

BLYTHEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Blytheville, Arkansas
Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, April 23, 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 April 23, 2018, with the following members present:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| (1) Tracey Ritchey, President | (2) Erin Carrington, Vice-President |
| (3) Barbara Wells, Secretary | (4) Billy Fair |
| (5) Desmond Hammett | (6) Tobey Johnson |
| (7) Henrietta Watt | |

Others present: Casey DeFord, Pacay Bowen, David Gullic, Jasmine Johnson, Leslie Frazier, Shannon Langston, Michelle Sims, Curtis Walker, Jr., Sheila Gale, Denamoshia Thomas, Matt Swenson, Adron Poole, Curtis Walker, Sandy Gillespie, Chanda Walker, Donna McCray, Dareel Aldridge, Denisse Strawthorn, Vera James, Nicole Terry, J. Benson, Jr., Eric Euler, Todd Welch, Diane Hay, Ryan Martin, Dorothy Anderson, R. Harris, Tony Hollis, Linda Williams, Curtis Smith, Sr., Harold Sudbury, Greydon Williams and Brandon Harper.

1. CALL TO ORDER President Ritchey called the regular meeting for the month of April 2018 to order at 6:02 p.m.
2. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM A quorum was established with seven members present.
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
4. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

1. Eric Euler and Todd Welch, Baldwin and Shell Construction gave an update on construction. Parking lot is coming along and lights are being set. Gymnasium under review with state fire marshal who wants to enclose the stairs. Documents have been submitted to the International Code Council for recommendations. We have always received approval but he is reading the codes differently. We hope to hear from the council this week. Bids are ready to send out as

soon as we get approval. We will advertise for two full weeks and receive bids on the third week. After the rain, we did see a place on the west side that needs a little work for drainage. There are no issues with the trees.

2. Diane Hay, GT Administrator, told the Board that they were waiting on meeting tonight to secure the bus. We are having many fundraisers. We just need an okay to move forward. Mrs. Hay introduced Odyssey of the Mind coaches Curtis Walker, Jr., Curtis Walker Sr., David Gullic, Amy Gullic, and Suzanne King who have teams going to World Finals.

The BMS/BHS team coached by Amy Louise Gullic, Susannah King and David Gullic actually had a mix of BHS & BMS students on their team this year: Division III "Animal House - Structure". Team members are Connor Frazier, Jacob Pruett, Wills Gullic, Jasmine Johnson, Gatsby Langston Brown, Diamond Henry and Shamari Cooper.

The BES team coached by Curtis Walker, Sr. and Curt Walker, Jr. for the "Animal House - Structure" team: Division I - Team members include Ryley Walker, MacKinley Walker, Eliana Davis, RYanne Davis, Tyrone Davis, Hayden Cornwall and Marley Rand.

Curtis Walker, Jr. told the Board, "We see the good that can come out of Blytheville. We see the young people who come together to solve problems. We are looking at the best in Arkansas." Mr. Walker talked about his dad, Curtis Walker, Sr. has coached Odyssey of the Mind for over 30 years and has coached teams to world finals long after his kids were grown. Mr. Walker, Sr. sees how it changes kids' lives and helps kids see things outside of Blytheville. We have many students that come out of Blytheville that are lawyers, doctors and pharmacists. Blytheville has many great programs but this one is very near and dear to my heart and I thank you for your support.

Both teams placed 1st and will advance to World Finals in Ames, IA, on May 22-27, 2018.

B. Instructional Reports

Sally Cooke, Director of Curriculum

ESSA reports were passed out to board.

Reminder: These reports are an autopsy of the results of the 2017 testing. We have already been working an entire school year on

improving these results in all buildings. The data that I share with you at each meeting on the collaborative process and the quarterly reports are all new information on the progress that we are already making this school year.

Explanation of how to read the reports:

First page shows the grade spans, grade ranges, and ratings information.

You have all four reports for our schools. Look at the primary page for an explanation of how to read each report.

You see the overall ESSA Index Score on the front along with a bar graph showing the range of all schools in the state in that grade band. At the bottom of the front page you can also view the Two Year ESSA Index Scores by Subgroup for 2016 and 2017. On the back of each report you can see the ESSA Indicator Scores represented in a bar graph.

