

OSCEOLA SCHOOL DISTRICT#1 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting

Osceola High School Cafeteria

July 13, 2020

6:00 p.m.

Present: Ollie Collins, Kristain Dedmon, James Baker, Torian Bell, Michael Ephlin and Denise Williams

Absent: Jacqueline Baker

Others present: Alfred Hogan, Superintendent
Dr. Toriano Green, Assistant Superintendent
Samantha Tippy, District Treasurer
Toshiba Pugh, High School Principal
Sherrie Jones

1. Michael Ephlin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Alfred Hogan offered invocation.
3. Samantha Tippy called the roll and a quorum was declared.
4. Motion Denise Williams, seconded by James Baker to approve the June Minutes. Motion passed 6-0.
5. Board Members recited the District's Vision and Mission Statement.
6. Motion Ollie Collins, seconded by Kristain Dedmon to adjust the Timed Agenda to 6:03 p.m. Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Hogan introduce Sherrie Jones, one of our elementary teachers. Ms. Jones is in graduate school getting her Master's Degree in Educational Leadership and she had to observe a class and she chose to come tonight.

7. Michael Ephlin presented the Financial Reports. Mr. Hogan stated that we closed out June 30. We've paid all the bills and nothing is outstanding and the bottom line right now is about 2.8 million. Things are still looking good and some of these things will be replenished. We may not see federal funds come in until around February, March or April. Mrs. Tippy stated we have started getting our reimbursements for the COVID money. We got around \$114 thousand back. We are getting reimbursements like twice a month. Motion Kristain Dedmon, seconded by Denise Williams to approve the financial reports as presented. Motion passed 6-0.
8. Michael Ephlin presented the list of bills. Mr. Hogan explained some of the large amounts on the list of bills. He stated the Baldwin & Shell cost was a retainage. City of Osceola was \$64,000 but we only pay them once a year for our two resource officers. Perkins was \$22,000 which was an end of lease cost. KLC was the door security systems and was paid out of REAP money. Motion James Baker, seconded by Denise Williams to approve the list of bills. Motion passed 6-0.

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9. Mr. Hogan stated that we have more policy updates from ASBA and a lot of these are dealing with the waivers and we will probably be visiting this again in August with the changes. He stated that some of the schools did not get their policy changes to us last month but CSE and STEM needed to include an update about students filming each other and we have an Illness Protocol letter that will go in the handbook which includes a statement about COVID-19. Motion Kristain Dedmon, seconded by Torian Bell to accept the amended policies as presented. Motion passed 6-0.
10. Mr. Hogan presented the Investment in Cleaning Proposal from ABBCO which is \$998,954.00 per year. He stated the price includes the minimum wage increase, 3% contractual increase and COVID 19 CDC cleaning recommendations. Mr. Hogan stated that next year he wants to get more bids and also present a comparison on the cost of what we can do in district but they have given us good service and they did a good job the first month or so when COVID first hit us by staying on top of things with cleaning and disinfecting so we could be ready if the Governor said we could come back in two or three weeks after we first shut down and even though we didn't get to come back they continued their normal everyday cleaning. Mr. Hogan stated he would like to recommend them for one more year. Michael Ephlin stated that it would be a good idea to rebid the contract every two years. Motion Torian Bell, seconded by James Baker to approve the ABBCO bid of \$998,954.00 for the 2020-2021 school year. Motion passed 6-0.
11. Mr. Hogan stated we received one bread bid and that was from Bryant Bread out of Jonesboro. Motion Denise Williams, seconded by Kristain Dedmon to approve the Bryant Bread contract. Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Hogan recommended approving the milk bid from Prairie Farms with the Escalator price. Motion Kristain Dedmon, seconded by Denise Williams to approve Mr. Hogan's recommendation. Motion passed 6-0.
12. Dr. Green presented the School Improvement Plan. He stated that we normally approve these in August but now the Department of Ed. requires us to have these on our website by August 1. Every year we set our goals to improve in the areas of reading. We did see some traction but we didn't take our end of the year assessment so our goals haven't changed. Our focus is on reading and for those students reading below grade level, we want to move at least 25% out of in need of support and improve on state and local and national assessments while we support teachers. We are planning out our professional development schedule now. We hired literacy interventionists for North and CSE. Mrs. Dedmon asked what we will use as a baseline. Dr. Green stated we are going to use I-Ready. It can give us linear data from kindergarten to twelfth grade. There's a pre-assessment we can do at the beginning of the year and we will test three times a year and there are interventions built into the program. Motion Torian Bell, seconded by Kristain Dedmon to approve the 2020-2021 School Improvement Plans. Motion passed 6-0.

