

**Minutes of Regular Meeting of the El Dorado School Board
September 11, 2017**

The directors of the board met on the above date at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room, School Administration Building, 200 West Oak Street, with Wayne Gibson presiding. Other directors present were Renee Skinner, Keith Smith, Susan Turbeville, Todd Whatley and Shaneil Yarbrough. Director Vicky Dobson was absent. Also attending was Supt. Jim Tucker, Rhonda Simmons, Melissa Powell, Bonnie Haynie, Katie Sandifer, Shelley Pruitt, and Lou Ann Voris.

Mr. Gibson asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the meeting held August 14. On a motion by Shaneil Yarbrough seconded by Todd Whatley, and carried on a 6-0 vote, the minutes were approved at 6:00 p.m.

The board reviewed the monthly bills with Shelley Pruitt. After some discussion and on a motion by Susan Turbeville, seconded by Keith Smith, and carried on a 6-0 vote, the bills were approved for payment. A list of bills paid and a monthly financial statement are on file in the business office. 6:01p.m.

Mrs. Pruitt explained that a resolution by the board is necessary to be in compliance with Act 1120 in accordance with Arkansas Code Annotated § 6-13-635. She noted school districts in the state, are to approve and sign a resolution that lists a salary increase of 5% or more for a school district employee performing substantially the same job functions as the employee performed before receiving the salary increase.

*Resolution of the El Dorado School District
Board of Directors*

WHEREAS, The El Dorado School District Board of Directors met in regular, open, and properly-called meeting on September 11, 2017 at the School Administration Office;

WHEREAS, members were present, a quorum was declared by the chair;

WHEREAS, The El Dorado School Board has pursuant to Act 1120 of 2013 to be codified at Arkansas Code Annotated § 6-13-635, determined that the employees listed on the attached spreadsheet for the El Dorado School District are eligible and have been approved to receive an increase in salary of 5% or more from their current contract amount listed on the attached spreadsheet for the 2016-2017 school year in consideration of the reason stated on the spreadsheet.

NOW THEREFORE, upon due consideration and deliberation, and having reviewed the reason(s) listed, it is hereby declared to be the intent of the El Dorado School District Board of Directors to authorize the approval and adoption of the salary increase of the employees listed on the attached spreadsheet for the 2016-2017 school year.

A copy of the spreadsheet will be on file in the business office at the administration office. On a motion by Renee Skinner, seconded by Susan Turbeville, and carried on a 6-0 vote at 6:04p.m., it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the resolution in compliance with Act 1120 in accordance A.C.A. § 6-13-635.

Student of the Month from Washington Middle School is Avery Johnson. Avery is a sixth grader and the daughter of Kristi and Don Johnson.

Ms. Tyler Compton, Avery's English teacher stated, "Avery works hard every single day and is always on task and focused. Her work is thorough, detailed and always at a high level. She is polite, respectful and always willing to extend a helping hand." Her principal, Mrs. Jody Vines said, "Avery has a smile that is contagious. She is an

exemplary student and a great role model for others. We are so proud that Avery was chosen as El Dorado School District Student of the Month.”

6:07 p.m.

Teacher of the Month from Washington Middle School is Chelsey Turner. Mrs. Turner received her Bachelor of Science in Education degree from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and her Master’s in Education – Library from Southern Arkansas University. She is the Media Specialist at Washington and has been in the district for five years.

Fellow co-workers and her principal stated Washington Middle School is so proud to have Chelsey Turner represent the school district as teacher of the month. It was said that Chelsey goes above and beyond for everyone. She is so helpful and always strives to improve learning for our students in every way imaginable. Another said, “Oh I just love Mrs. Turner. She makes the library great!”

Mrs. Vines stated, “Chelsey Turner has transformed the Washington library into an exciting hub for research and learning. It is so much more than just books. She has modernized our library in a way that few middle schools around the country can match. Students can now self-check out books, 3-D print, learn chess, code robots and more inside our library. With our new library, Makerspace and tinker lab, students cannot wait to get opportunities to learn. Mrs. Turner opens the library each morning and afternoon. She also opens throughout the day for students to check out books. During lunch, our student can earn “Tinker Tickets” which allow them access to the Makerspace portion of the library. Chelsey collaborates with all teachers on our campus to help with research projects and Document-Based Questioning projects. She works tirelessly during the evenings and summer. Mrs. Turner even opens the library in the summer for our students and other community projects. Co-workers and students are delighted that Chelsey Turner is being honored as El Dorado School District Teacher of the Month. 6:09 p.m.

