

The Fordyce School Board met in regular session on Monday, December 13, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in the Boardroom at Fordyce Middle School. The meeting was called to order by Jessica Young at 5:01 p.m.

Word of prayer was given by Nick Cranford.

Those answering roll call were Susan Ridings, Nick Cranford, Deborah Mathews, Jessica Young, and Dr. Hubbell.

### **Minutes**

The corrected minutes for the October 11, 2021 meeting were presented for approval along with the minutes from the November 8, 2021 regular meeting and the November 16, 2021 special meeting. Susan Ridings made a motion to approve the minutes from all three meetings. Deborah Mathews seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

### **Financial Statements**

The November financial statements were presented by Teresa Matkin for approval. Nick Cranford made a motion to approve the financial statements. Susan Ridings seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0

### **Maintenance Report**

Elvis Smith reported that everything was going good with the maintenance department.

### **Old Business**

Apptegy Program: Dr. Hubbell stated that she thought it would be a great benefit to the district to purchase the program for the district website. It will streamline well with the community. Chase McCollum said the district will get a discount to purchase it this school year. Jessica Young and Deborah Mathews said they were able to visit with the rep from Apptegy while they were at the ASBA conference in Little Rock. Deborah Mathews made a motion to purchase the program for the district website. Susan Riding seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

### **New Business**

The Over and Beyond award for the month of December was presented to Coach Tim Rodgers. Dr. Hubbell stated Coach Rodgers goes above and beyond for the school district and the football program.

Tammie Works presented several changes for the personnel policy handbook. 3.8a, 8.5a, 3.8b, 8.5b, 3.8c, and 8.5c. This was to add paying retiring certified/classified employees \$88/day for their unused sick leave and paying bus drivers \$15/day for their unused sick leave. Also, to pay \$88/day for days over 90 days to current certified/classified employees and \$15/day to bus drivers. The figures are based on what a daily substitute teacher would be paid. Deborah Mathews made a motion to update the policies. Nick Cranford seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

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Chase McCollum and Tammie Works presented changes to the Fordyce High School student handbook on student discipline and student expulsion. The board discussed the changes and will revisit this matter in January.

The board discussed the mask mandate for Fordyce Elementary School. Mrs. Lawson asked the board to see how things go after the Christmas Break and maybe lift the mandate in January. There was no action taken on the mask mandate.

### **Principal's Report**

Rhonda Lawson said the elementary school will start their Christmas parties this week. She has asked teachers and parents to supply on prepackaged food for the parties and there will be no parents at the parties. Mrs. Lawson reported the elementary school had enrolled 4 new students during the prior week.

Chase McCollum told the board that the high school students participated in the Veteran's Day assembly that was held in the arena. He told the board members he had numerous students exempt from semester tests this week. The Rocket team will be presented their rings during the basketball game on January 4, 2022. Senior football is over. Mr. McCollum stated that he was proud of the players and the coaches. He said it was an honor to be a part of it. The seniors made it to War Memorial three times. The FHS band is growing. Xavier Broughton and Keyon Mitchell have done a great job with the band. Tammie Works and Meredith Owens are doing a good job with cheer. Basketball has started for the senior girls. The game with Hampton this week has been postponed until after the Christmas Break. Conference play will start after the Christmas Break. During the FBT tournament Fordyce Sr. Girls won against Magnolia. Carson Williams' signing with the Air Force will be held Wednesday morning at 10:30 a.m. in the arena. We have two band students going to Texarkana to perform.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Hubbell told the board members the superintendent evaluation form is in their packets. ADE is trying to do away with the 1240 waivers. She told the board the 1240 waivers aren't a bad thing, turned out some good teachers with them. Their first year they learn classroom management. Niki Shaddock was hired on a 1240 waiver and she is doing a fantastic job. Gary Gamble is teaching ALE and Kissa White is teaching Special Education and both were hired on a 1240 waiver. Susan Ridings asked if they were given the TESSA evaluation. Rhonda Lawson told her they are given the TESSA evaluation.

Dr. Hubbell reported that the security department handled an intoxicated Clarendon fan that was carried out in hand cuffs. The Magnolia fans and their senior girls got out of control during the FBT tournament.

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Yvonne Green (ADE) sent a letter that our district is not identified as having significant disproportionality this year, therefore we aren't required to set aside 15% of the IDEA allocation for CCEIS.

Tracy Webb (ADE) sent a letter that the 2021-2022 district budget was approved.

Dr. Hubbell said she was happy with the football team this year and there are good people in our district.

**Board Comments**

Jessica Young asked about the intercom system for the district. Kenneth Askew reported that Phase I has been completed and Phase II will be completed by January 24, 2022.

Jessica Young reported that Deborah Mathews received the Pinnacle Award at the ASBA conference that was held the week before. She said Deborah picked up "goodies" for the board members and administrators that were unable to attend the conference.

Deborah Mathews said in a professional learning environment everyone makes a difference and everyone has a concern.

Jessica Young reported there were some waivers for tuition for teachers and free mental health services offered for teachers.

Jessica Young thanked the school for investing in board members to get them to the conference.

Deborah Mathews explained about 4-day work weeks. Everything she heard from other districts was positive.

Jessica Young explained about having a working meeting with the board members for the superintendent evaluation. She asked about having a working meeting for the board members for the evaluation.

The expulsion meeting for Tuesday has been cancelled but another meeting was scheduled for Thursday. Nick Cranford said he needed the meeting after 5:00 p.m. Dr. Hubbell said the expulsion hearing could be held at 5:15 in the conference room at Central Office.

**Certified**

None

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**Classified**

Dr. Hubbell asked the board to accept the resignation of Angel Walker a paraprofessional at the elementary school. Deborah Mathews made a motion to accept Angel Walker’s resignation. Nick Cranford seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**Executive Session**

Nick Cranford made a motion at 5:53 p.m. to go into executive session. Susan Ridings seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Deborah Mathews made a motion to adjourn from executive session at 6:54 p.m. Nick Cranford seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**Adjournment**

Nick Cranford made the motion to adjourn at 6:54 p.m. Deborah Mathews seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

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Date

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President

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Secretary