Present: Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin, president, called the meeting to order. Other Board members present were Ms. Shannon Blatt, Esq., Ms. Jeannie Cole, Ms. Barbara Hathcock, Dr. David Hunton, 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.

The pledge of allegiance was recited and Dr. Barry Owen gave the invocation.

Dr. Gooden presented the 2012 Annual Report to the Public. (A copy of the annual report is on file in the Superintendent’s office.)

The Board did not remove any items from the consent agenda. The consent agenda includes the August 27, 2012 school board minutes, the August Financial Report and the Student Services Report. Ms. Blatt 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.

Recommendations for Employment
Christine E. Cusick
Laura A. Ewing
Michael B. Johnson
Karen S. McGehee
Melissa Y. Mullin

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

Dr. Gooden welcomed representatives from several different volunteer organizations that support the Fort Smith School District. Members of the Children’s Service League Board, Partners in Education Advisory Board, FSPS Foundation Board, City Council PTA Board and PTA Presidents were introduced. Dr. Gooden thanked them for their service and support for the Fort Smith Public Schools.

Dr. Gooden and Ms. Keaton-Martin recognized Ms. Karla Jacobs, Mr. Joe Sanford, Mayor Sandy Sanders and Ms. Linda Udoij and thanked them for their service as they retire from the FSPS Foundation Board.
Dr. Gooden noted that the school board election was held through early and absentee voting on September 18. Mr. Russell Owen ran unopposed for Zone I and drew a three year term, Ms. Jeannie Cole ran unopposed in Zone III and drew a two year term, Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin ran unopposed in Zone IV and Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr. ran unopposed At Large and each will serve a three year term. The Board will meet in Executive Session tonight to consider possible appointees to Zone II for a one-year term. A copy of the certified election results is attached.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT:

Ms. Keaton-Martin recognized Dr. Mehl for the Curriculum section of the Committee of the Whole Report.

Dr. Mehl made a Committee recommendation to approve the Arkansas Comprehensive School Improvement Report (ACSIP). The vote for approval was 7/0.

Ms. Cole made a Committee recommendation to approve a resolution opposing a proposed charter school named Noble Education Academy by the Noble Education Initiative. The vote for approval was 7/0. (A copy of the resolution is attached).

Dr. Mehl made a recommendation, seconded by Ms. Blatt, to approve the textbook adoption committee for secondary mathematics. The vote for approval was 7/0.

Ms. Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Dr. Hunton, to adjourn the 2011-2012 board sine die.

Dr. Gooden presided over the meeting and the 2012-2013 Board of Education was seated. Dr. Gooden called for a slate of officers.

Ms. Keaton-Martin proposed the slate of officers as follows:

    Dr. David Hunton, President
    Ms. Jeannie Cole, Vice President
    Dr. Deanie Mehl, Secretary
    Mr. Charles Warren, Treasurer

Mr. Wade seconded the motion and the vote for approval was 6/0.

Ms. Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Owen, to designate Dr. David Hunton as primary disbursing office and Vice President Jeanie Cole as alternate disbursing officer. The vote for approval was 6/0.
BOARDS MEMBERS FORUM:

Board members thanked Ms. Hathcock and Ms. Blatt for their long-time service on the Board and for Fort Smith Public Schools.

Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Ms. Keaton-Martin to move the October 22 board meeting to Wednesday, October 17 at 2:30 pm. The vote for approval was 6/0.

Dr. Mehl noted that Euper Lane, Sunnymede and Sutton Elementary Schools held Open Houses on Sunday, September 23. These schools have recently been renovated and she praised the District on an excellent job.

Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cole, to declare Zone II, Position 1 vacant. The vote for approval was 6/0.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

There was no one present for citizen participation.

ADJOURN:

Ms. Cole made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wade, to adjourn to Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. to consider an appointment for the vacancy in Zone II.

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Dr. David Hunton, President

Dr. Deanie Mehl, Secretary