

**Minutes of Regular Meeting of the El Dorado School Board
February 5, 2018**

The directors of the board met on the above date at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room, School Administration Building, 200 West Oak Street, with Susan Turbeville presiding. Other directors present were Wayne Gibson, Keith Smith, Todd Whatley and Shaneil Yarbrough. Directors Vicky Dobson and Renee Skinner were absent. Also attending was Supt. Jim Tucker, Rhonda Simmons, Melissa Powell, Bonnie Haynie, Katie Sandifer, Shelley Pruitt, and Lou Ann Voris.

Mrs. Turbeville asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the meetings held January 8 and 25. On a motion by Wayne Gibson, seconded by Todd Whatley, and carried on a 5-0 vote the minutes were approved at 6:01 p.m.

The board reviewed the monthly bills. After some discussion and on a motion by Shaneil Yarbrough, seconded by Todd Whatley, and carried on a 5-0 vote, the bills were approved for payment at 6:02 p.m. A list of bills paid and monthly financial statement are on file in the business office.

Mrs. Pruitt visited with the board about the required proposed budget of expenditures for 2019 – 2020. She said the board approved the 2018 – 2019 proposed budget in the fall and because the school election date has changed to May, she needs to add the following year's projected proposal in for their consideration. After a time of discussion and on a motion by Wayne Gibson, seconded by Keith Smith and carried on a 5-0 vote at 6:03 p.m., it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the 2019 – 2020 proposed budget of expenditures as presented.

Mrs. Turbeville introduced Jarett Baker, Student of the Month from Northwest Elementary School. She stated that Jarett is the son of Jason and Julie Baker and in the fourth grade in Mrs. Nancy Bailey's classroom. Mrs. Bailey and other teachers said that Jarett is a phenomenal student. He is the type of student that teachers pray to have in their classroom. He always tries to do his best, is helpful to other students, and loves learning. Jarett is friendly to everyone and knows when it is appropriate to talk to his friends. His sweet smiling face is a joy to see every day.

Mrs. Sherry Floss stated she loves his kind heart, his wonderful manners, and his drive to achieve. Northwest Environmental Studies Academy is proud to be represented by Jarett Baker as Student of the Month. 6:06 p.m.

Teacher of the Month from Northwest Elementary School is Kristen Boothe. Mrs. Turbeville said that Mrs. Boothe received her Bachelor of Science degree in early childhood education from the University of Central Arkansas. She began her career in our district in 2008 and teaches kindergarten at Northwest.

Co-workers nominating her and her principal, Mrs. Sherry Floss said that Kristen Boothe is an amazing teacher who creates a special relationship with every student she teaches. This is why her students love to come to school. They feel welcomed and safe in her classroom. She is described as tenderhearted, funny and staff said they are so thankful to have her as part of the Northwest family. A parent told Mrs. Floss that the love Mrs. Boothe has for her students radiates from within. Another parent said she is amazed at her control of her class, how she teaches them to care and love one another, and it just seems like her class is like a little family.

Mrs. Floss added that Mrs. Boothe always goes above and beyond and jumps in to help when she sees the need. Northwest Environmental Studies Academy is proud to be represented by Kristen Boothe as the district's Teacher of the Month. 6:08 p.m.

Shelby Mills, treasurer for the El Dorado High School Student Council, updated the board on activities at the school. She said on Saturday they held the MISStEr EHS pageant and made \$3,600, the most money they have made in all the years they've had the pageant. From those proceeds, the council donated \$2,500 to the Arkansas Children's

Hospital. She added the Sweetheart Dance this past Friday was a success. Wayne Gibson said that Shelby is a junior and asked if she has decided on the college she will attend following graduation. She stated she is still undecided. He asked if there is anything she would change about the high school? She said only one thing comes to mind and that is the required summer reading program. She would like that to be the student's choice rather than having to use the required reading list. After some discussion, the board thanked Shelby for her report. 6:10 p.m.

Sherry Floss gave a principal's report from Northwest Elementary School. Mrs. Floss said the theme for this school year is All Seasons Rooted in the Promise. Upon entering the school, a family tree is displayed that includes all the teacher's names. Starting this year, all students at Northwest begin their day by eating breakfast in the classroom. From 8:15 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. students participate in Roadrunner Power Hour, with half of the time being dedicated to math and the other half to reading. She stated the staff uses that time as intervention and acceleration and it has been amazingly helpful.

Kindergarten teachers provide alternate seating for their students. There are different types of chairs that the students rotate in, including seats designed like accordions, big yoga style balls and other forms of seating. Research shows that this helps with better attention, focus, and less restlessness because the students are able to move without being up and around the room which increases participation and engagement. On the side of physical activity, it improves their posture and their muscle tone. Mrs. Floss said it is amazing the difference when you go into a room where they are using that concept.

