

OSCEOLA SCHOOL DISTRICT#1 BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Regular Meeting
Osceola Jr. High Building
February 8, 2021
6:00 p.m.**

Members Present via Zoom: Jacqueline Baker and Kristain Dedmon

Members Present on Site: James Baker, Michael Ephlin and Denise Williams

Member(s) Absent: Torian Bell and Ollie Collins,

Others present: Alfred Hogan, Superintendent
Dr. Toriano Green, Assistant Superintendent
Jeanette Walker, Board Recorder
Samantha Tippy, District Treasurer
Steve Knox, Osceola Times (via Zoom)

1. Jacqueline Baker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. James Baker offered invocation.
3. Jeanette Walker called the roll and a quorum was declared with five members present.
4. The Board dispensed with the reading of the Vision and Mission statements.
5. Motion Denise Williams, seconded by James Baker to approve the January Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion passed 5-0.
6. Mr. Hogan stated that our three year Financial Advisory Agreement with First Security Beardsley expires on April 12 and recommended the Board renew the agreement. Motion Denise Williams, seconded by Michael Ephlin to approve Mr. Hogan's recommendation. Motion passed 5-0.
7. Mr. Hogan stated that it's time to renew our School Board Legal Liability and Employment Practices Liability and our General Liability – "Out of Arkansas" coverage insurance. He stated the Legal Liability and Employment Practice Liability premium went up from \$8783.00 to \$9445.00 but the General Liability premium went down from \$570 to \$541 and recommended the Board approve the renewal. Motion James Baker, seconded by Michael Ephlin to approve Mr. Hogan's recommendation. Motion passed 5-0.
8. Mr. Hogan recommended renewing the ASBA Workers' Compensation insurance for \$24,404.00. Motion Denise Williams, seconded by Kristain Dedmon to approve Mr. Hogan's recommendation. Motion passed 5-0.
9. Motion James Baker, seconded by Kristain Dedmon to amend the Timed Agenda to 6:12 p.m. Motion passed 4-0 (Michael Ephlin stepped out of the meeting).

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- 10 Jacqueline Baker introduced the Financial Reports. Samantha Tippy reviewed the financial reports and the list of bills with the Board. She stated that at this time last year we spent 12 million dollars and this year we've spend 11.8 million and that is \$577,000 less than last year which is great considering all the COVID expenses we've had. We have spent 37% of our COVID budget and we have to spend that money or give it back. We budgeted \$200,000 in taxes that we would get this year and we have received over \$100,000 more than what we budgeted from Big River Steel. We try to budget low so we won't spend as much and anytime we can come in already over at this point in the school year then that's great.
- 11 Motion Michael Ephlin, seconded by James Baker to approve the financial reports and the list of bills as presented in Agenda Item # 10. Motion passed 5-0.
- 12 Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Hogan asked Dr. Green to talk about the 2021-2022 school calendar and update the Board on ESSER II projects.

Dr. Green reviewed the proposed 2021-2022 School Year calendar with the Board. He stated that we have professional development scheduled in August and we have some professional development days built into the school year. We have also set aside the 2nd and the 9th of August for a new teacher symposium to provide better support for our new teachers and pair them with mentors. Personnel Policy Representatives on each campus has presented the calendar to the staff. We are required to plan six hours a day and 178 days of onsite instructions. We will have virtual options which the committee will work. We are required to start school the week of Aug. 16. Motion Kristain Dedmon, seconded by Michael Ephlin to approve the 2021-2022 School Calendar. Motion passed 5-0.

Dr. Green stated that on the second round of ESSER II funds that was approved by President Trump on December 21, we were awarded 3.2 million dollars to make upgrades to our HVAC units, air quality, curriculum resources, technology, and anything to improve our instruction and safety of our staff and students. We are looking at replacing existing HVAC equipment in the Admin building, High School Field House and in the old Boys Gym at High School. We will install air conditioning equipment in the Jr. High Gym, Logan Young building, Football Field Press Box and the Bus Shop. We will install B-Polar Ionization Generator in all existing HVAC systems. All the new HVAC systems will be put on our quality control system. We are also looking at doing a sewer tie in from high school to the Admin building, perform mold remediation at the Field House, remove and replace the Field House roof and add an additional bay to the Field House to add space for the away teams. We have done a walk through with RGB and the architect and they are working that up now. Because of the Board's approval of new K-8 textbooks, our curriculum is not one of our issues but we will be looking at getting new textbooks at high school.

