

**BLYTHEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Blytheville, Arkansas**  
**Regular School Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 27, 2018**  
**6:00 p.m.**

The Blytheville Board of Education met in a special meeting at the Blytheville School District Administration Building at 405 West Park Street at 6:00 p.m. on February 27, 2018, with the following members present:

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| (1) Tracey Ritchey, President | (2) Erin Carrington, Vice-President |
| (3) Barbara Wells, Secretary  | (4) Tommy Bennett                   |
| (5) Desmond Hammett           | (6) Tobey Johnson                   |

The following members were absent:

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| (1) Billy Fair | (2) Henrietta Watt |
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Others present: Idell Jenkins, Casey DeFord, Joseph Fondron, Alisha Williams, Frederick Clay, Sr., Cody Wyatt, Todd Welch, Eric Euler, Jackie Burton, Lakesha Buckley, Nina Watson, Vera Thompson, Randan Caruthers, Vera James, Adron Poole, J. Benson, Sheila Gale, Marty Orr, Melissa Young, Sandi Gillespie and Dennis Prude.

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| 1. CALL TO ORDER             | President Ritchey called the regular meeting for the Month of February to order at 6:02 p.m.                       |
| 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM | A quorum was established with five members present. Barbara Wells arrived at 6:10 p.m. making six members present. |
| 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE      | The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.  |

#### 4. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

##### A. Superintendent Report

1. Chickasaws basketball team made it to finals at Maumelle.
2. Teachers of the Year will be presented at March Board Meeting.
3. \$8,000 SPDG Grant was received by Maria Goodman to allow students to work.
4. Cliff Miller and Allison Turner went to ALE Festival at Jonesboro. Good leads on potential hires.
5. Sally Cooke working on sources of financing for SPDG to help with PBIS, RTI and curriculum.
6. Maddie Hixson and Charlie Groves, Students from Blytheville High School are serving as State Level Thespians.
7. Baldwill and Shell will have the gymnasium drawings March 12<sup>th</sup>. Baldwin and Shell will advertise on all phases of the construction on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Earthwork is complete and parking lot construction has begun.
8. Ms. DeFord, School Improvement Specialist conducted poverty training for BHS and BMS.
9. Maddie Hixson and Charlie Groves awarded state-level Thespians.
10. Bus leaving at 8 a.m. to attended historically black college fair in West Memphis. Concentration on juniors with ACT scores in the acceptable range.
11. Jacquin Benson and Nina Mitchell Watson shared a presentation on the work of HOTEPE. Helping our teens elevate their potential. HBCU and PWI (predominately white Institutions) Began working with BSD 2017-2018 school year. The students paid their own way in previous years or received money from donors. BSD only pay for college tours or fairs. Forty colleges are represented. Not solely for African-American students; white students are going as well. V25, AKA, Delta Sigma Theta are donators. Snacks are provided to students. Mission to strengthen the community and reduce poverty in increasing college success of our area youth. Interested juniors and seniors are targeted. Youth are empowered to be successful adults. There is no affiliations with Healing in the Hood. Main objective is to acquire funds for registration fees for college

tours, charter bus/transportation. The whole administration comes to meet the students at the Mix and Mingle. It is a great opportunity to get on the spot scholarships, supplies and materials for ACT/SAT prep.

12. Emily Crosskno has been invaluable working with area school college counselors. BHS has always had three counselors; ANC Career Counselors help. Two counselors focus on the master schedule and Ms. Croskno focuses on career, colleges and universities. Florida A & M will be the first tour on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Students are asked pay half of the fee. Funds come from the 2000 general fund.
13. Athletic parents can register students for NCAA and NCIA.
14. Grants are written by head of the department applying.
15. 2017-2018 student enrollment has dropped from 2,054 to 2,018.

## 5. ACTION ITEMS

- A. January 22, 2018, Meeting
- B. January 31, 2018, Special Meeting
- C. February 6, 2018, CRSS – Board Development Training
- D. February 13, 2018, Special Meeting
- E. February 13, 2018, Special Meeting
- F. February 20, 2018, Special Meeting
- G. February 20, 2018, Special Meeting
- H. January Financial Report
- I. 2018-2019 School Calendar – Supt. Atwill's recommendation - Option 2
- J. Salary Schedule

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tobey Johnson and seconded by Desmond Hammett to accept items as listed in D., E., F., G., H., I., and J.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 7:20 p.m.

## 6. SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH FIRM DISCUSSION

After discussion and comments, a motion was made by Erin Carrington and seconded by Desmond Hammett to hire B.W.P. and Associates for superintendent search.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 7:44 p.m.

## 7. PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

### A. Reappointment of District-Level Administrators/Directors (2018-2019)

Jean Cole	Director of Support Services
Sally Cooke	Director of Curriculum/School Improvement Specialist
Diane Hay	GT Administrator
Jennifer Johnson	Director of Finance
Randy Jumper	Director of Operations
Allison Turner	Community Development Coordinator
Kris Williams	Director of Technology/Support Services
David Hixson	Athletic Director

### B. Resignation of Certified Employee (January 30, 2018)

Margaret Thomas	Teacher	BMS
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### C. Resignation of Certified Employee (March 16, 2018)

Ken Dummond	Teacher	BHS-New Tech
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### D. Resignation of Certified Employee (End of 2017-2018)

Marc Barrett	Teacher	BMS
Debbie Cleveland	Teacher	BMS

### E. Appointment of Classified Employee

Hannah Rogers	Paraprofessional	BMS
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### F. Resignation of Classified Employees (February 23, 2018)

Keisha Adair	Bus Driver	SVC
Vanessa Stewart	Safety Security/ Truancy Specialist	ADM

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tobey Johnson and seconded Tommy Bennett to accept reappointments, resignations and appointments as listed in A., B., C., D., E., and F. Motion passed with 5:1 vote at 7:49 p.m., with Barbara Wells casting the nay vote.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION      At this time the Board went into Executive Session to discuss Personnel.
9. OPEN SESSION          After discussion, the Board came back into open session.
- No action was taken.
10. ADJOURNMENT          The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.



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Richard Atwill  
Ex-officio Financial Secretary