



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

February 13, 2017
Education Center
7:00 p.m.

-Minutes-

Members Present:

Jerry Dawson, President
Jimmy Witt, Vice President
Sherry Hicks, Secretary
Brandon Carter
Tony Sigle

I. Call to Order/Pledge

President Dawson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Statements from the Public

None

III. Information Items

A. Building Reports

District wide parent/teacher conferences were held last week. Primary held a family movie night hosted by Coach Ross to introduce Jump Rope for Heart. Last year, the Primary was the second highest fundraiser in the state. As part of the Crisis Response Team effort, Mr. Rector has trained additional Primary personnel in CPR and first aid. Intermediate students have taken the second round of interim assessments with ACT Aspire. Intervention planning continues to help identify students who may be struggling in some areas. Middle school students participated in the NAEP test (National Assessment of Educational Progress). Middle school quiz bowl qualified for state and the middle school band will be playing in Hot Springs. Mrs. Lawrence was absent from the meeting but provided a written report and it is included with the minutes.

B. Curriculum Report

Dr. Burris reported that the technology committee met and discussed equipping additional classrooms with Chrome Carts. Each cart will cost approximately \$12,000.00. The goal is to have each classroom in grades 4-8 equipped with a set of Chrome books this year and then look at adding additional classrooms during the 2017-2018 school year. Mrs. Kuras added that as they looked at the checkout calendars for the Chrome Carts, they were completely full with no timeslots available. They will start equipping grades 4-8 first as they seem to be utilizing them the most. Mrs. Kuras also invited board members to schedule a time to view classrooms as they utilize the Chrome books as teachers and students have become creative in how they utilize them in the classroom.

C. Financial Report

Jennifer Thaxton, Business Manager, provided the financial report. The district has an ending balance of \$5,030,613.22 in total operating funds and \$990,596.96 in total building funds as of January 31, 2017.

D. Food Service Report

Chartwells' representative, Greg Taylor, provided an update on the food service department. He reminded board members about the app that is now available that utilizes school menus and nutritional values. There is also a direct link to this from the district's website. He continues to work on a supper program that will serve a meal after school to students at no cost.

Mr. Thompson provided a letter that he received from Chartwells' CEO, Rhonna Cass. The letter was an agreement that Chartwells would financially guarantee any loss greater than \$100,000.00 during the 2017-2018 school year with conditions they set forth regarding number of days meals served, student enrollment, and labor costs. A copy of the letter is included in the minutes. Mr. Thompson noted this is not the agreement he asked for and he will not go along with their stipulations. Per Mrs. Hicks' request, we will place Chartwells on the March agenda for consideration of extending or opting out of the contract.

E. Operations Report

Mr. Vestal reported maintenance and facilities are operating as normal. Field trips and spring sports are in full swing. The soccer field is in good shape and ready for the season.

IV. Discussion Items

None

V. Action Items **BY CONSENSUS**

A. Approval of Minutes

Approval of January 9, 2017 regular meeting minutes, January 17, 2017 special meeting minutes, and February 7, 2017 special meeting minutes

B. Approval of Bills

Administration recommended approval of the January 2017 bills for payment as submitted.

Mr. Sigle moved to approve the action items by consensus. Motion carried 5-0.

VI. Action Items

A. Board Policy Updates

- 3.8 Licensed Personnel Sick Leave
- 3.28 Licensed Personnel Computer Use Policy
- 3.28F Licensed Personnel Employee Internet Use Agreement
- 3.31 Drug Free Workplace-Licensed Personnel
- 4.15 Contact with Students While At School

- 4.45 Smart Core Curriculum and Graduation Requirements
- 4.47F Possession and Use of Cell Phones During Mandated Assessments
- 4.51 Food Service Prepayment
- 5.3 Curriculum Development
- 5.16 Computer Science Course Prerequisites and Progression
- 5.29 Wellness
- 7.5 Purchases and Procurement
- 7.17 Food Service Prepayment
- 7.24 Advertising on School Buses
- 8.22 Classified Personnel Computer Use Policy
- 8.22F Classified Personnel Internet Use Agreement
- 8.28 Drug Free Workplace-Classified Personnel

The policy committee met on January 7, 2017 and reviewed the policies. Administration recommended approving the board policy updates. Mr. Sigle moved to approve the board policy updates as submitted. Motion carried 5-0.

B. School Board/Educators Legal Liability Policy Renewal

Administration recommended renewal of the BancorpSouth School Board/Educator's Legal Liability Policy at a rate of \$7111 with an additional \$600 for General Liability Coverage. Coverage period is February 1, 2017 to February 1, 2018. There has been no increase in premium from last year.

