Regular School Board Meeting  
December 15, 2014  
5:30 p.m.

PRESENT:  
Dr. Deanie Mehl, president, called the meeting to order. Other Board members present were Dr. David Hunton, Ms. Jeannie Cole, Ms. Susan McFerran, Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin, Mr. Russell Owen, and Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr., Esq. Dr. Benny Gooden, Superintendent, Dr. Gordon Floyd, Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Barry Owen, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services, Dr. Annette Henderson, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Support Services, Mr. Charles Warren, Director of Financial Services, Mr. Darian Layes, Director of Student Services, Ms. Zena Featherston Marshall, Director of Communication and Community Partnerships, and Ms. Nadine Brooks, Secretary to the Superintendent, were also present.

The pledge of allegiance was recited and Mr. Charles Warren gave the invocation.

The consent agenda included the November School Board minutes, November Financial Report and Student Services Report. Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jeannie Cole, 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  
Auten, Jill  
DeLude, Brandy  
Lantz, Jeannine

Retirement  
Sutton, Sharon

Ms. Susan McFerran made a motion, seconded by Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin, to approve the resignations and retirement. The vote for approval was 7/0.

Recommendation for Leave of Absence  
Orendorff, Kelsey

Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Ms. Susan McFerran, to approve the recommendation for leave of absence. The vote for approval was 7/0.

Dr. Gooden reported that eight FSPS teachers are newly certified by the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) and will be recognized in January. This brings the district total to 108. Dr. Gooden reported that Winter Recess begins on Friday, December 19, 2014.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT:  
Memorandum of Understanding – School Resource Officers  
Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr. Esq., recused himself and left the room at 5:40 p.m.
He stated a conflict of interest as city attorney and co-author of the memorandum. Dr. David Hunton presented a committee recommendation to approve the memorandum of understanding between the City of Fort Smith and the Fort Smith School District to employ two additional school resource officers at the four FSPS junior high schools. Each officer will be assigned to two schools. FSPS will commit to pay the salary of these two additional officers and the City of Fort Smith will pay the benefits according to the three year agreement. Dr. Hunton noted that the hiring of these two officers would address security concerns at secondary schools. The vote for approval was 6/0. Mr. Wade returned at 5:43 p.m.

2015/2016 FSPS Calendar
Dr. David Hunton presented a committee recommendation to approve the 2015/2016 FSPS calendar negotiated between the administration and the Fort Smith Classroom Teachers Association as required by district policy. The vote for approval was 7/0.

2013/2014 Audit Report
Ms. Jeannie Cole reported that Mr. Marc Lux, Przybysz and Associates, and Mr. Charles Warren presented the FSPS 2013/2014 Audit on November 24. Mr. Marc Lux highlighted the financial findings of the District audit. Ms. Cole noted that the FSPS District earned an unmodified opinion, which is an “A” in a typical grading system. Ms. Cole made a committee motion to accept the 2013/2014 Audit. The vote for approval was 7/0.

BOARD MEMBERS FORUM:
Ms. Jeannie Cole commented that the William N. Shaver III Band Center Dedication held at Northside High School on December 9 was a nice celebration. Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin commented that the Southside High School Madrigal Dinner was very nice as well.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:
There was no one present for citizen participation.

ADJOURN:
There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

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Deanie Mehl, President

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Wyman R. Wade, Jr. Esq., Secretary