties portion
Ms. Cole made a Committee recommendation to approve a resolution which pertains to activities required by the Fort Smith School District as part of a renewal of the Sebastian County Emergency Management plan. The vote for approval was 7/0. A copy of the resolution is attached.

Ms. Blatt recognized Mr. Wade for the Finance portion of the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Mr. Wade made a Committee recommendation to approve the proposed 2011-2012 FSPS budget and to submit the budget in electronic format to the Arkansas Department of Education. The vote for approval was 7/0.

BOARD MEMBERS FORUM:

There was no discussion.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

There was no one present for citizen participation.

ADJOURN:

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Ms. Shannon Blatt, President

Dr. David Hunton, Jr., Secretary