During the week of Thanksgiving, Northwest had a Family Tree Day. Parents were served a meal with their child and were able to walk down the halls and see the different projects their children had been working on. The school also hosted an escape night call Escape Northwest, a fundraiser for Sea Camp. The families had to work together to figure out the escape boxes which were customized by the teachers with things that they teach, including math or reading. Mrs. Floss said the breakout boxes were purchased with Title I money and it proved to be a good thing for their mind – they had to think outside the box.

Once a month the students participate in Roadrunner Clubs, which include the clubs in gardening, reading and science. Different community groups have donated their time to attend and teach during the club meetings, which include: Bravo Martial Arts Center staff, CrossFit coaches and Master Gardeners. The school recently celebrated the 100th day of school with each grade participating in a different activity. One exciting event was Coach Bass took on the role of Zero the Hero. He dressed up as a caped crusader and visited the students on every “zero day” of school. On the 100th day, he recited a poem, “I’m Zero the Hero here on another tenth day. This is the big one so let me hear you count in a super fun way,” and then the students counted from 10 to 100. Each zero day had a different poem, activity and snack shaped like a zero with time spent with Zero the Hero. His last zero day was day 100 and the students and teachers were actually sad to see him end his time but will look at a zero and math in a different light.

Mrs. Floss said the Daily Five is a reading program that goes with guided reading, but the students rotate through five different stations. The first is read to self, second is read to someone and the third is word work, where they use a keyboard to type out words. The fourth station is for writing words and the students use an Etch-A-Sketch to spell words out. The last is where students listen to a book being read to them, usually using a tape. Mrs. Floss added other upcoming Northwest activities and events this spring: February 8 - Kindergarten Open House; February 14 - For the Love of Math; February 27 - Northwest Talent Show; April 2 - Camp In; April 23 - Recycling Fair; May 3 - Northwest's Spring Musical and May 1 – 4 - Sea Camp. 6:28 p.m.

Rhonda Simmons presented the E-rate bid for technology wiring at Hugh Goodwin Elementary School. She explained that last summer Murril Educational Center and Northwest Elementary received new wiring. E-rate pays 80% of the district's allotted amount and the district pays the difference, plus the other 20%. Both E-rate and the school district will pay about \$56,000 each for the wiring. Mrs. Simmons noted the wiring will take place this summer. After a time of discussion and on a motion by Wayne Gibson, seconded by Shaneil Yarbrough at 6:29 p.m., it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the E-rate bid as presented for wiring at Hugh Goodwin Elementary School.

Chair of the Personnel Policies Committee and District Calendar Committee, Chelsey Turner presented the proposed 2018 – 2019 District Calendar to the board. She said the committee started working with three calendars, narrowed it to two, and then the committee presented the two calendars to the district's licensed staff for approval. Mrs. Turner told the board that 87% of the staff approved Calendar 1 and asked the board's consideration of that calendar. Mr. Tucker explained the board can wait until the March board meeting to vote or may choose to vote this evening. After a time of discussion and on a motion by Todd Whatley, seconded by Keith Smith and carried on a 5-0 vote at 6:31, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the 2018 – 2019 District Calendar as presented and recommended by the superintendent.

Mr. Tucker visited with the board about his recommendation for the make-up time for the two January snow days. Because the roads in the district were icy and not safe for travel, classes were not in session on January 16 – 17. Mr. Tucker said he would like to recommend the first day made up to be February 19, which was originally scheduled as a parent-teacher conference day. Students will go to school from 8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. with the parent-teacher conferences following from 3:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. To make up for the second day, Mr. Tucker recommended extending six school days by 30 minutes, dismissing students at 3:45 p.m. By doing so, the students and staff can make up another day, Mr. Tucker said. The recommended extended dates are March 5 – 8 and March 12-13. After some discussion and on a motion by Todd Whatley, seconded by Wayne Gibson and carried on a 5-0 vote at 6:34 p.m., it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the superintendent's recommendation regarding make-up days as presented for the January 16 – 17, 2018 snow days.

The board approved the parent's request for one student to transfer to Parkers Chapel School District. 6:35 p.m.

The meeting adjourned to an executive session to discuss personnel matters, then reconvened to an open meeting. On a motion by Wayne Gibson, seconded by Keith Smith, and carried on a 5-0 vote at 7:11 p.m., it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the superintendent's recommendations concerning the acceptance of resignations, the termination of two employees, the employment of new personnel and the re-employment of the administrative staff and the literacy, math and science chairs.

On a motion by Wayne Gibson, seconded by Keith Smith and carried on a 5-0 vote at 7:45 p.m., it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the contract of Superintendent Jim Tucker for 3 years effective January 2018 at a salary of \$160,500.00. The salary amount includes a travel allotment.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