- Overall ESSA Score: ESSA required states to include at least five indicators for success: 1. Achievement, 2. Growth, 3. English learner progress toward English language proficiency, 4. Graduation rate, and 5. School quality and student success.
 - Those are seen in this Overall score with weighted achievement and growth as a big part of it.
- Weighted Achievement Score: This is 35% of the overall score. A weighted achievement measure is used to incorporate academic achievement into the school performance system. To calculate schools' weighted achievement scores point values are assigned to each of the four academic achievement levels on Arkansas's grade level assessments for math and English language arts
 - We have been working on improving our scores at each building through our strategic action plans in the work with ALA, through our curriculum alignment, and through the teacher collaboration. Multiple measures are in place to help us track data. Formative assessments are monitored, end of unit common assessments, and even STAR testing for math and literacy are tracked to see where we need to work even more as we track progress.
- Value-Added Growth Score: Growth is weighted at 50% for non-high schools and 35% for high schools of the overall score. A growth model describes the change in student achievement over a period of time. The growth model used in Arkansas is a value-added growth model that helps answer the question: How much did a student grow this year compared to how much we thought he/she would grow based on what we know about his/her achievement in prior years (the student's score history)? The student growth score is the difference between what the student is expected to achieve, based on prior achievement scores, and what the student achieves in the current year. Each growth

- score tells us whether each student performed as well as expected, based on how he/she performed in earlier years.
- o You can see this growth depicted in a trend line in the reports that the schools get per child.
- o We are not satisfied if a child only grows 3 months in 3 months time.
 - Because our kids are behind, we need to see them double up on that and grow 4-6 months in 3 months time which is why we place so much value on intervention and support in each building. Some students are pulled out, others get support in class from the teacher, and others are helped with interventionists pushing into the classroom.
- School Quality and Student Success Score: This is 15% of the overall score. In essence, the school quality and student success indicator combines measures of engagement, access, readiness, completion, and success criteria. To calculate this indicator a student level table is constructed to include the indicators listed in the table below.
- o At Primary, Attendance (Engagement) is the one that we can work on to add points. This score for the other schools also contains a variety of other measure such as participation in community service, ACT scores, and computer science course credits. Our students of course participate in a large number of community service projects, but in the past we did not have these course codes in our schedule so we didn't get credit for them. We also have CPAD for ACT growth, and are working on attendance etc everywhere. At BHS the score includes graduation rate as well.
- o We have been working on attendance for a while in every building and have teams looking at ways we can assure that parents understand the importance of kids being in school. We often have good parents who take students out of school for a variety of things and we lose points because of all of that. They get notices in their weekly notes home, announcements on social media, and through information given out to the public. The students in the lower grades don't have a lot of control over whether they get to school. We send the buses, but if the parents don't get them up and ready, then many do not come. We need a partnership between the parent, teacher and student to make this work.

Much more information on these reports is on the ADE website for you to review to get more detail of what the reports mean. My task tonight is to make sure you know how to read the reports in general.

On the last page Kris Williams put together a chart to show you how Blytheville compared to the other schools in the county. We have made some improvements already as of these 2017 scores, and of course have been working since last year to make even more progress. That is showing up in the interim assessments and other reports from each building.

Testing for this year begins tomorrow at BHS. BES will test the rest of the week and into next week. BMS will test next week and the following week. The schools have worked hard all year teaching and encouraging students to work hard and take ownership of their learning. BHS and BMS have created videos to motivate students prior to testing. At BES they had a door decorating contest and each teacher has done a great job of encouraging students to work hard. Some students don't have that intrinsic motivation to put out their best effort and the tests don't mean anything to them, so we have to focus on that.

C. Operations Report

Randy Jumper, Director of Operations

Mr. Jumper introduced Jerry Noble from OPAA Food Management who gave a presentation to the Board. A former superintendent, that has worked with schools that had and didn't have food management. Food management can buy items cheaper and manage better. Some of the benefits of OPAA include increased purchasing power for better quality and choice, full compliance with federal, state and local regulations, meal development, inventory control and assistance with state agencies/USDA audit.