Mr. Carter moved to renew the policy with BancorpSouth as submitted. Motion carried 5-0.

C. ASBA Workers' Compensation Policy Renewal

Administration recommended renewal of the workers' compensation policy with Arkansas School Boards Association for coverage period January 1-December 31, 2017 at a rate of \$42,758.00. (This is an increase of \$8,702.00 from last year)

Mr. Carter moved to renew the workers' compensation policy with ASBA as submitted. Motion carried 5-0.

The board adjourned to executive session at 7:40 p.m. and returned at 8:57 p.m.

D. Out of State Travel Request

Administration recommended approving an out of state travel request submitted by Mrs. Lawrence on behalf of two high school students and Mr. Eric Gamble to travel to the National Meet of Champs for Debate at the University of Kentucky on April 29-May 1, 2017. Estimated cost of the trip will be \$2000 plus fuel costs. In addition, there may be costs associated with a substitute to travel with the group.

Mrs. Hicks moved to approve the out of state travel request as submitted with the stipulation that the trip have a chaperone in addition to Mr. Gamble and that Mr. Thompson validate the chaperone is attending the morning of the trip.



VII. Executive Session

Employment:

Administration recommended employing **Vicki Kierre**, Custodian, Step 16, effective February 28, 2017 contingent upon completing the requirements of the pre-employment background checks. She is currently a custodian at Arkansas Tech University.

Administration recommended employing **Areana Lopez-Pacheco** with a BA plus 24 hours and 0 years of experience as an ELL Instructor effective the 2017-2018 school year contingent upon completing the requirements of the pre-employment background checks. She is a 2014 graduate of Arkansas Tech University with a degree in Early Childhood Education and currently employed at Arkansas Tech University as an admissions officer.

Administration recommended employing **Pam Williams** with a Masters and 8 years of experience as an ELL Instructor for the 2017-2018 school year contingent upon completing the requirements of the pre-employment background checks. She is a 1997 graduate of Arkansas Tech University with a degree in Spanish Education. She currently teaches at the Russellville Adult Education Center.

Administration recommended employing **Kathryn Roy** with a BA plus 12 hours and 2 years of experience as a 7th and 8th Grade Language Arts Instructor effective the 2017-2018 school year contingent upon completing the requirements of the pre-employment background checks and completion of her master's program at Arkansas Tech University in December of 2017. She currently teaches 9th & 10th grade English at Bryant High School.

Administration recommended employing **Cameron Spencer** with a BA and 0 years of experience as a 7th and 8th Grade Instructor effective the 2017-2018 school year contingent upon completing the requirements of the pre-employment background checks. He is a candidate for graduation from Arkansas Tech University in May of 2017.

Administration recommended amending the 2017-2018 contract of the following Instructors for extracurricular duties of Novice Teacher Mentor:

Divella Gray (for Blake Sorey)

Terry McElligott (for Areana Lopez-Pacheco)

Becky Childres (for Cameron Spencer)

Administration recommended that the following administrators' contract be renewed for the 2017-2018 school year:

Marcia Lawrence

Bobby Rehm

Larry Walker

Lynn Balloun

Sue Ann Jernigan

Jamie Burris

John David Keeling

Charles Rector

Karie Kuras

Administration recommended that the following Speech Pathologists' contract be renewed for the 2017-2018 school year:

Laura Christensen

Misty White

Mrs. Hicks moved to approve all of the employment recommendations as submitted. Motion carried 5-0.

Superintendent's Contract:

The current contract of Superintendent **John Thompson** is effective through June 30, 2019.

Mr. Carter moved to extend Mr. Thompson's contract through June 30, 2020. Motion carried 5-0.

Resignations:

Administration recommended accepting the resignation of **Terry Laughinghouse**, Intermediate Principal, effective June 30, 2017.

Administration recommended accepting the resignation of **Eddie Gagne**, Custodian, effective January 7, 2017.

Administration recommended accepting the resignation of **Tammy Williamson**, Middle School Instructor, effective January 7, 2017.

Administration recommended accepting the resignation of **Jacqueline Erwin**, ELL Instructor, effective the end of the 2016-2017 school year.

Administration recommended accepting the resignation of **Donald Mallory**, Custodian, effective June 30, 2017.

Administration recommended accepting the resignation of **Jessica Ross**, Middle School Instructor, effective the end of the 2016-2017 school year.

Mrs. Hicks moved to accept the resignations as submitted. Motion carried 5-0.

VIII. Adjourn

At 9:00 p.m. Mr. Carter moved to adjourn. Motion carried 5-0.

Jerry Dawson, President

Sherry Hicks, Secretary