

**Minutes of Regular Meeting of the El Dorado School Board
March 12, 2018**

The directors of the board met on the above date at 6:02 p.m. in the Board Room, School Administration Building, 200 West Oak Street, with Susan Turbeville presiding. Other directors present were Vicky Dobson, Wayne Gibson, Renee Skinner, and Shaneil Yarbrough. Directors Keith Smith and Todd Whatley were absent. Also attending was Supt. Jim Tucker, Melissa Powell, Katie Sandifer, Bonnie Haynie, Shelley Pruitt, and Lou Ann Voris.

Mrs. Turbeville asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the meeting held February 5. On a motion by Vicky Dobson, seconded by Wayne Gibson and carried on a 5-0 vote, the minutes were approved at 6:03 p.m.

The board reviewed the monthly bills. After some discussion and on a motion by Wayne Gibson, seconded by Vicky Dobson, and carried on a 5-0 vote, the bills were approved for payment at 6:04 p.m. A list of bills paid and monthly financial statement are on file in the business office.

Student of the Month from Hugh Goodwin Elementary School is Maryana Woolen. Mrs. Turbeville said Maryana is a fourth grader and the daughter of Joel and Marietta Woollen. Mrs. Swint, her math teacher stated that Maryana is a great student that is very neat and precise in all of her work. She always, always tries her very best on any assignment or task that she is working on.

Maryana is willing to go out of her way to help her classmates in any way that she possibly can. Mrs. Riggs, Hugh Goodwin's Math Coach said that Maryana is sweet and kind to everyone. She is one that thinks of others feelings. She is a hard worker, a responsible student, completes assignments and never complains. Maryana is truly a Great Gator Leader! Staff and students are proud that Maryana was chosen Student of the Month. Mrs. Turbeville presented her with a certificate from the board. 6:07 p.m.

Classified Employee of the Month from Allied Health Services is Regina Moore. Mrs. Turbeville said that Mrs. Moore received her Bachelor of Arts degree in social work from Grambling State University and has worked in the district for twelve years. Mr. Jay Vines and fellow co-workers nominating her said Regina Moore is such a pleasant person and always has a smile for you. She is caring and has a good relationship with the students.

Another co-worker said Mrs. Moore is patient and works well with staff and parents. She is one that has a good work ethic and always dependable. One co-worker said no matter how busy she is Mrs. Moore has a way of making your need her top priority. We are proud that Regina Moore was chosen Classified Employee of the Month, she is so deserving of this honor. Mrs. Turbeville presented her with a certificate from the board. 6:08 p.m.

Mrs. Turbeville stated that Teacher of the Month from Hugh Goodwin Elementary School is Missy Inman. Mrs. Inman received her Bachelor of Science in Education degree from Henderson State University with certification in elementary and secondary physical education, elementary grades 1-6 and she has twenty-four additional graduate hours. She has a total of thirty-one years of teaching experience, with twenty-nine of those in our district. She taught physical education at Southside, Murnil and Retta Brown but for the past twenty-seven years she has taught first grade at Hugh Goodwin.

Those nominating her and her principal, Connie Reed stated that Missy Inman's classroom is a welcoming place where students are eager to get in the door every morning. She makes her students aware of the world around them through extensive classroom activities. The quality of her teaching is exemplified by the success of her students. Her reputation shows that she teaches the "Whole" child and feels a deep responsibility to help each student succeed.

Bailey Morgan from Mrs. Inman's class said, "Mrs. Inman is a great teacher because she does math with me and helps me with some hard things like money. If we are the line leader for the day, we also get to sit in the bathtub all day."

Zharria Amerison said, "Mrs. Inman is a great teacher because she lets us do fun games and we get to have extra recess on Fridays, if we are good." Zharria loves the three privileges Mrs. Inman gives if her students are good or have a 90% or 100% in citizenship each week. The students either get: Show and Tell, Shoe Free Off Day, or Stuffed Animal Day on Fridays!

Mrs. Inman models leadership skills to her students by being an outstanding leader and Hugh Goodwin staff and students are proud that Missy Inman was chosen Teacher of the Month. Mrs. Turbeville presented her with a certificate from the board. 6:10 p.m.

