



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
A REGULAR MEETING OF THE DIERKS BOARD OF EDUCATIO
SEPTEMBER 23, 2019 6:00 P.M. DIERKS HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

MEMBERS

PRESENT

Bubba McSpadden, Presiding Officer
Wendell Garner, Jeffrey Mounts, Brad Garner, Trey Eckert

ABSENT

MEETING NUMBER 3

Bubba McSpadden called the meeting to order Wendell Garner opened with prayer.

The minutes of the August 19th board meeting were approved as written by a consensus of the board.

Certified personnel policies recently met to review changes and updates by ASBA. No changes or recommendation were brought to the board.

The financial reports were approved by a consensus of the board as presented by the superintendent.

In unfinished business, Superintendent Jody Cowart reported that the millage extension passed. The board granted Mr. Cowart permission to begin the process of selecting a construction manager for the JoAnn Walters classroom addition.

A motion by Brad Garner and seconded by Trey Eckert passed unanimously to approve the 2019-2020 school budget.

A motion by Jeffrey Mounts and seconded by Wendell Garner passed unanimously to approve the athletic budget for 19/20.

A motion by Trey Eckert and seconded by Jeffrey Mounts passed unanimously to approve the federal and categorical budgets as presented in the yearly budget.

A motion by Trey Eckert and seconded by Jeffrey Mounts passed unanimously to approve the ADE Minority Teacher and Administrator Recruitment Plan.

A motion by Jeffrey Mounts and seconded by Trey Eckert passed unanimously to approve the following student transfers: Hartlynn Simmons and Hailey Smedley out of the district. Damian Burton, Evan Burton and Jimmy Downing into the district.

The board adjourned to executive session at 6:36p.m to discuss the hiring of personnel.

The board returned from executive session at 7:28p.m.

A motion by Jeffrey Mounts and seconded by Brad Garner passed unanimously to add Heather Bagley to the districts substitute list.

A motion by Wendell Garner and seconded by Jeffrey Mounts passed unanimously to allow Melanie Gadbury a six week leave of absence without pay and without the use of her leave days due to maternity.

A motion by Jeffrey Mounts and seconded by Wendell Garner passed unanimously to accept the letter of resignation of Chad Lites as high school principal due to ongoing health issues, and to reassign Lites as a certified teacher as per the certified salary schedule effectively immediately.

A motion was made by Trey Eckert and seconded by Brad Garner passed unanimously to amend Todd Finley's contract to the position of interim high school principal as per the salary schedule effective immediately.

Discussion of other items included:

1. There have been 50 BLUE board students to date. Students who scored ready or exceeding on last spring's ACT Aspire celebrated at the Four States Fair. 55 students were invited. Plans are being made to recognize all students who showed growth from the previous year's results. JoAnn Walters Elementary has a current enrollment of 294. Average daily attendance has increased from 95.2% to 96.23% compared to this time last year. There will be a flu clinic October 7th. Third graders will have an oral health screening October 10th. Parent-teacher conferences are Tuesday, October 15th. JoAnn Walters will host the Tri-County Quiz Bowl Tournament on October 24th at First Baptist Church. Red Ribbon Week will be the last full week of October.
2. FFA livestock show team recently participated in the Howard County Fair. There were numerous grand champion animals that will compete in the district fair this week. This week is spirit week. Homecoming will take place Friday night against Gurdon. Festivities for the afternoon homecoming will be at 2:30p.m., festivities at the field will begin at 6:30p.m. Progress reports were sent out Friday, September 13th. State Representative Deann Vaught, along with members of the Arkansas Department of Health spoke with the student body over the danger of Vaping. Graduation has been scheduled for Monday, May 18th. This date will allow students to complete AP testing, as well as grades to come in from Cosssatot to help determine final GPS, final rank, and honor grads.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:32 p.m.

President

Secretary

Approval Date