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13. Mr. Hogan stated our property insurance for this fiscal year had a slight increase of about 3%. This includes a full year on the Arena, some of the lights and some equipment we've been buying so our premium will be \$154,851.69. The premium on vehicles is \$8,670.40 and our mobile equipment is \$265.00. Motion Kristain Dedmon, seconded James Baker to approve the ASBA property, vehicle and mobile equipment insurance. Motion passed 6-0.
14. Mr. Hogan stated that our Student/Athletic Insurance is for two years and recommended going back with Dewight Jones Agency for \$11,384.38. We did receive another quote from Health Specialty for \$13,580 for a two year plan. Motion Denise Williams, seconded by James Baker to approve the Dewight Jones Agency Student/Athletic Insurance Plan. Motion passed 6-0.
15. In the Superintendent's report Mr. Hogan commended the principals, Dr. Green and Mrs. Walker on all our schools being accredited.

Mr. Hogan stated that he signed off on the Arkansas Ready for Learning assuring that we will follow all the guidelines from the state department.

Dr. Green stated that we've bought water filling stations and encouraging all parents to send their child to school with a clear water bottle which they will be able to fill it at the filling stations, we are getting face shields for our teachers, we are asking students at STEM and High School to have masks, we've bought foggers, we've bought gloves and bathrooms are motion sensor so they don't have to touch the handles so I feel we are well into compliance with the department of education in ensuring teachers and students are safe when they enter our buildings. We have weekly meetings to discuss this and it has been shared with staff and they have shared extra concerns and we will meet about those concerns tomorrow. We've sent out a parent survey and we are working to make that easier to access and we are working on professional development options for teachers to make sure we meet all state requirements and that they have the proper training programs and things we will be bringing into the district. We have Google Classrooms for online learning options and we are also looking at another option to create our own virtual school for the parents who may not want to send their children to school. We've been working with our IT department to create a student single sign on to log in to all five of the district programs we will be using.

Mr. Hogan stated that we have to have a POC (point of contact) so I have assigned Dr. Green as point of contact. I received an email today stating that contracts and days may have to be revisited. We still have about three weeks on our summer schedule so I met with the staff today and made the decision to work 4 days a week from 8:00 – 2:30. Staff Development will go on as scheduled in August and if a shutdown happens again, everyone will still come to work unless the commissioner says otherwise. We are taking every precaution to ensure the safety of the staff.

Dr. Green stated Richard Ford, Cindi England, Lawrence Lane, Christie Morris, Shantele Raper, Veronica Gavin, Charles Webster and principals have been in meetings to provide input on opening of schools. Mr. Hogan stated that football will probably start in September. Ollie

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Collins asked about social distancing on buses and in classrooms. Dr. Green stated we are hiring bus monitors and CAN's, we will check temperatures before they get on the busses, and students will wear a mask on the bus. We are buying all the PPE and we will have gloves and sanitation stations in the buildings and lunches will be staggered. We are doing everything we can to make sure everyone will be safe and we are being good stewards of the COVID funds. We've also bought new smart boards so teachers can push out instruction to students.

Mr. Hogan stated that we have gotten over \$100,000 from ARMAC and that money can be used not only for special education but for other academic programs K-12.

Mr. Hogan stated that all of our students eat free meals through Provision II and recommended signing the addendum for Provision II for the 2020-2021 school year. Motion Kristain Dedmon, seconded by Denise Williams to approve Mr. Hogan's recommendation. Motion passed 6-0.

Executive Session was held from 7:07 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. with no action taken.

16. Michael Ephlin presented the personnel to be hired for the 2020-2021 school year. Motion Torian Bell, seconded by Kristain Dedmon to hire the personnel as presented. Motion passed 6-0.

Ebony Brown, CSE Literacy Interventionist
Carmen Burns, High School Math
Tyneisha Collins Reed, 5th Grade Social Studies
Tracy Johnson, North Literacy Interventionist
Jamie Thomas, 4th Grade Teacher

Michael Ephlin presented the list of resignations. Motion James Baker, seconded by Torian Bell to accept the resignations as presented. Motion passed 6-0

Robert Hooks, Jr., High School PE and Head Football Coach
Lareal Risner, 6th Grade Science
Ruby Vaden, High School History
Carla Williams, CSE Administrative Assistant

17. Motion James Baker, seconded by Denise Williams to adjourn. Motion passed 6-0
7:20 p.m.

(Signed) Jacqueline Baker, President

(Signed) Torian Bell, Secretary