

**BLYTHEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Blytheville, Arkansas**  
**Regular School Board Meeting**  
**Monday, September 23, 2019**  
**6:00 p.m.**

The Blytheville Board of Education met in a special meeting at the Blytheville School District Administration Building at 405 West Park Street at 6:00 p.m. on September 23, 2019, with the following members present:

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|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (1) Tobey Johnson, President | (2) Henrietta Watt, Secretary |
| (3) Erin Carrington          | (4) Billy Fair                |
| (5) Desmond Hammett          | (6) Tracey Ritchey            |
| (7) Michelle Sims            |                               |

The following member was absent:

- (1) Barbara Wells, Vice President

Others present: Marshal Hughes, Paul Jenkins, Jennifer Johnson, Frederick Clay, Sr., Jennifer Blankenship, Kris Williams, Carolyn Barnes, Todd Welch, Bo Johnson, David Gullic, Todd Welch, Larrie Bell, Alex Garcia, Bernard Smith, Scott Ferrell, Robert Harris, Teresa Miner, Dorothy Anderson, Steven Savage, Tiffany Snyder and Jennifer Blankenship.

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|------------------------------|--|
| 1. CALL TO ORDER             | President Johnson called the regular meeting for the Month of September 23, 2019 to order at 6:02 p.m. |
| 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM | A quorum was established with seven members present.   |
| 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE      | The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.  |

#### 4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Johnson went over dates to remember:

Sept. 25	BSD	See You at the Pole	7:30 a.m.
Sept. 30	BHS	Honor Society Induction	6:00 p.m.
Oct. 1	BES	Math Family Night	5:30-7:00 p.m.
Oct. 3	GYM	Tour new gym	5:00 p.m.
Oct. 4 and Oct. 7		No School	
Oct. 4	BMS	Cook for the Chicks	1:30 p.m.
Oct. 8-11	BHS	Homecoming Week	
Oct. 11	BHS	Homecoming Presentation and Football Game (BHS vs. GCT)	
Oct. 17	BPS	Family Literacy	5:30 p.m.
Oct. 22	BMS	Academic Awards	
Oct. 24	BES	Honors Assembly	
Oct. 25	BES	Costume Dance	
Oct. 28	Adm	School Board Meeting	6:00p.m.

#### REMARKS

This is a reminder to all board members: It is a courtesy to the audience that the Board turn their phones off or place on silent; same thing applies to the audience. It is imperative that you respond by phone or email to any requests from either Mr. Ashley or Ms. Whatley. When you do not respond, it causes much confusion and that is not fair to anyone involved. Please take five minutes out of your busy day and give them the information needed.

#### 5. REPORT TO THE PUBLIC

#### 6. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

##### A. Superintendent's Report

1. Raymond "Bo" Johnson, Baldwin and Shell Jobsite Superintendent updated the board: gym lights are burning, can see illumination in gym now, upper concourse area large end walls finished, getting ready to paint, First floor locker room bathrooms framed, starting tile, dehumidifier/humidifier system in place and being tied in, exterior wall panels, trim work, ready for gutters to be put on, underground gas loop, site sewer this week, concrete pad for HVAC, units, duct work, electrical all tied in, when permanent power is on we will be able to start conditioning building to bring in flooring and finishing materials and getting elevator lined up.

## 2. Beardsley Financial

### a. Application for a Permit to Issue Bonds \$10,305,000

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Ashley, a motion was made by Billy Fair and seconded by Desmond Hammett to submit an "Application for a Permit to Issue Bonds", with related documents, for \$10,305,000 in Refunding Bonds to the State Department of Education and to employ First Security Beardsley as Fiscal Agent, and to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to accept or reject the best bid submitted in connection with the public sale of the proposed bonds in consultation with the fiscal agent.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 6:48 p.m.

### b. Application for a Permit to Issue Bonds \$2,745,000

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Ashley, a motion was made by Desmond Hammett and seconded by Billy Fair to submit an "Application for a Permit to Issue Bonds" with related documents for \$2,745,000 in Refunding Bonds to the State Department of Education and to employ First Security as Fiscal Agent, and to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to accept or reject the best bid submitted in connection with the public sale of the proposed bonds in consultation with the fiscal agent.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 6:49 p.m.

### c. Application for a Permit to Issue Bonds \$785,000

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Ashley, a motion was made by Desmond Hammett and seconded by Billy Fair to submit an "Application for a Permit to Issue Bonds", with related documents, for \$785,000 in Construction Bonds the State Department of Education and to employ First Security Beardsley as Fiscal Agent, and to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to accept or reject the best bid submitted in connection with the public sale of the proposed bonds in consultation with the fiscal agent.

Motion passed by 6:1 with Erin Carrington casting the nay vote at 7:12 p.m.

### d. Reimbursement Resolution

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Ashley, a motion was made by Desmond Hammett and seconded by Tracey Ritchey to adopt the Reimbursement Resolution authorizing the Blytheville School District to

reimburse the operating funds used for constructing, refurbishing, remodeling, and equipping school facilities.

Motion passed by 6:1 with Erin Carrington casting the nay vote at 7:13 p.m.

At this time the Board took a short break; meeting resumed at 7:20 p.m.

3. Track Restoration - Baldwin and Shell - 06/04/2019

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Ashley, a motion was made by Billy Fair and seconded by Tobey Johnson to accept the Design Development Budget for Blytheville Track Restoration dated June 4, 2019.

Motion failed 3:4 with Desmond Hammett, Erin Carrington and Michelle Sims casting nay votes; Henrietta Watt abstained at 7:32 p.m.

