

MENA SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

MENA MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2017

MINUTES

Two Mena Middle School students explained the #BeTheGood concept for middle school students and monitored by Mena Middle School teacher, Kristy Hall; two middle school EAST students demonstrated a videogame they are developing using various software. Middle School students have access to the game in the library. Lorrie Henry, Mena Middle School technology, assisted Board members Robert Hines and Kyle Cannon with a virtual reality experience using the Virtual Reality equipment and software acquired by a Grant. Three EAST students presented information on their Veteran's Day research, interviews and Veteran's program. The EAST students have been asked to contribute veteran information they have collected to the Library of Congress. The middle school EAST instructor is Melissa Lunsford.

Mr. Weston presented Mena Middle School students, teachers and principals awards for exhibiting Outstanding Educational Performance in Arkansas.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Members present: Robert Hines, Todd Aynes and Kyle Cannon.

Members absent: Brian Kesterson, Clint Montgomery, Judith Roberson and Edd Puckett.

Mr. Weston acknowledged our High School Band, under the direction of Charles Morgan, with their superior ratings and upcoming events. The Board was given a list of the band students and their accomplishments. The Board also received a list of Mena High School and Mena Middle School choir member awards. The Choirs are directed by Tammy Taylor, who was recently nominated for Region 3 Choir Director of the Year. The Men's Doubles Tennis team finished State Runner up and are coached by Thomas Powell; Senior Volleyball won the district championship and made it to the second round of the state volleyball tournament in Batesville being coached by Brad Lyle and assisted by Rhonda Thigpen. Our Golf team, consisting of four players, won the district championship and finished 5th at state. The Golf team is coached by Ray Hunter.

Agenda Item #3 was delayed awaiting more Board members to enter meeting.

Mr. Weston informed the Board the Arkansas State Board of Education approved the Polk County Virtual Academy (PCVA) at their meeting on Thursday, November 9, 2017. Enrollment will be open to any K-12 student in the Mena School District area for the fall semester of 2018 with an enrollment cap of 25 students. The K-12 enrollment cap will increase yearly. A new LEA number will be issued for the Polk County Virtual Academy.

Agenda Item #5 was delayed awaiting more Board members to enter meeting.

Agenda Item #6, Band Request. After discussion with central office administration, Band Director, Charles Morgan, withdrew his previous request of purchasing a truck for band use until the 2018-2019 school years so that it can be budgeted.

Brian Kesterson entered the meeting at 6:10 p.m. which constituted a quorum.

Agenda Item #5, COOP Waiver Request. Robert Hines read a Resolution in support of a waiver request affecting the allowable first day of school. After discussion, Kyle Cannon made a motion to approve the Resolution. Todd Aynes seconded the motion and motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Weston explained a new law for alternative methods of instruction plan. Mr. Weston recommended the alternative means or methods of instruction developed by our district. Kyle Cannon made a motion to approve Mr. Weston's alternative methods of instruction plan. Todd Aynes seconded the motion and motion carried unanimously.

Edd Puckett entered the meeting at 6:14 p.m.

Agenda Item #3, Disclosure Form. Kyle Cannon recused himself from the meeting and left the room. Jeanne Smith, Assistant Superintendent, presented Board member Kyle Cannon's disclosure statement disclosing his employment with the Union Bank of Mena. Mr. Weston recommended the Board adopt a resolution to do business with Union Bank of Mena. Todd Aynes made a motion to approved Mr. Weston's recommendation. Brian Kesterson seconded the motion and motion carried unanimously.

Kyle Cannon re-entered meeting.

Brian Kesterson made a motion to approve Financial Reports. Kyle Cannon seconded the motion and motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Weston recommended the following resignations:

Don Sproles, Custodian, Louise Durham Elementary, effective November 3, 2017.
Kayla Cook, Paraprofessional, Holly Harshman Elementary, effective December 22, 2017.

Kyle Cannon made a motion to approve Mr. Weston's resignation recommendations.
Todd Aynes seconded the motion and motion carried unanimously.

Brian Kesterson made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Todd Aynes
seconded the motion and motion carried unanimously.

With no further business, Brian Kesterson moved for adjournment, Todd Aynes
seconded, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Hines, President



Brian Kesterson, Secretary