

**Minutes of Regular Meeting of the El Dorado School Board
August 13, 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, Renee Skinner, Keith Smith, and Todd Whatley. Directors Vicky Dobson and Shaneil Yarbrough were absent. Also attending the meeting was Supt. Jim Tucker, Rhonda Simmons, Melissa Powell, Katie Sandifer, Shelley Pruitt, and Lou Ann Voris.

Mrs. Turbeville asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the meeting held July 9. On a motion by Renee Skinner, seconded by Todd Whatley and carried on a 5-0 vote, the minutes were approved at 6:00 p.m.

Mrs. Pruitt reviewed the monthly bills. After some discussion and on a motion by Todd Whatley, seconded by Wayne Gibson, and carried on a 5-0 vote, the bills were approved for payment at 6:01 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 consideration of transfer of funds for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. She stated the need to transfer \$29,364,424.30 from unrestricted general fund to the operating fund, the transfer of \$1,640,409.82 from unrestricted general fund to debt service, and the transfer of \$1,000,000.00 from unrestricted general fund to the building fund. After a time of discussion and on a motion by Wayne Gibson, seconded by Todd Whatley, and carried on a 5-0 vote at 6:03 p.m., it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the transfer of funds, as presented for the 2017 – 2018 fiscal year.

Mrs. Turbeville stated the Arkansas School Boards Association's annual membership dues of \$2,300.00 are now due and needs the board's vote of approval. On a motion by Renee Skinner, seconded by Keith Smith, and carried on a 5-0 vote at 6:05 p.m., it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves continuing membership to the Arkansas School Boards Association with annual dues of \$2,300.00.

Mr. Tucker stated one bid was received for 1,413 square feet of aluminum for a canopy at Washington Middle School. He explained the maintenance department published a request for bids in the local newspaper and also submitted letters of request to those vendors that have requested to be on the district's bid list.

<u>Company</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A.A.C.E., Inc., Shreveport, LA	\$35,325.00

Mr. Tucker recommended the bid to the board and stated on several occasions A.A.C.E. has done work for the district and the company carries a quality product that has served the district well on past jobs. He stated a local vendor called and did not understand why he was not contacted to bid. Mr. Tucker explained to him the district has a bid list that any vendor may ask to be included on and the maintenance supervisor also publishes a request for bids in the local newspaper. Mr. Tucker said he would love to see more local bids come in on all district jobs. After some discussion and on a motion by Wayne Gibson, seconded by Renee Skinner and carried on a vote of 5-0 at 6:08 p.m., it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the bid of \$35,325.00 from A.A.C.E., Inc. for 1,413 square feet of aluminum for a canopy at Washington Middle School.

Grace George visited with the board about Breakfast in the Classroom and summer meals. She reported that Breakfast in the Classroom, which provides breakfast in the k-4 classrooms when school begins at 8:00 a.m. each day, will continue this school year. Students have two choices of breakfast items, one hot or one cold main entrée, that they can ten pair with fresh fruit, fruit juice and milk for a complete breakfast. Since students in fifth and sixth grade will also receive free breakfast this year, the Food Services department will be serving Grab-N-Go breakfast items at Washington in the cafeteria and

via food carts in the gym. The food services department Breakfast in the Classroom program served over 111,000 in the 2016 – 2017 school year and that increased to 260,000 in the 2017 – 2018 school year. These free breakfasts, along with the free lunches provided for all K-6 student this year are part of the state and federally funded Community Eligibility Provision for El Dorado Schools.

Mrs. George also reported on the Summer Meals programs which provided over 21,000 meals to community residents eighteen years old and under. They provided meals to area children who visited the locations that were open over the summer and also served several community programs like those through the Fairview Community Development Association. George hopes to continue the summer feeding program and serve more area children next year.

Mrs. George added that most of the new cafeteria equipment is in at Washington Middle School. She said it all looks and works great. She said the new chairs even make the old tables look good however, the new tables and some damaged equipment will be delivered within the next two to three weeks. 6:20 p.m.

Melissa Powell gave a personnel report to the board. She stated the district is fully staffed to begin the school year. She and other administrators attended twenty job fairs this past school year to recruit teachers, including one new fair at Philander Smith College. She noted while she did not get any candidates from that fair, she believes there is great potential to find teachers there in the future. This year, the district hired the most new teachers from the University of Central Arkansas and Ouachita Baptist University. New teachers also came from Atlanta, Georgia, Kentucky, Wisconsin, Oklahoma and New Hampshire – one of whom was New Hampshire's Teacher of the Year. Additionally, El Dorado is pleased to hire seven El Dorado High School alumni.

Mrs. Powell said El Dorado was also one of four schools in the state selected to receive teachers from the Arkansas Academy, a program through the University of Arkansas, funded by the Walton Foundation. Through this program, experienced teachers from across the U.S. come to work in Arkansas schools for three years. The Academy provides a stipend for these teachers along with a fully-funded opportunity to pursue their master's degree. She added that several of our teachers are currently in Southern Arkansas University's Master of Arts in Teacher (MAT) programs.

To better serve new staff, the personnel department streamlined its onboarding process this year, making all new employee forms and benefits information available online, so new teachers could easily print, complete and return the information before they begin school. She added that now the district is fully-staffed, the focus is on supporting the teachers through: Teacher Leader Program at the high school, mentor teachers for all new teachers throughout the district, department level chairs in math, science and literacy and instructional facilitators in math and literacy in all buildings. 6:34 p.m.

The board approved petition for transfer requests for two students to go to Parkers Chapel School District, two students to transfer to Smackover-Norphlet, and one Parkers Chapel student to transfer into El Dorado School District. 6:35 p.m.

The board entered 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 8:05 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.