

**Minutes of Regular Meeting of the El Dorado School Board  
May 15, 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 Renee Skinner, Vicky Dobson, Wayne Gibson, Keith Smith, Todd Whatley and Shaneil Yarbrough. 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 April 9, 19, 26 and May 8. On a motion by Todd Whatley, seconded by Vicky Dobson, and carried on a 7-0 vote at 6:00 p.m., the minutes were approved.

The board reviewed the monthly bills with Shelley Pruitt. After a time of discussion and on a motion by Wayne Gibson, seconded by Todd Whatley and carried on a 7-0 vote the bills were approved for payment. A list of bills paid and monthly financial statement are on file in the business office. 6:01 p.m.

Mrs. Pruitt visited with the board about the resolution authorizing the new purchasing card agreement. Mrs. Pruitt explained she would like the board's consideration to transition from using American Express purchasing cards to VISA purchasing cards offered by Simmons Bank. The reason for the change is VISA cards are more widely accepted and she added that customer service is expected to be better by using our local bank. After some discussion and on a motion by Wayne Gibson, seconded by Vicky Dobson and carried on a 7-0 vote at 6:02 p.m., it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the resolution authorizing the new VISA purchasing card agreement through Simmons Bank.

Mr. Tucker visited with the board about their consideration of a bonus payment to district staff. He proposed the licensed staff to receive \$600.00 and classified staff to receive 1.7% up to \$600.00. After a time of discussion and on a motion by Renee Skinner, seconded by Shaneil Yarbrough, and carried on a 7-0 vote at 6:04 p.m., it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the licensed staff to receive a one-time non-recurring payment of \$600.00 for licensed staff and 1.7% up to \$600.00 for classified staff.

Wayne Gibson said that Student of the Month from El Dorado High School is Breanna Kilgore. Breanna is the daughter of Anita Kilgore and a junior at E.H.S. She is well known by her teachers and peers as someone who always strives to do her best and stresses non-stop about meeting that goal. She is definitely a perfectionist. Breanna has a 4.3 grade point average and takes many Advanced Placement courses. She is visiting the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville for the second time this summer to confirm her college choice and plans to major in biomedical engineering.

When asked who her favorite teacher is, she said Mrs. Rankin, Mrs. Forbess, Mrs. Greer and Miss McKibben. In other words, Breanna loves all her teachers and loves learning. In addition to school, Breanna has other interests. She is a member of PRIDE, Thespians, Arkansas Student Leadership Initiative,, and is on the leadership board for Upward Bound. She had a part in *High School Musical* this semester and plays the piano. Brianna is a member of and works with the youth of Zion Watch Baptist Church.

Miss McKibben, Breanna's English teacher said, "My goodness, she seems to do everything and does everything well, including being kind and generous all the while! One of my first impressions of her from our first month of school came after she received a good grade on an assignment. She approached me and said, "I know I can do better. What should I do next?" That speaks volumes about Breanna. Since then, she's become a student I can depend on as a leader in class and in clubs. She truly exemplifies servant leadership!"

El Dorado High School is so proud of Breanna and cannot wait to see what all she does her senior year! Thanks Breanna for being an outstanding person and our Student of the Month! Mr. Gibson presented her with a certificate from the board. 6:07 p.m.

Teacher of the Month from Murnil Educational Center is Derrill Smith. Mr. Gibson said that Derrill Smith received his Bachelor of Science in Education from Southern Arkansas University and is teaching science in grades 7 – 12 at Murnil.

