

MINUTES BOARD MEETING

May 8th, 2023

REGULAR MEETING

At 6:00 p.m. Mr. Hartsfield convened the regular meeting of the district Board of Education. Board members present were, Ms. White, Ms. Compton, Ms. Whitaker, Mr. Milner, Mr. Moore and Mr. Frazier. School administrative personnel present were Mr. Cooper, Ms. Neely, Mr. Hayden, Mr. Webb, Ms. McNeal, Ms. Howington, and Ms. Waddell. The PB Commercial was in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS

Minutes. The minutes of the last meeting were unanimously approved 7-0 on a motion by Mr. Milner and a second by Ms. Whitaker.

Financial Statement. The financial statement for the month of March was presented, reporting \$1,242,043.36 in revenue and expenditures of \$1,367,911.53 in the non-activity funds, leaving an ending balance of \$10,431,090.62. Mr. Wilson reviewed totals and balances. On a motion by Ms. Whitaker and a second by Mr. Moore the board voted 7-0 to approve the financial report for the month of March.

NEW BUSINESS

Wildcat Warrior. Ms. Spain recognized Giselle Arreola and April Hernandez for academic excellence as the Valedictorian and Salutatorian for the 2022-2023 graduating class.

Recognize. Ms. Spain recognized the following employees of the month: Tanesha Curl, Anna Miller, Jimmie Jones, Lori Jones, Leslie Medlock, Stephanie Hayslip, and Clydine Davis who were caught implementing the Professional Learning Community process.

Ready for Learning Committee. Ms. Spain gave a brief update on the status of completion of Science of Reading in the WCSD and will continue support in May-June 1, 2023. Teachers and Administrators who are incomplete will not automatically have his/her license renewed by DESE in 2023-2024. Literacy and Mathematics Interventions: 100% of students are offered interventions for Literacy and Math every day for no less than 30 minutes. Ms. Spain discussed STAR assessments for grades K-2.

Statement of Intent. On a motion by Ms. Compton and a second by Mr. Milner the board voted 7-0 to adopt the Special Education Assurances and Agreements for the 2023-2024 school year.

Jenkins. On a motion by Mr. Milner and a second by Ms. Whitaker the board voted 7-0 to approve the contract from Jenkins Memorial Center to supply the special needs services for the 2023-2024 school year.

Act 802. On a motion by Mr. Moore and a second by Ms. Whitaker the board voted 7-0 to approve the resolution to appoint Mr. Wilson as a board member at the coop.

Policy. As advised by the school attorney, Cody Kees, the board adopted ASBA Model policies during the regular April board meeting. The second step is to update the policies with the new laws from the LEARNS Act 237 and new legislation. PPC and the board is reviewing the policies and they will be presented at the June board meeting for adoption effective July 1, 2023 for the 2023-2024 school year

School Choice. It was reported that WCSD have 38 incoming school choice applications and 97 outgoing school choice applications leaving a 59 student difference.

Legislative Acts. Mr. Wilson discussed new legislative acts that are board related.

Funding. Mr. Wilson met with facilities and transportation board in Little Rock and they approved an additional \$89.00 per square foot. Our number changed on State Partnership funding. The funding available for the new high school include: State Partnership funding - \$21,000,000.00 Local Millage funding - \$8,000,000.00 2nd Lien Bond - \$4,000,000.00 District Building fund - \$6,000,000.00 which total \$39,000,000.00 The approximate cost of project is \$39,000,000.00 with Safe Room and PE Gym. On a motion by Ms. Whitaker and a second by Mr. Milner the board voted 7-0 to approved the projected funding for the WCHS project.

Reconfiguration. The district will have grade reconfigurations to accommodate the transition while the new high school is under construction. Pre K – 1st grade will be housed at Edgewood, Grades 2nd-5th will be housed at Coleman, Grades 6th-8th will be housed at L.L. Owen and Grades 9th-12th will be housed at the existing high school. Interventionists will possibly be hired at each campus. Principals are working on where staff will be located. Ms. White questioned the kids crossing the street and was told security will walk the kids. Ms. White also asked if the nurse who is located at the 5th grade building would have enough time to get to an emergency. Mr. Wilson responded the requirement is to have 1 nurse per 750 students. Ms. Compton had concerns on the bathrooms and enough stalls and urinals for the students. Mr. Hayden responded that 4th grade building will house 2nd grade, 5th grade building will house 3rd & 4th grades, and 6th grade building will house 5th grade. The new high school should be opened by 2025. Mr. Hayden stated that they are moving out of WCJH and hiring student workers to help. On a motion by Mr. Milner and a second by Mr. Moore the board voted 7-0 to approve the final reconfiguration of grades.

PPC REPORT & CPPC

PPC. Ms. Hemphill sent the new policies to all staff and asked them to make sure all mistakes are corrected.

CPPC. Salary Schedule. Mr. White will present new salary schedule after votes are collected. He addressed positions and job titles and wants to build relationships between board & staff. They looked at the website and tried to determine why employees are paid the amount they are paid. They want the schedule to have a 3% increase in a range of 5 increments. Mr. Wilson wants a guarantee of increments. 50% remain within 5 years. Everyone hit range. It is not about more money for classified, but a pathway to increase salary over time. Amy Bunting stated the schedule would include the CPI + 3% raise. Mr. Wilson stated the CPI is around 7% or 7.2%. The final numbers are not in so we don't know what it will be. Ms. Compton – wanted a list of the classified and 3 that were out of their range. She could not tell why this person was making \$10,000.00 more than another.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Graduation. WCHS graduation will be on May 9th at 7:00 pm. Kindergarten graduation will be on May 18th at 6:00 pm.

PERSONNEL

Mr. Wilson received a letter of retirement from Barbara Hawkins. He received resignations from Selena Branch, LaShona Crater, Jadaci Henderson, Tristen Imler, Gloria Martin-Berry, and Crystal McKinley. On a motion by Ms. Compton and a second by Mr. Moore, the board voted 7-0 to approve the retirement and resignations.

Mr. Wilson recommended the board hire Chamire Campbell as a secretary (starting immediately) and LaKiska Reeves as a nurse for the 2023-2024 school year. On a motion by Mr. Moore and a second by Mr. Milner, the board voted 7-0 to hire Chamire Campbell (starting immediately) as a secretary and LaKiska Reeves as a nurse for the 2023-2024 school year.

ADJOURNMENT.

Respectfully submitted by, Mr. Wilson and Ms. Spain.

Alan Frazier,
Board Secretary