4. New Gym Construction in Progress Financial Report

5. Upcoming Board Training:

ASBA Region 7 Meeting October 15, 2019

6. Feed the Chicks - October 4, 2019

B. Principal's Report

Jennifer Blankenship, BHS New Tech Principal

I saw that the Governor was in town visiting and talking about computer science. I wanted to let you know the Career and Technical Department classes that BHS offers: Survey of Business, Spreadsheet/Database, Financial Literacy & You (FLY), Account 1 & 2, Marketing, Management, Social Media, Advance Graphic Design, Photography, Journalism, Year Book, JAG, Apprenticeship, Internship, Family & Consumer Science, Child Development & Parenting, Human Relationships & Housing, Food Safety, Food Production, Clothing, Survey of Agriculture, Case Plant, Natural Resources, Landscape, and Computer Science.

FBLA kicked off their Connections Day with a roomful of new members. So far, 33 have joined and 18 plan to attend the Fall Conference in Jonesboro on October 10. We just had our first blood drive September 18<sup>th</sup>; twenty signed up to donate. Our Chapter is proud to have Aaliyah Bell as our District II President and State Vice President.

FCCLA currently has 20 members. We are currently working on STAR Events, taking place in Jonesboro in November. Last year Breanna Luellen made it to Nationals in

Anaheim, California and won a bronze there. We are hoping to go to Dallas this November to the Cluster Meeting where the students and educators will engage in Skill Demonstration Events and career pathway focused workshops and training opportunities.

In Food Production they prepared their first teachers' meal for Parent-Teacher conference. They served deep-fried taco triangles.

Our Computer Science Lab was recently installed. We have fifty seniors who are already CTE Completers. Hopefully, we will have many more by the end of May.

BHS Horticulture program will be providing lettuce to school cafeterias this year as part of the Farm to Table program. Lettuce is being grown hydroponically in our greenhouse. Each of you have a sample of what they are producing.

FFA fruit and meat fundraiser is underway. This was the 2<sup>nd</sup> year for our bee project. The three hives were busy this year producing about 17 gallons of honey. They have provided each board member a sample of their product. Half pint jars are available for \$5 each. FFA also has trap practice going on, hunter's education classes are being taught. Leadership activities are being planned and preparation for the Santa Workshop photos during the holiday season are taking place.

We also have the East Initiative going on and it will help with some of the commercials and things we talked about as far as teacher recruitment.

#### C. Instructional Report

Sally Cooke, Director of Curriculum

1. BES is having their Math Family Night on October 1, 2019 where they will show parents how to use math resources.
2. Out of the twelve new teachers that were hired, we had eleven female and one male; we had two males hired that were no-shows.

#### D. Operations Report

Brandon Harper, Director of Operations/Security

Transportation:

- No accidents, crashes, or damage to report since last month
- Averaging approximately 690 students per day
- October 21st through October 25 is National School Bus Safety Week (we'll be sharing bus related safety information via social media)

#### Maintenance:

- Exterior lighting is being replaced at the Primary School campus with modern LED lighting. The LED lighting consumes less electricity than the existing metal halide lighting. It is guaranteed to last longer than the metal halide lights, and was purchased at a lower cost per unit than the metal halide lighting.
- We are also assessing exterior lighting needs at the other campuses

#### ALE:

- Camera installation for the ALE expansion has been completed.

#### BMS:

- SRO situation at Blytheville Middle - Blytheville Police Department has been wonderful working with us but they have experienced a turnover, so we do not have a CSSO on campus full-time. Larrie Bell has been wonderful to rotate to BMS. We had an incident today with smoke alarm and Mr. Bell was able to run over and check it out.

We currently have two full-time uniformed CSSO Officers in District dedicated as full time CSSO Officers.

#### Food Services:

- Mrs. Snyder reports that Food Services numbers are up this year, in particular for breakfast.
- Mrs. Snyder attributes the increased numbers to expansion of items offered, as well as second chance breakfasts (approximately 300-350 students at BHS daily, district wide approximately 1000 more than last year).

#### Safety & Security:

- Preparing to install additional cameras at BES. We meet with Mrs. Adelowo tomorrow to discuss location.
- Researching an access control project at BES for the door located on the west side of the campus that leads to the 5th grade building. Our maintenance department can assist with some of the electrical requirements which will reduce cost.

## 7. ACTION ITEMS

- A. August 26, 2019 Meeting
- B. August Financial Report
- C. Act 1120 of 2013 - 5% Salary Rule

- D. Budget for 2019-2020
- E. Title VI-B Budget
- F. DESE Minority Teacher & Administrator Recruitment Plan
- G. B & B Lawn Service - Annual (\$58,000).

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Ashley, a motion was made by Desmond Hammett and seconded by Tracey Ritchey to accept items as listed in A.-G. above.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 8:00 p.m.

## 8. PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

### A. Resignation of Certified Employees

Tracy Menard	Teacher	BHS-New Tech
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### B. Appointment of Certified Employee

Jacquonna Young	Teacher	BMS
John D. Williams	Teacher	BHS-New Tech

### C. Resignation of Classified Employee

Allison Turner	Community Dev. Coordinator	District
Althea Williams	Bus Driver	SVC

### D. Retirement of Classified Employee

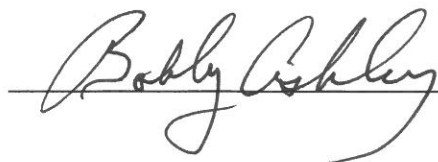
William Conley	Maintenance	SVC
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Upon recommendation of Superintendent Ashley, a motion was made by Tracey Ritchey and seconded by Billy Fair to accept appointments and resignations as listed in Items A. – D.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 8:03 p.m.

## 9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.



Bobby Ashley  
Ex-officio Financial Secretary