Heartfelt statements from fellow co-workers follow: Mike LaRue said: I have known Mr. Derrill Smith for a long time. He was my boss for several years while I coached at Barton Jr. High School. He is very fair, loves the kids and he works well with others at school. Mr. Smith has a concern for the well-being of students, he's a Christian and his values are reflected on how he teaches. He is deserving of recognition because he knows how valuable a good education is for our students. After he retires the district will lose a very, very valuable asset to our students. David Voss stated: Mr. Smith (I call him Coach, that's how long I've known him) has been a great fit here in Murnil. He is a model of what consistency and kind-yet-firm looks like. I am glad he's my friend and it's been a pleasure to work with him. Another co-worker said: I first met Coach Derrill Smith in August 1982. He was my coach at El Dorado High School. We called him Papa Smurf. In later years, he became my boss when he twisted my arm into coaching the E.H.S. swim team. My daughter was in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade and they needed a coach. He then became the assistant principal and both of my children had the pleasure of getting to know him. I have had the honor to teach with him at Murnil the last two years. I was truly surprised when I learned he was coming to our school to teach science. He has been a blessing to the students and staff. Coach Smith is a great teacher and he has high expectations of his students and encourages them to always work at their best level. He is passionate about teaching and working with children. He develops a strong rapport with them and establishes trusting relationships. Congratulations Coach!

Justin Wylie added: Mr. Smith is a joy to work with. Every day you know that he is going to be here with a great friendly attitude and the students know it as well. He is an extremely hard worker, very dependable, and great with the students and staff. There are many words you can use to describe Derrill Smith. Some of the first that come to mind are supportive, dedicated, professional, and knowledgeable. It has been an honor to work in the same building and learn from his experiences. He takes pride in doing the best job he can for his students and makes sure he does everything in his power to help them succeed long after they are done with school. He has made this school a more enjoyable place to work and he will be greatly missed by everyone here. Jerry Langston said: Mr. Smith is a teacher who is dedicated to the El Dorado School District and its students. He arrives early to prepare for each day and stays late to help with bus duty. You do not have to ask him because as a former administrator he knows what is needed and steps up and gets it done! He is also a 2018 El Dorado Education Foundation's Teacher Excellence Finalist. It has been a pleasure working with Mr. Smith and we at Murnil Educational Center will truly miss him but a big congratulations on being chosen Teacher of the Month! Mr. Gibson presented Mr. Smith with a certificate from the board. 6:13 p.m.

Mr. Gibson said Teacher of the Month from El Dorado High School is Pate Bauldree. Mr. Bauldree received his Bachelor of Science degree in math from Southern Arkansas University and his Master's degree in Divinity from BMS Theological Seminary. He has 2 ½ years of experience at E.H.S., teaches algebra I and algebra II. He was nominated for this honor by fellow teacher, Carol Hokansen.

Mrs. Reibe said Mr. Bauldree is a well-loved teacher by both students and teachers. His consistently pleasant personality endears him to all. Not only is Mr. Bauldree a teacher here, but he graduated from E.H.S. in 2005. Mrs. Delores Smith, the attendance secretary was thrilled to hear he was coming back to the high school because he was so efficient, even as a student. Mr. Bauldree has been married to his wife Sarah for eight years, he likes to hunt, participate in triathlons (because he likes to eat) and go to the movies. He is a member of Westside Baptist Church. In addition to teaching, he sponsors the Key Club, who along with the Student Council donated \$2,500 to Arkansas Children's Hospital this year! E.H.S. students and staff are thrilled that Mr. Bauldree was chosen

Teacher of the Month. Mr. Gibson presented him with a certificate from the board. 6:15 p.m.

Mrs. Turbeville recognized David Lee from the Boys and Girls Club. Mr. Lee brought several students from the after school program with him and said they have appreciation gifts for each board member. He said the club is thankful to the district for transporting students to participate in their after school program. Mrs. Turbeville and the other board members thanked him and the students for the gifts. 6:16 p.m.

Sherry Hill addressed the board stating that Barton Jr. High School students received many honors and recognitions that she wanted to bring before the board. She introduced her student, Macy Eades. Macy was the state winner in the Next Gen Personal Finance Inauguration Payback Challenge. The competition required her to play a personal finance game and write an essay about talking to your parents about paying for college. As the state winner, she won a \$500.00 scholarship.

Mrs. Hill introduced the state winner of the Youth Art Month Competition, Aubrey Marx. Aubrey designed a flag that was selected as the Arkansas state winning design. Her flag will be made and displayed at the national Art Education Association's annual conference and she received a \$1,000.00 award. Next, Barton had a student place second in the National History Day competition on the state level. Andrew Lowrey's project was on the Cuban Missile Crisis. He had to research a topic, write a paper, create a display board and present it to the judges who then questioned him on his topic. He will go on to compete at the National History Day competition in Maryland.

