

MENA SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING BOARD ROOM

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2017

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m.

Members present: Robert Hines, Clint Montgomery, Todd Aynes, Judith Roberson, and Edd Puckett.

Members absent: Brian Kesterson and Kyle Cannon

Judith Roberson made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Edd Puckett seconded the motion and motion carried 5-0.

Paulette Crawford, FLASH CATS administrator, had FLASH CATS students present their drug free puppet show to the Board and audience.

Mr. Weston announced January is School Board Recognition month, presented each Board Member with a recognition certificate, and read a statement commending members for their service.

Mr. Weston asked Mena Middle School Principal, Cliff Sherrer, to give information on the MMS high gains award of \$19,650. Mr. Sherrer stated the recognition and reward grant is given for high student performance in two categories: the top 5% highest of schools and 6% - 10% award level of schools. Of the top 102 schools, Mena Middle School is the only Polk County School awarded this honor. A committee of Mr. Sherrer, a teacher, and a parent submitted a proposal for the award to be a non-recurring bonus for the Mena Middle School staff.

Mr. Sherrer continued with a video and information on a Tech Start Partnership with Facebook. There are 254 Virtual Reality kits available. Mena Middle School EAST is eligible for two (2) kits which would include cameras, computers and everything needed for virtual reality as well as students creating their own virtual environment. Mena Middle School will submit a signed memo and partnership agreement to APRSC and Facebook.

Mr. Weston stated Bill Birch, Senior Vice President - Risk Consultant of BancorpSouth, contacted him in regard to the renewal of the School Board Legal Liability and Employment Practices Liability Coverage. Mr. Birch felt the renewal terms from CHUBB/ACE were too high and is currently working to finalize and move the program to a different insurance carrier. At the time of this meeting, the premium is not known, but the renewal policy term will be from February 1, 2017 to February 1, 2018. After discussion, Clint Montgomery made a motion to allow Mr. Weston to enter into contract with the school board legal liability coverage company recommended by Mr. Birch pending price information not exceeding last year's premium of \$7,111. Todd Aynes seconded the motion and motion carried 5-0.

Due to changing circumstances of making up snow days, Mr. Weston asked the board for discretion and flexibility for the administration to make decisions when making up snow days. Ms. Smith is meeting with the PPC committee on Wednesday to discuss calendars and making up snow days. After discussion, the board agreed the administration should be given the discretion and flexibility on snow day make up. No action was taken.

For information only, President Hines stated the Statements of Financial Interest are due by January 31, 2017 in the County Clerk's Office.

Judith Roberson made a motion to pay the bills. Clint Montgomery seconded the motion and motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Weston added to the agenda, for information only, that he had been approached by two separate individuals with houses located near Louise Durham Elementary. Both residences wanted to offer their property for sale to the district. The board discussed the benefits of the district purchasing the property. No action was taken.

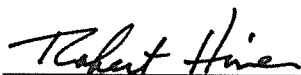
Mr. Weston also added to the agenda the district's two (2) school buses previously approved by the board are ready for pick up and our transportation department should pick them up this week or next. No action was taken.

President Hines expressed the board's appreciation to Mr. Weston for his work with the district and the staff he has put together. President Hines asked for a motion for a one (1) year extension be added to Mr. Weston's Superintendent contract for 2019-2020. Todd Aynes made a motion to add a one (1) year extension to Mr. Weston's Superintendent contract to 2019-2020. Judith Roberson seconded the motion and motion carried 5-0.

There were no personnel matters.

With no further business, Judith Roberson moved for adjournment, Todd Aynes seconded, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Hines, President



Brian Kesterson, Secretary