Current food service staff would keep their job with at least the same salary. We guarantee to keep all employees and hours will not be cut. We offer four breakfast choices, fresh omelet station, smoothie station and a grab and go breakfast kiosk. We have monthly menu features, a la carte program with items that can be purchased and staff special menus.

The school does not lose control of food service program. We just work with you. You hire us to manage food service. We buy the best quality we can and want high quality and good flavor. Our items are farm to school, farm fresh fruits, eggs and garden vegetables, we partner with FFA, students and community gardens. We have other food opportunities such as boxed lunches for school trips, and can cater meetings, luncheons and other events.

There is five year fixed pricing and a five year contract the Board approves annually.

District retains local control, sets meal prices, controls revenue stream and equipment. District approves all new hires including Director of Nutrition. District sets policies and procedures; we utilize district point of sales software.

Director of Nutrition for the District and OPAA together host an orientation meeting for kitchen staff. Transition support/training team will be on site several weeks prior to opening and opening day.

Randy Jumper told the Board we heard from Armark last month and next we will hear from Chartwells Food Service in June. Our district have all the things that have been mentioned, we have buying power and implement the same things. There are advantages and disadvantages.

5. ACTION ITEMS

- A. March 26, 2018, Meeting
- C. March Financial Report
- D. OM World Finals, room and board \$14,965

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tobey Johnson and seconded by Billy Fair accept items as listed in A., C., and D. above. Action Item B was removed for further discussion.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 7:47 p.m.

- B. April 2, 2018, Special Meeting

A motion was made by Erin Carrington and seconded by Desmond Hammett to accept Action Item B., April 2, 2018, Special Meeting Minutes. Motion passed by 5:2, with Tracey Ritchey and Billy Fair casting the nay votes vote at 7:48 p.m.

6. APPOINTMENT OF VACANT SEAT FOR ZONE 4

A motion was made by Barbara Wells and seconded by Billy Fair to appoint Donna Aldridge to fill Tommy Bennett's seat, Zone 4 until next month's election on May 22nd.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 7:53 p.m.

7. PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Appointment of BHS-New Tech Principal

Matthew Swenson

- B. Appointment of Certified Employee (2018-2019)

Lucretia Cooper

Teacher

BMS

C. Resignation of Certified Employees (End of 2017-2018)

Alithia Davis	Teacher	BES
Samantha Eubanks	Teacher	BES
Doris Gleason	Teacher	BMS
Amy Harmon	Teacher	BMS
Allyson Lomax	Teacher	BMS
Shelly Long	Teacher	BMS
Jordan McBride	Teacher	BMS
Tessa Mosbey	Teacher	BPS
Jared Swenson	Teacher	BHS-New Tech
Heather Ward	Teacher	BPS
Amy Wright	Teacher	BPS

D. Reappointment of Certified Employees (2018-2019)

See attachment A

E. Appointment of Classified Employee

Bobbie Fair	CSSO
-------------	------

F. Resignation of Classified Employee (May 7, 2018)

Alexis Blocker	Network Manager
----------------	-----------------

G. Resignation of Classified Employee hired for 2018-2019

Brianna Miner -Johnston	Food Service	BES
-------------------------	--------------	-----

H. Retirement of Classified Employee (End of 2017-2018)

Phyllis Myers	Paraprofessional	BPS
Jeanette Nolden	LPN	BMS

I. Reappointment of Classified Employees (2018-2019)

See attachment B

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tobey Johnson and seconded by Barbara Wells to accept appointments, resignations, reappointments and retirements as listed in A., B., C., D., F., G., H., & I. above. Action 6, Item E was removed for further discussion.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 7:59 p.m.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At this time the Board went into Executive Session to discuss personnel. Billy Fair left the room.

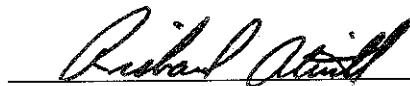
9. OPEN SESSION

After discussion, the Board came back into open session. A motion was made by Barbara Wells and seconded by Henrietta Watt to appoint Bobbie Fair as CSSO.

Motion passed with 5:1 vote at 8:57 p.m. with Erin Carrington abstaining.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Richard Atwill", is written over a horizontal line.

Richard Atwill
Ex-officio Financial Secretary