

**COMMERCE PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**SPECIAL MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
DECEMBER 17, 2007**

1. The Commerce Board of Education met in special session Monday, December 17, 2007 in the Board of Education Building. Those present were Steve Hartman, Jim Cossairt, Paula Tedlock, and Dan McMMain. Gene Langston was absent. A quorum being established, the meeting was called to order by Hartman at 6:34 p.m.
2. McMMain gave the invocation.
3. Hartman thanked the guests for attending. (Attachment #1).
4. No Public communications.
5. There were no students present from the Commerce High School Football Team for their District Championship (8-3) recognition.
6. Haynes presented evidence for the termination of Sheila Cook, Elementary custodian. She was employed with the school district since December 5, 2006 and was terminated November 13, 2007 due to unexcused absences from work. She was employed for less than one year. Support employees employed for less than one year may be terminated without cause.

Sheila Cook said she admitted she left work early on October 31<sup>st</sup> to take her grandchild trick or treating but she came back and finished her job.

Kevin Wade, Elementary Principal said Sheila was put on a plan of improvement on June 7, 2007 for leaving work without authorization. On October 31<sup>st</sup> she left work for 3 hours again without authorization.

Haynes passed out a proposal findings of fact for the board to consider (Attachment #2).

7. Proposed executive session to discuss the employment status of custodian Sheila Cook so that the board can return to open session and vote to adopt findings of fact and vote to terminate or not terminate custodian Sheila Cook. 25 O.S. Section 307(B)(1).
8. Motion by Tedlock, second by McMMain to convene in executive session. Vote: Tedlock-yes, McMMain-yes, Cossairt-yes, Hartman-yes. Langston-absent. Time: 6:54 p.m.

9. Motion by Cossairt, second by Tedlock to acknowledge the board has returned to open session.. Vote: Cossairt-yes, Tedlock-yes, McMMain-yes, .Hartman-yes, Langston-absent. Time: 7:02 p.m.
10. Hartman said “Only the item listed on the executive session agenda was discussed and no vote was taken. Those present during executive session were Steve Hartman, Paula Tedlock, Jim Cossairt and Dan McMMain.”
11. Motion by Cossairt, second by Tedlock to adopt Findings of Fact as presented by Superintendent Haynes (Attachment #3). Vote: Cossairt-yes, Tedlock-yes, McMMain-yes, Hartman-yes, Langston-absent.
12. Motion by McMMain, second by Cossairt to terminate custodian Sheila Cook. Vote: McMMain-yes, Cossairt-yes, Tedlock-yes, Hartman-yes, Langston-absent.
13. Consent Agenda:
  - a. Minutes of the November 12, 2007, regular board meeting.
  - b. Approval of the monthly financial report of activity funds. (Attachment #4)
  - c. Approval of the monthly treasurer’s report. (Attachment #5)
  - d. Approval of the list of General Fund warrants and claims for June encumbrances. (Attachment #6)
  - e. Approval of the list of General Fund encumbrances and warrants for November payroll, \$449,507.24. (Attachment #7)
  - f. Approval of the list of General Fund warrants and claims for December bills. (Attachment #8)
  - g. Approval of the list of Co-op Fund encumbrances and warrants for November payroll, \$5,109.19. (Attachment #9)
  - h. Approval of the list of Co-op Fund warrants and claims for December bills. (Attachment #10)
  - i. Approval of the list of Building Fund warrants and claims for December bills. (Attachment #11)
  - j. Approval of the list of Child Nutrition encumbrances and warrants for November payroll, \$23,709.66. (Attachment #12)
  - k. Approval of the list of Child Nutrition warrants and claims for December bills. (Attachment #13)
  - l. Approval of the additional list of substitute teachers for SY 20007-2008. (Attachment #14)
  - m. Approval of the list of additional fundraisers for 2007-2008 school year. (attachment #15)

Motion by Cossairt, second by Tedlock to approve consent agenda item “a” as recommended by Haynes. Vote: Cossairt-yes, Tedlock-yes, Hartman-yes, McMMain-abstained, Langston-absent.

Motion by Cossairt, second by Tedlock to approve items “b-m” as recommended by Haynes. Vote: Cossairt-yes, Tedlock-yes, McMMain-yes, Hartman-yes, Langston-absent.

14. Haynes presented a thank you note from the Elementary Staff for the Christmas Bonus and received notification from the County Election Board that Gene Langston was the only one to file for the board seat, so there will be no election.

15. Administration Reports:

- a. Superintendent Haynes covered his report in item 14.
- b. Elementary Principal, Kevin Wade, reviewed the up coming events for the Elementary, reported that the Christmas Program was rescheduled for this Thursday, pictures with Santa will be held December 19<sup>th</sup>, and the 5<sup>th</sup> grade will play the basketball game at Quapaw.
- c. Middle School Principal, Herb Logan, passed out the CMS Newsletter, reviewed the up coming events, reported that a representative from the State Department will be at the school on Tuesday to go over the Title III Migrant Education Program.
- d. Haynes passed out the High School calendar of events for Jim Buttram, High School Principal, in Mr. Buttram's absence. He was attending the school music concert at NEO.
- e. Athletic Director Rusty Barker was attending the basketball game.

16. A discussion regarding change of internet content filtering to Sonic Wall was held in compliance with the E-rate program and the Children's Internet Protection Act.

17. A discussion was held regarding the purchase of a new/used school bus. The board decided to have Mr. Buttram, Mr. Haynes and Bobby Arms to see about buying a 77 passenger bus.

18. Motion by Tedlock, second by McMMain to appoint Jim Cossairt as the 2008 OSSBA Legislative Liaison as recommended by Haynes. Vote: Tedlock-yes, McMMain-yes, Cossairt-yes, Hartman-yes, Langston-absent.

19. Proposed executive session to discuss employing, hiring appointing, promoting, demoting, disciplining, or receiving the resignation of an employee, with no resulting vote to be made. 25 O.S. §(307)(B)(1).


20. Motion by McMMain, second by Tedlock to convene in executive session. Vote: McMMain-yes, Tedlock-yes, Cossairt-yes, Hartman-yes, Langston-absent. Time: 7:40 p.m.

21. Motion by Cossairt, second by Tedlock to acknowledge the board's return to open session. Vote: Cossairt-yes, Tedlock-yes, McMMain-yes, Hartman-yes, Langston-absent. Time: 8:14 p.m.

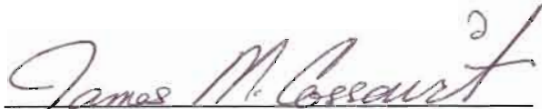
22. Hartman said, "Only the items listed on the executive session agenda were discussed and no votes were taken. Those present in executive session were the four board members, Mr. Haynes, Mr. Logan, Mr. Wade, Mr. Brough, Linda Colver and Janie Hopkins."

23. Motion by Tedlock, second by McMMain to adjourn. Vote: Tedlock-yes, McMMain-yes, Cossairt-yes, Hartman-yes, Langston-absent. Time: 8:15 p.m.

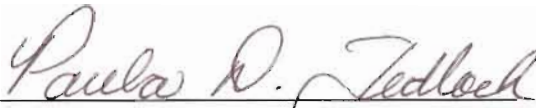
(ATTEST)

  
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President-Board of Education

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Deputy Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice-President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

Date: 01/14/2008

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Minutes Clerk

Date: 01/14/2008

Seal