



***Dardanelle School District
Board of Education Meeting***

September 14, 2015

Education Center

7:00 p.m.

-Minutes-

Members Present:

Jody Sigle, President **Absent**

Jerry Dawson, Vice President

Brandon Carter, Secretary

Sherry Hicks

Tony Sigle

I. Call to Order/Pledge

Vice President Dawson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. President Sigle was absent from the meeting.

II. Statements from the Public

Mrs. Carol Spears requested to address the board. She read her resignation and thanked everyone for their support. She received a standing ovation from the audience, and Vice President Dawson expressed his sincere appreciation for all she has done for the district and the lives she has touched throughout her years of working at Dardanelle.

III. Information Items

A. Superintendent's Annual Report to the Public/Gifted and Talented Report/Building Reports

Superintendent's 2015 Annual Report to the Public

Mr. Thompson presented his annual report to the public. The report is included in the minutes and will be published in The Post Dispatch as required.

Gifted and Talented Report

Rachelle Brown, gifted and talented coordinator, provided the annual gifted and talented program report. She reviewed how each grade level is serviced as well as reported on various projects they have participated in. She thanked teachers and administration for their support of the gifted and talented program.

Building Reports

Each principal provided an update on their building's enrollment and reported a great start to the new school year. Primary is incorporating a science program into their literacy block and both teachers and students seem very excited about the possibilities of the program. Intermediate students participated in a singalong to the National Anthem in conjunction with 9/11 remembrance and to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the anthem. Middle school students are participating in a "Survival" unit. They have

several activities planned with their theme of “We don’t just survive, we thrive”. Mrs. Lawrence reported that ACT scores are in with the high school scoring 22.5 with a national average of 21.

B. Curriculum Report

As part of Mr. Thompson’s annual report to the public, Mr. Burris and Mrs. Kuras provided annual updates on curriculum, federal programs, and technology.

C. Financial Report

Jennifer Thaxton provided the financial report. The district has an ending balance of \$3,286,902.80 in total operating funds and \$828,021.06 in total building funds as of August 31, 2015.

D. Food Service Report

Mr. Taylor reported that they have had a positive start to the school year. As they need to, they are adjusting menus by adding things the students really like and taking away things that are not as popular. The Grab and Go Breakfast and Breakfast in the Classroom have been a huge success at all buildings. They are planning to cater/serve at several upcoming school events including the Region 5 School Board Training.

E. Maintenance and Transportation Report

Mr. Vestal reported a smooth start to the school year. The new activity bus has been an excellent addition to the bus fleet. The track renovation is in its final stages with a dedication ceremony planned on September 25th. Resurfacing will start tomorrow with plans to work through the weekend until it is complete. As far as the new administration building, the only things that are left are cosmetic and he expects they are near completion of that project as well.

IV. Discussion Items

None

V. Action Items **BY CONSENSUS**

A. Approval of Minutes

Approval of August 11, 2015 regular meeting minutes

B. Approval of Bills

Administration recommended approval of the August 2015 bills for payment as submitted.

C. District Equity Coordinator

Administration recommended Jamie Burris serve as the Equity Coordinator for the 2015-2016 school year.

D. Athletic Expenditures

Arkansas Code Annotated 6-20-2003 and the Rules Governing Athletic Revenues and Expenditures for Public School Districts, Section 6.00 mandates districts to provide and approve a prior year athletic expenditure report as well as a current year budget. (See attached report)

Mrs. Hicks moved to approve the action items by consensus. Motion carried 4-0.

VI. Action Items

A. Student Discipline Matter

Name omitted requested to appear before the board to petition for reinstatement after her expulsion during the 2014-2015 school year.

Vice President Dawson advised the parent and student of their right for the hearing to be held in private. The parent and student both expressed their desire to have a closed hearing. The board adjourned at 7:31 p.m. and returned at 8:18 p.m.