Barton Jr. High School had a state winner and two place finishers in the You Be the Chemist Challenge. Kieran Obiozo won the competition and place finishers were Hailey Talley and Rhea Neugebauer. Kieran and a parent won an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. where he will compete in the June 18<sup>th</sup> National You Be the Chemist Challenge. The board thanked Mrs. Hill for supporting these programs and complimented the students on their success. 6:25 p.m.

El Dorado High School Student Council officers for the 2018 – 2019 school year were introduced to the board: President – Shelby Mills; Vice President – Calvin Walker; Reporter/Sergeant at Arms – Ben Parker; Secretary – Ethan Hammons and Treasurer – Emme Landes. 6:26 p.m.

Alva Reibe presented the Prudential Spirit of Community bronze medal to El Dorado High School student, Emme Landes. Emme's art through her Heartworks program has raised over \$5,000.00 for local non-profit organizations and community members struggling with illnesses. 6:50 p.m.

E.H.S. teachers Caitlin Noble and Stephanie Fussell reported on a recent student trip to visit colleges in the Boston, Massachusetts area. These teachers spent Spring Break in the Boston area with thirteen E.H.S. juniors and seniors. They visited prestigious colleges such as Harvard, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Boston College to give the students a glimpse into college life in a large city. One of the students had been accepted to Boston and was able to attend a special event for admitted students. Carly Sivils said the trip helped her decide whether or not to attend the school and junior Ethan Hammons was able to tour his dream school, M.I.T. All of the students found the trip to be enlightening in helping them decide which colleges to pursue for their higher education.

Special Education Director, Shawn Lamkin explained the state requires special education directors to report to the school board by June on the Title VII-B preliminary budget for 2018 – 2019, special education assurances and agreements, and certification requiring lobbying. She covered all areas of salaries and benefits, contract services, and other expenses with the board. A copy of the Title VIB budget will be attached to the minutes on file in the administration office. She acknowledged that all presented documents before the board show determination that all funds for special education are used in accordance with laws, such as data is reported in a timely manner, transition services are provided for students, an extended school year is offered employees are highly certified

and regarding certification for lobbying - no federal funds are used. After some discussion and on a motion by Vicky Dobson, seconded by Todd Whatley and carried on a 7 – 0 vote at 6:56 p.m., it was

RESOLVED, that the board hereby approves, as presented, the Special Education Title VI-B, Assurances and Agreements for School Age Services, and Certification regarding Lobbying.

Beth Sullivan reported on the recent Arkansas Department of Education's visit to the Gifted and Talented Center at Retta Brown. She said the local G.T. program received high praise from the group. The program allows G.T. students to receive double the G.T. enrichment that is required and the group was also impressed with how the district works to ensure that all students K-12 receive their enrichment services. Mrs. Sullivan added a G.T. Student Showcase will be held Thursday, May 17 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. in the El Dorado Education Complex. This Showcase will be a come and go event where the work of students in grades 2 – 6 will be on display. 7:00 p.m.

The board approved the transfer request for three students to the Parkers Chapel School District and four students from the Strong-Huttig School District to El Dorado.

Mrs. Turbeville said South Central Service Cooperative needs approval each year of a district representative to their board of directors. On a motion by Wayne Gibson, seconded by Keith Smith and carried on a 7-0 vote at 7:04 p.m., it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves Supt. Jim Tucker as the district's representative to the South Central Service Cooperative's board of directors.

Mrs. Turbeville informed the board that Teacher Excellence Awards will be Friday, May 25 at 3:00 p.m. in the E.H.S. Fine Arts Auditorium. She added that New Board Member Institute will be Thursday, June 21, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Hotel Hot Springs, Hot Springs, AR. Mrs. Turbeville noted board members will receive six continuing education hours for attendance. 7:04 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 Todd Whatley, and carried on a 7-0 vote at 7:55 p.m., it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the superintendent's recommendations concerning the acceptance of resignations and the employment of new personnel.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.