Connie Reed presented a principal's report from Hugh Goodwin Elementary. She noted the school year theme at Hugh Goodwin is science related. On the first day of school Carolyn Smith, science chair, dressed up as Albert Einstein and welcomed the student with different experiments. Mrs. Reed said with the science theme, it has given them a good opportunity to bring in coding, which the students love to do at Hugh Goodwin. The third grade has a coding club and the teachers try to incorporate coding into their classes as much as possible. The school's third grade math and science teacher, Tobie Sprawls has received almost \$15,000 in writing grants for coding this year, Mrs. Reed added.

Hugh Goodwin participated in the district-wide Lemonade War project. Every month, students have a writing project to turn their writing from sour to sweet. She noted that writing can be difficult for students and they are working to make it fun. The school has a television station set up and instead of "The View" they call it "The Hugh." Each month the student read their lemon writing stories on television for the whole school. Since the main focus is on writing this year, they have reached out to Washington Middle School's literacy teacher, Suzette Calloway for help to improve students writing skills. Third and fourth grade students took a day to visit the TAC House and work with Mrs. Calloway and learn more about writing skills. Mrs. Reed said it helped her teacher see how Mrs. Calloway approached writing with her middle school students.

Hugh Goodwin recently purchased a writing program called Write to Learn. The program is for fourth grade and up. Each child has their own log-in password, the teacher assigns an essay and the students type their story on this program. The teacher can determine how many drafts the students can have. Once a student is finished with their first draft, they hit "grade" and the program grades their essay. It shows spelling errors, grammar errors and provides suggestions for the stories. The program grades the papers from one to four, with four being the best. After the first draft, the child can make all of the changes the program suggests and hits "grade" again to get more feedback. This happens until the student runs out of drafts or receives a four on their paper. Mrs. Reed said they are hoping for their students to see what a good piece of writing is, that they are a part of it, and that staff can eventually get them to what the expectations are.

Around Thanksgiving, the school purchased books for students who attended a literacy night. Students from Barton Jr. High attended the event and acted the book out for the elementary students. The school also has a Veteran's Day Parade for the community each year. The second grade students had the opportunity to perform the Nutcracker play. Hugh Goodwin participated in the 100th day of school and had a black light party for the fourth-graders who mastered their multiplication tables. Several classes attended the Henderson State University Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Center. The school has had speakers talk about science, including a woman traveling across Arkansas showcasing a presentation called energy Rocks. She spoke to the students about different types of energy and the study of rocks. Hugh Goodwin student held their annual history parade at the high school and the fourth-grade students will attend Seal World this spring. She noted it has been a successful year at Hugh Goodwin. 6:34 p.m.

Students and staff from Washington Middle School made a report to the board of their recent Future City competition in Arlington, Texas. They explained that Future City is a project-based learning program where fifth-grade through eighth-graders imagine, research, design and build cities of the future. This year's theme was to build a city accessible for all ages. It was also the first year that fifth-grade students were allowed to participate in the competition. The Washington Middle School fifth-graders brought home first place.

A Washington sixth-grade team placed first in best overall essay. Mrs. Chelsey Turner said the judges were impressed with the depth of knowledge the students had. The student's academic vocabulary the judges said were off the charts and they were blown away with the amount of research the district's students put into the competition, Mrs. Turner added.

Washington Middle School's cinematography class, taught by Michael Herren, placed first in the Arkansas Digital Learning Day 2018 Video Contest competition. Mr. Herren said employees from the Arkansas Department of Education visited the middle school to present the award for the students. The theme for Arkansas was visual counting creation – students teaching students. In this competition, Washington students chose the division using the chunking method as their video topic, which Mr. Herren said they came up with all on their own. Superintendent Tucker discussed the State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education's recent visit to El Dorado. He said they wanted to come to El Dorado and see what Washington and El Dorado High School were doing and they were "blown away." He noted, "The Commissioner of Education was impressed. As of right now, we're the only school in this part of the state that they have come to visit." 6:55 p.m.