Bonnie Haynie reported that each year the board reviews the Statement of Assurance for Federal Funds under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). The assurances identify requirements regarding the expenditure of Title I-A, Title II-A, Title III, Title IV, and the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Program funds. For the 2017 – 2018 school year, El Dorado School District will receive \$1,491,459.31 in Title I-A funds. With \$366,436.61 kept at the district level, the remainder of the title-A funds are allotted to the schools based on the number of free and reduced student population in each school. Mrs. Haynie reported that funds are to be spent on improving student achievement activities and in support of children in need. 6:14 p.m.

Rhonda Simmons and Bonnie Haynie opened the Annual Report to the Public. Mrs. Simmons said they will cover the district’s Annual Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (ACSIP) goals; enrollment; accreditation status; score reports; American College Testing Program (ACT) and Advanced Placement (AP). She noted that the areas of concentration as a foundation for all district-wide improvement initiatives include comprehensive literacy, science and mathematical proficiency through the implementation of Arkansas State Standards and student-centered technology integration and closing the achievement gap through authentic student engagement, formative assessments and quality feedback for students and staff.

In discussing the district ACSIP budget, Mrs. Simmons stated that funds are used for professional development for Arkansas State Standards and Teacher Excellence and Support System (TESS); consultants - Direct Instruction for kindergarten; Waiting to Excel – a summer program at Washington Middle School and Barton Jr. High School; summer school at elementary, middle-level and secondary schools; Response to Intervention (RTI); the Teacher Leader program, and curriculum development. She noted that as of today the district student enrollment is at 4,406. She explained the district was cited regarding accreditation status but most schools in the state have teachers on and Additional Licensure Plan (ALP) teaching a class or classes not in their certification area but are in the process of completing that certification. Mrs. Simmons said the state gives teachers certified in another area three years to do so but has to cite the district until that certification is completed.

Mrs. Simmons covered testing scores on the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS); ACT Aspire; ACT and AP. She noted that most Benchmark grades recorded for district students in grades three through ten were higher than scores of their peers, when compared to a district with similar enrollment, area of the stat and socioeconomic challenges.

Mrs. Haynie said that a total of 839 students took Advanced Placement tests. The AP tests taken by E.H.S. students were in biology, calculus AB, calculus BC, chemistry, comparative government and politics, computer science A, English language and composition, English literature and composition, human geography, physics I, physics II, physics C: electricity, physics C: mechanics, psychology, statistics, studio art: drawing, U.S. government and politics, U. S. history, and world history for a total of nineteen different tests. Mrs. Haynie noted that each test costs \$78 and the state pays that bill. She added the district had 152 AP scholars this past year.

Mr. Tucker said on the facilities portion of the annual report to the public – the district had a lot of painting going on this summer. In fact, about \$100,000 was spent to paint several areas at school and the roof on the administration office is being re-done and portions of other roofs on buildings in the district were also redone during the summer month.

He said this school year the district is focusing on improving and exploding science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) learning at Barton Jr. High School and El Dorado High School. Response to Intervention (RTI) has renewed focus and is going strong in the elementary schools. Progress in the “Breakfast in the Classroom” program started this school year, he added. The Teacher Leader program in El Dorado High School will expand into the other schools next year. Mr. Tucker said re-vamping the kindergarten through fourth grade reading program is a big undertaking that is advancing well. He concluded that professional development for staff continues throughout the year in the district. 6:14 p.m.

The board approved one child to transfer to Parkers Chapel School District, one child to Strong Huttig School District, and one to Smackover-Norphlet School District. Also, approved by the board were 3 student into El Dorado School District from Strong-Huttig and one student into El Dorado from the Smackover-Norphlet School District. 6:38 p.m.

Mr. Gibson explained the upcoming school election is Tuesday, September 20 however, since the two board members running for election are uncontested the El Dorado board elections are being held through early and absentee voting. Early voting begins Tuesday, September 12 at the Union County Court House, County Clerk’s office from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mr. Gibson said early voting will run from through Monday, September 18. He encouraged those running to go vote for themselves. Mr. Gibson also reminded the board of an A.S.B.A. New Board Member Institute will be Tuesday, October 17 at the Embassy Suites from 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. 6:39 p.m.

The meeting adjourned to an executive session to discuss personnel matters, then reconvened to an open meeting. On a motion by Susan Turbeville, seconded by Todd Whatley, and carried on a 6-0 vote at 7:40 p.m., it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the superintendent’s recommendations concerning the acceptance of resignations and the employment of new personnel.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