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Mr. Hogan stated that all classrooms have clean air but we want every kid to have clean air in all parts of each building.

All the ESSER II funds have to be allocated by September 2023 and spent by December 2023.

Mr. Hogan stated that the Greenhouse is almost complete. Our final draw will be about \$22,000. We will make plans to set a date for an outside socially distanced grand opening. The name of the greenhouse is Seminole Garden. We will have a marker with the school board members names on it attached to the building.

Dr. Green stated that last month we discussed giving our employees ten days COVID leave and you were given Policy 3.32.1 Licensed Personnel COVID Emergency Leave and Policy 8.23.1 Classified Personnel COVID Emergency Leave to consider. We will use ESSER II funds for substitute teachers so the cost for subs will not come out of our operating fund. The emergency COVID days will expire on June 30, 2021. Dr. Green stated that COVID vaccines are not mandatory but we did a mass vaccination last Wednesday and we had fifty five of our employees show up to get vaccinated. The second dose will be administered on March 3. Dr. Green stated that as he receives information about vaccination sites, he will pass it on to the staff. Motion James Baker, seconded by Kristain Dedmon to approve the COVID Emergency leave policies as presented. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Hogan stated that right now we are on track to release our Charter at STEM. We've had committee meetings and I've presented it to the Board, we've announced in the paper, on our website and district Facebook page. We put out a survey about renaming the school and we hope to have the results for you next month along with a resolution that the lawyer is drawing up. Mr. Hogan stated that he started this last spring and got the committee going then stepped away so the committee would work things out and report back to me. Dr. Green stated that we had about 358 to participate in the survey and we will present to the Board the top three names. We have to apply for the new LEA number and name change thirty days before the start of school so we are well on track.

Mr. Hogan presented a certificate from Arkansas School Board Association for being a member in good standing with Arkansas School Boards Association for the 2020-2021 school year.

Executive Session was called at 6:44 p.m. and ended at 6:58 p.m. with no action taken.

13. Jacqueline Baker presented the personnel report.

Motion Kristain Dedmon, seconded by Denise Williams to accept the resignation of Kami Cooper. Motion passed 4-0 (James Baker stepped out of the meeting).

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Motion Michael Ephlin, seconded by Kristain Dedmon to hire certified administrators as listed for the 2021-2022 school year as presented. Motion passed 4-0.

Shantele Raper, Curriculum Coordinator K-12
Toshiba Pugh, High School Principal
Christel Smith, STEM Principal
Stefanie Smithey, Carroll Smith Elementary Principal
Pam Smith, North Principal
Veronica Gavin, LEA Supervisor
Charlotte Brown, North Assistant Principal
Dee Wallace, Carroll Smith Elementary Assistant Principal
Tynga Coleman, STEM Assistant Principal
Dettris Poole, High School Assistant Principal
Charles Webster, ALE Director

Jacqueline Baker stated that it has been established and agreed to on the terms and conditions of the three year contract for Dr. Toriano Green as superintendent beginning July 1, 2021.

Kristain Dedmon moved to acknowledge that Dr. Toriano Green was recommended for hire under a three year contract as superintendent of schools for the 2021-2022 school year and we have since negotiated a salary of \$122,500 per year and that Dr. Green has accepted the terms of the contract. James Baker seconded the motion and the motion passed 5-0.

Jacqueline Baker congratulated the Jr. High Girls Basketball team on their first win and making the first round of the tournament. Also our Jr. High Boys for their win tonight in the first round of the tournament and our Sr. High Boys as Conference District Champions with a record so far of 13-0 and the District will be played in the Palace of Northeast Arkansas.

- 13 Motion James Baker seconded by Denise Williams to adjourn. Motion passed 5-0.
7:06 p.m.

(Signed) Jacqueline Baker, President

(Signed) Torian Bell, Secretary