Mrs. Turbeville introduced Kate Vernon, a senior representative and four year member of the E.H.S. Student Council. Kate reported the success of the recent Doggy Dash fundraiser. She said the Doggy Dash was a 5K run/walk that was sponsored by the Save the Animals Club, a new club at E.H.S. this year. Participants had the opportunity to run or walk with their own dog or a dog from UCAPS. The event raised over \$2,000 for UCAPS. Kate said baseball, softball, track and fine arts events are currently underway. Kate reported on what is going on with the Beta Club and Thespian troupe. The E.H.S. theater department is gearing up for their spring musical, "High School Musical," which will be performed in April.

She said several Arkansas Department of Education leaders and State School Board members recently visited the high school. Students and staff enjoyed showing them what is happening at E.H.S., said it was an honor to have them and appreciated their interest and visit. Kate added that Prom will be held April 7 and activities are underway to make that a success. Mr. Gibson asked where she plans to attend college and any thoughts on her major. She said her plans are to attend Ouachita Baptist University and major in speech pathology. The board thanked her for the report. 6:58 p.m.

Mrs. Turbeville introduced Vicki Harmon. Mrs. Harmon stated she is the mentoring coordinator for Adopt-a-School initiative through Wyatt Baptist Church. The program is part of the SHARE Foundation's initiative to reduce community violence. Mrs. Harmon said the foundation approached her church four years ago with the needed mentoring program, Adopt-a-School initiative. She said Wyatt was granted money by the SHARE Foundation and was and still is looking to other churches to join the mentoring program in El Dorado and Union County.

The program was started at Yocum Elementary three years ago. Currently the initiative has 25 mentors with 35 children in the district. "In a district of 4,000 students, that is not enough," Mrs. Harmon said. The mentors work with their student or students one hour a week and commit to one year but ideally hope they can fulfill three years. However they can follow a child through to graduation. She added that in the past three years the children involved have seen improved grades, behavior and even attendance. The mentors have seen nine students receive Murphy award money for their grades and attendance. They work with them to set goals. She said they don't want them to have Murphy money they cannot use. The Wyatt mentors have several functions for the

students and their families such as a Thanksgiving meal. They also provide leadership and attend the students ballgames and plays. “We want all of these children to reach full potential.”

There will be a special one-day training program on April 6 at the TAC House. The training will be a six-hour workshop that will offer pastors and church leaders the building blocks for starting or enhancing the delivery of social services to youth and their families. Mrs. Harmon said she believes there will be 25 to 30 other churches from El Dorado attending the training. There are already five churches that said they have decided they are going to take on one or more schools, before even attending the training. She said this is just an outstanding program that you can use to reach students that might not have someone that can reach them consistently for the long-term. Mr. Tucker added, “It’s a game changer.”

In addition to attending the six-hour training session, there will be background checks done on potential mentors. “There’s a lot that goes into it and it’s very detailed,” said Mrs. Harmon. “We don’t want to just send anyone. We have the children’s best interest at heart and try to protect them and protect the church.” Mr. Tucker added the educational and behavioral benefits seen by the staff and mentors as they work with students has been phenomenal and thanked Mrs. Harmon, her church and the other churches for their service. 7:15 p.m.

Mr. Tucker stated the following bids were received on paper for the district. The bid specifications were for 1,680 cases of 8 ½” x 11” copy paper. He said of the bid requests sent to eight companies, the following two were received.

<u>Company</u>	<u>Case</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Premier Paper and Packing, Columbia, MO Non-USA Mill – 92 Bright	\$22.03	\$37,010.40
Contract Paper Group, Uniontown, OH USA Mill – 92 Bright	\$23.12	\$38,841.60

Mr. Tucker recommended Contract Paper Group and noted that he wished to recommend a company that can guarantee the paper is manufactured in a U.S.A. mill. After a time of discussion and on a motion by Vicky Dobson, seconded by Shaneil Yarbrough at 7:16 p.m., it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the bid of \$38,841.60 from Contract Paper Group for the districts copy paper.

The board approved the request for two students to transfer to the Parkers Chapel School district.

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 Renee Skinner, and carried on a 5-0 vote at 8:45 p.m., it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the superintendent’s recommendations concerning the acceptance of resignations, the employment of new personnel and re-employment of licensed personnel.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.