

**OSCEOLA SCHOOL DISTRICT#1 BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Regular Meeting**

**Osceola Jr. High Building**

**March 8, 2021**

**6:00 p.m.**

Members Present via Zoom: Ollie Collins and Kristain Dedmon

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

Member(s) Absent: None

Others present: Alfred Hogan, Superintendent  
Dr. Toriano Green, Assistant Superintendent  
Jeanette Walker, Board Recorder  
Samantha Tippy, District Treasurer  
Christel Smith, STEM Academy Principal  
Dan Lovelady, First Security Beardsley  
Donn Mixon, Board Attorney

1. Jacqueline Baker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Alfred Hogan offered invocation.
3. Jeanette Walker called the roll and a quorum was declared with all members present.
4. The Board recited the District Vision and Mission statement.
5. Motion James Baker, seconded by Torian Bell to approve the February Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion passed 7-0.
6. Mr. Hogan introduced Dan Lovelady with First Security Beardsley. Mr. Lovelady went over the final recap of the Bond sale. He stated the sale date was February 24, 2021. Four bids were received. The lowest bid was from Raymond James & Associates with a rate of 1.149227%. Raymon James & Associates appointed First National Bank of Lawrence County, Walnut Ridge, Arkansas to serve as trustee. \$33,920 will be deducted for bond issuance cost and \$1,556,448.60 will be wired to Merchants & Planters Bank, Newport, Arkansas to pay off the February 1, 2012 bond issue. Mr. Lovelady stated that these are unrestricted funds.

Motion Michael Ephlin, seconded by Torian Bell to Adopt the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Delivery of the \$1605,000 Osceola School District No. 1 of Mississippi County, Arkansas Refunding Bonds dated March 1, 2021 and other documents pertaining thereto as prepared by the Friday, Eldredge & Clark Law Firm. Motion passed 7-0.

7. Mr. Hogan introduced Donn Mixon. Mr. Mixon presented two resolutions for renaming the Osceola STEM Academy and went over the talking points the Board had concerning the renaming. He stated one resolution has the name of the school as Osceola Middle School and the other resolution has the name blank should the Board approve a different name. Mr. Hogan

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stated that the top two names from the survey were Osceola Middle School and Rose Willis Middle School. Motion Kristain Dedmon, seconded by James Baker to rename the Osceola STEM Academy to Osceola Middle School. Motion passed 6-1 with Mr. Collins voting no.

Motion Ollie Collins to rename Osceola STEM Academy to Rose Willis Middle School. Motion failed for lack of a second.

8. Mr. Hogan presented the Proposed Budget of Expenditures with Tax levy for Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2022 to and Including June 30, 2023. Motion Denise Williams, seconded by Michael Ephlin to approve the Proposed Budget as presented. Motion passed 7-0.
9. Motion Michael Ephlin, seconded by James Baker to amend the Timed Agenda to 6:36 p.m. Motion passed 7-0.
- 10 Jacqueline Baker introduced the Financial Reports. Michael Ephlin asked if this is pretty much where we usually are this time of the year. Samantha Tippy stated that we are a little lower than we normally are but we can attribute a lot of that to our ESSER money because we pay for a lot of our expenses out of that but we're doing good, we are where we are projected to be. Motion Kristain Dedmon, seconded by James Baker to approve the financial reports. Motion passed 7-0.
- 11 Jacqueline Baker presented the list of bills. Mr. Hogan stated that the last draw on the Greenhouse will be right at \$22,000. We had a walkthrough of the Greenhouse last Wednesday. The natural gas bills might be high but wait until we get next month's bill because this is just the front end of the ice and snow we had. Mr. Hogan stated that we are working on a plan to have a socially distance grand opening of the Greenhouse around April 21. Motion Torian Bell, seconded by Michael Ephlin to approve the list of bills. Motion passed 7-0.
- 12 Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Hogan asked Samantha Tippy to discuss the audit exit report. Mrs. Tippy stated that we had two auditors here from December to February and we had our exit conference last week. There were no formal findings and they said we did great.

Mr. Hogan updated the Board on the upcoming meetings. The Joint Leadership Conference will be May 4 and will be virtual and in person. The National School Board Association Conference will be virtual on April 8 – 10 and the Southern Region Conference will be July 18-20. Jacqueline Baker stated that they want us to do a survey about attending virtual or in person for the Southern Regional Conference.

Executive Session was called at 6:45 p.m. and ended at 7:02 p.m. with no action taken.

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13. Jacqueline Baker presented the personnel report.

New Hires:

Jennifer Williams, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher for the 2021-2022 school year.  
Fannie Johnson, CSE Cafeteria (current school year)

Resignations:

Kelia Caruthers, North Cafeteria  
Bertha Neely-Rice, CSE Cafeteria  
Phyllis Davenport, STEM Administrative Assistant  
Charlene Johnson, CSE Cafeteria  
Sheryl Stewart, STEM Cafeteria  
Sherry Henton, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher  
Minta Lynch, CSE Library Media Specialist  
Gina Cole, CSE Literacy Interventionist  
Robyn Green, High School English

Motion Kristain Dedmon, seconded by Denise Williams to accept the certified and non-certified hires and resignations as presented. Motion passed 7-0.

Jacqueline Baker presented the list of certified staff at each campus to be rehired for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion Michael Ephlin, seconded by Torian Bell to rehire the certified staff as presented for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion passed 7-0.

Jacqueline Baker asked Michael Ephlin to acknowledge the High School Boys Basketball Team. Mr. Ephlin stated that the boys will play Dumas Wednesday night in Clinton. Jacqueline Baker then congratulated the High School Boys Basketball team for placing third in Regional, first place in Conference and Runner up in the District Tournament. Michael Ephlin congratulated the High School Girls Basketball team for making it to Regional.

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

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(Signed) Jacqueline Baker, President

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(Signed) Torian Bell, Secretary