

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Nashville School District
March 15, 2021

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Nashville School Board was called to order by President Jerry Wilson at 5:37 PM. Other members present were David Hilliard, Jamar Finley, Nick Britt, and Tem Gunter.

Jamar Finley made a motion to approve minutes from the February regular meeting. Tem Gunter seconded the motion. It passed 5-0.

Superintendent Douglas Graham stated there was no old business to discuss.

With 58.03% of the budget spent and an operating balance of \$5,980,343, Mr. Graham recommended the payment of bills. David Hilliard made a motion to approve. Jamar Finley seconded the motion. It passed 5-0.

Jason Hosclaw of Stephens, Inc. presented information on possible debt savings. Mr. Graham recommended the passing of a resolution that (1) recognizes that debt savings may be achieved by refunding the District's outstanding bond issue dated July 6, 2016, (2) the District retains Stephens Inc. as municipal advisor and approves the attached agreements (3) Authorizes Stephens Inc. to file an application with the State Board of Education to issue refunding bonds in order to refund prior bonds, (4) the District expresses its intent to retain Friday, Eldredge & Clark, LLP. Little Rock, Arkansas as Bond Counsel for the Bonds and (4) the Superintendent of Schools is authorized to offer the Bonds for public sale. Tem Gunter made a motion to approve the resolution and Jamar Finley seconded the motion. It passed 5-0. (attached)

Mr. Graham reported that the district had an excellent audit with one finding of Food Service having too many discrepancies and missing information on Free and Reduced Lunch form. Mr. Graham stated we also had one supplemental finding of incorrect receipting. Mr. Graham told the board that he was happy that for the first time in 30 years the district was finally able to get segregation of duties off of the district audit as a finding. Mr. Graham stated this was a big accomplishment. David Hilliard made a motion to approve the 2020 audit and Jamar Finley seconded. It passed 5-0.

Mr. Graham recommended the board to approve the hire of Doyle Howard Construction as Construction Manager for Wilson Park Project Phase II. Mr. Graham told the board this was the only proposal received by district. Jamar Finley made a motion to approve Doyle Howard Construction as Construction Manager. David Hilliard seconded the motion. It passed 5-0.

Mr. Graham presented the PPC's recommendation for the 2021-2022 School Calendar. It largely mirrors the 2019-2020 school calendar. Jamar Finley made a motion to approve the 2021-2022 School Calendar. Jamar Finley seconded with it passing 5-0.

David Hilliard made a motion to approve a resolution stating that the May School Election will be conducted with early and absentee voting. Jamar Finley seconded the motion. It passed 5-0.

Mr. Graham asked the board to approve addition of 3 interventionists and 3 aides to assist in catching students up who have fallen behind due to COVID 19 or Virtual Learning. These positions would be for a 2 year contract and will be funded from ESSER II/III funds. Mr. Graham told the board this was a big step needed to get our students where they needed to be. Currently we have more students failing at the end of the 3rd nine weeks than ever before due to the past year circumstances. He also stated that more positions may be needed as buildings move forward with scheduling. David Hilliard made a motion to approve the addition of 3 interventionists and 3 aides. Jamar Finley seconded the motion. It passed 5-0.

During his Superintendent Report, Mr. Graham advised the board that he was meeting with HVAC companies to get new HVAC systems in both the Primary and Elementary schools from ESSER II funds. Elementary's HVAC is over 20 years old and Primary's is older than that. Primary currently has 16 classrooms that are also sharing units and the district is looking at giving each classroom their own unit. It is suggested that air flow should be changing the air in each classroom every 30 minutes and the new HVAC would make that possible.

Mr. Graham told the board a decision had to be made on virtual learning by May 1. During his Superintendent's meeting at the DMEC Co-op only 4 schools were going to offer virtual learning and the other 9 schools were not offering virtual at all. Mr. Graham told the board that he is leaning towards not offering virtual at all for grade K-8. He went on to say that he planned to offer virtual for grades 9-12 but with restrictions and stipulations.

Mr. Graham asked the board to accept the resignation of Melisha Hendrix, Aide/Bus Aide (effective end of this school year), and William Cox, Custodian (effective March 19). Nick Britt made a motion to accept the resignations. Tem Gunter seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Graham recommended the approval of 8 primary teachers for After School Tutoring including, Julie Backus, Allison McCauley, Amber Mishler, Veronica Moore, Shelley McKinnon, Jennifer Pinkerton, Amanda Puryear, and Ginny Schwope. Mr. Graham also recommended the employment of Brook Moorehouse, Junior High Band Director, Barbara Fuentes, Primary teacher, Carley Conrad, High School English, and April Sartin, 7th Grade Social Studies. David Hilliard made a motion to accept the recommendations. Jamar Finley seconded the motion. It passed 5-0.

Nick Britt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jamar Finley seconded the motion. It passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Jerry Wilson, President

Jamar Finley, Secretary