Mr. Carter moved to readmit *name omitted* to the Dardanelle School District after she presents documentation of completing her day program on or around September 23, 2015. She will be readmitted as an 8th grader. Upon completion of the first semester, Mr. Keeling and Mrs. Lawrence will reevaluate her grade level placement. Motion carried 3-1 with Mrs. Hicks voting in opposition.

B. 2015-2016 District Budget

After meeting with the Budget Committee on September 10, 2015, administration recommended approval of the 2015-2016 District Budget as submitted, which includes Special Education, Federal Programs, Athletics, and the Food Service Program.

Mr. Carter moved to approve the 2015-2016 District Budget as submitted. Motion carried 4-0.

C. 2015-2016 District ACSIP Plan

Administration recommended approving the 2015-2016 District ACSIP Plan as presented by Jamie Burris. Mr. Burris noted that due to recent changes in ACSIP reporting, the plan is an on-going work in progress.

Mr. Carter moved to approve the 2015-2016 District ACSIP Plan as submitted. Motion carried 4-0.

D. Out of State Travel Request

Administration recommended approving an out of state travel request from Coach Walker for Kenny McCoy and Kerry McConnell to attend the Glazier Basketball Clinic in Dallas on September 11-13, 2015. The cost of the clinic will be about \$700 to include registration fees for two coaches, room charges for two nights, and meal allowances of \$75.00 per coach.

Mr. Sigle moved to approve the out of state travel request as submitted. Motion carried 4-0.

E. Petitions for Student Transfer

A petition for student transfer was received from *name omitted* on behalf of her children, *name omitted*, to transfer from Russellville to Dardanelle. Administration recommended approving this transfer.

Mrs. Hicks moved to approve the transfer request for *name omitted* as submitted. Motion carried 4-0.

A petition for student transfer was received from *name omitted* on behalf of *name omitted* to transfer from Paris to Dardanelle. Administration did not recommend this transfer due to the possibility of having to hire additional personnel along with retrofitting a classroom.

Mrs. Hicks moved to deny the transfer request for *name omitted*. Motion carried 4-0.

Executive Session

The board adjourned to executive session at 8:29 p.m. and returned at 9:08 p.m.

Employment:

Administration recommended employing Sonya Navarrete as an Aide I, Step 5, effective September 4, 2015 contingent upon completing the requirements of the pre-employment background checks.

Administration recommended employing Leah Swafford as a Lead Cook, Step 16, effective September 14, 2015.

Administration recommended employing Brenda Duvall as a Cook, Step 4, effective September 14, 2015. She is currently on the substitute list and has completed all of the required pre-employment background checks.

Administration recommended employing Ann Ewing as a Cook, Step 4, effective September 14, 2015. She is currently on the substitute list and has completed all of the required pre-employment background checks.

Administration recommended employing Elaine Rickett as a Cook, Step 14, effective September 14, 2015. She is currently on the substitute list and has completed all of the required pre-employment background checks.

Administration recommended amending the contract of Norma Grace for payment of \$27.65 per hour for additional duties of 21st Century Administrative Assistant for the 2015-2016 school year.

Administration recommended amending the contract of Jamie Burris for payment of \$5000.00 per semester for additional duties of 21st Century Grant Administrator and Data Entry for the 2015-2016 school year.

Administration recommended amending the contracts of the following licensed instructors to provide tutoring at a rate of \$30.00 per hour during the 2015-2016 school year as follows:

Carina Ortiz

Gail Bradley

Denise Adkison

Jill Walker

Administration recommended approving a leave request for Jasmine White starting October 19, 2015 for six weeks.

Resignations

Administration recommended accepting the resignation of Terri Sherrill, High School Lead Cook, effective August 17, 2015.

Administration recommended accepting the resignation of Susan Pyburn, Cook, effective September 4, 2015.

Administration recommended accepting the resignation of Carol Spears effective September 11, 2015.

Mr. Carter moved to approve the executive session as submitted. Motion carried 4-0.

VIII. Adjourn

At 9:10 p.m. Mrs. Hicks moved to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0.

Jody Sigle, President

Brandon Carter, Secretary