

BLYTHERVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Blytheville, Arkansas
Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, November 18, 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 November 18, 2019, with the following members present:

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

The following member was absent:

- (1) Henrietta Watt, Secretary

Others present: Kris Williams Jalen Stevenson, Jana Wilson, Ashley Whitley, Jennifer Johnson, Robin Sneed, Chanda Walker, Jennifer Blankenship, Carolyn Barnes, Jonet Washington, Teresa Miner, George Hubbard, Ricky Sims, Larrie Bell and Vera James.

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| 1. CALL TO ORDER | President Johnson called the regular meeting for the Month of November 18, 2019 to order at 6:01 p.m. |
| 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM | A quorum was established with seven members present. |
| 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE | Led by Levi Rogers, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. |

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

MISSION STATEMENT:

Educate all learners to high levels of academic performance while fostering positive social and emotional growth to develop leaders for tomorrow.

Acknowledge all members of the BLI and the Chamber by having them stand.

All members of the board are reminded that they must be recognized by the chair in order to speak.

Members of the audience and the board are reminded that cell phone usage is prohibited during the board meeting. If an emergency arises and a call must be taken or made, please excuse yourself from the venue.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dec. 5 BHS Senior Luncheon

Dec. 11-13- ASBA State School Board Meeting- Little Rock

Dec. 12- Christmas Parade

Dec. 16- School Board Meeting

Dec. 18- End of Second Quarter

Dec. 19- Jan. 3- Christmas Vacation

Jan 6- Professional Development (no school for students)

DECEMBER HOME BASKETBALL GAMES

Dec. 10—against Westside 5:00p.m.

Dec.16—against Pocahontas 5:30 p.m.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

1. School Pride Recognition

Superintendent Ashley recognized Ricky Moore as coach of the MISSCO football team. After coaching for seventeen years, Mr. Moore is retiring. MISSCO has won the super bowl for ten of the twelve years. The coach's wife, assistant coach, and the team were also recognized.

2. Marshall Hughes, Beardsley Financial presented the Continuing Disclosure Dissemination Agreement and the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Delivery.

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Ashley, a motion was made by Desmond Hammett and seconded by Billy Fair to accept Action item 6 E. Continuing Disclosure Dissemination Agreement and 6 F. Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Delivery.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 6:22 p.m.

3. New Gym Construction in Progress Financial Report

4. Annual Charter Report
Robin Sneed, Director

Goal #1 ELA The school will narrow the achievement gap between the school's performance as compared to the state's performance by three percentage points each year until the school reaches the state average.

Goal #2 Math The school will narrow the achievement gap between the school's performance as compared to the state's performance by three percentage points each year until the school reaches the state average.

Goal #3 Science The school will narrow the achievement gap between the school's performance as compared to the state's performance by two percentage points each year until the school reaches the state average.

Goal #4 Graduation Rate: The school aims to increase our graduation rate by one percentage point, year over year, until the school reaches the state average.

- B. Principal's Report
Jana Wilson, Blytheville Primary School Principal

A slideshow was presented: Shaping the Future One Child at a Time which highlighted Professional Learning Communities with Solution Tree, BPS Teams, Student Growth, Special Olympics, Chili Cookoff, Trick or Treat on Main Street, Community Service Projects, and Backpack Program.

C. Instructional Report
Sally Cooke, Director of Curriculum

Jeff Echols taking a group of 15 students who have an interest in education to Ready 2 Teach Summit Thursday at ASU as part of our efforts to "Grow our Own" teachers.

Ms. Blankenship, Ms. Sneed, Mrs. Parsons, Mr. Ashley, and I are meeting regularly to provide updates to our presentation for the Charter Panel.

Curriculum Coordinators Collaborative last week in Benton

Great opportunity to network and learn with other curriculum leaders from all across the state. The DESE staff provided updates for us to bring back to our districts on a variety of topics. Science of Reading Updates, Literacy Plan Updates, Information regarding a huge amount of grant money that will become available, so with our high need to train and support teachers in both the Science of Reading and in the Professional Learning Communities to strengthen our instructional practices we will be watching for the opportunity to apply. We have the willingness and desire to move forward with the PLC process, but with me splitting my time between four buildings it cannot compare to the support that each building would have if we had the money to hire Solution Tree.

Assistant Principal Learn and Grow Today:

Mrs. Cole and I had a good meeting with all assistant principals, behavior interventionists, and two of our mental health providers to discuss ways we can support students who struggle with mental health issues and also how to provide more strategies for teachers to use in situations that can halt instruction. We must be able to get the behavior issues of these students under control in order to provide instruction. Every day that they interrupt learning in the classroom for others or are out of class in the office or suspended we lose valuable instructional time.

Principal Learn and Grow Today:

Working as a team on strategies to advance each of our schools and the district as a professional learning community.

D. Operations Report
Brandon Harper, Director of Operations/Security

Mr. Harper introduced John David Nelson as the new School Resource Officer.

Transportation:

- No crashes or damage to report since my last report
- Still averaging approximately 690 students per day
- Ms. Barnes recently attended training for records and testing procedures for bus drivers.

Maintenance:

- Mr. Jenkins has been working with Baldwin and Shell in order to assist with the preparation of the new parking lot (located south of the main building). The parking lot should be completed this week.

BPS:

- The awnings that were destroyed at BPS from last month have been repaired. There were two areas that received damage on the primary school (one on the north entry, and one located on the southeast corner of the building).

BMS

- Blytheville Middle School received their new SRO today from the Blytheville Police Department (Officer John David Nelson).

Food Services:

- Mrs. Snyder reports that Food Services numbers remain consistently higher than this time last year.
- Mrs. Snyder reports that trays purchase by our staff & parents has increased by 64% since last year.
- Blytheville School District will be hosting an upcoming BLI event and will provide lunch for attendees.

Safety & Security:

- The new server for the camera system came on Friday, November 15. Our Systems Administrator, Lance Nettleton has installed the server as of today.
- We anticipate starting the installation of the access control system at BES in early December.

Mr. Ashley, as you are aware, Bus 10 was involved in a crash on East State Highway 18 on October 21, 2019. This crash occurred during a heavy rainstorm around 6am. The driver turned into a ditch located in front of the Service Center.

As a result, the collision caused front end damage, body damage, and extreme motor damage to Bus 10. As Bus 10 entered the ditch, standing water was pumped from the air intake throughout the engine, causing the engine to seize.

Bus 10 is a 1997 Blue Bird Bus (22 years old).

According to Paula Abbott, Central Adjustment Company Adjustor, the cost to replace the motor with a rebuilt motor would be approximately \$13,000. This does not even include the cost to repair the front end of the bus, plus body damage.

Total estimated value of Bus 10 = \$10,000

Cost of deductible = (between \$500-\$1000)

According to Risk Management, Blytheville School District is currently at mid level tier for cost of auto insurance premium.

Annual cost for 2019-2020 school year = \$37,971

If a claim is submitted for Bus 10, this would give the district two claims within a three year period. Bus 55 was submitted after water damage to the engine during 2017-2018 school year in the amount of \$29,000.

Based upon the age of the bus, mileage, plus cost to repair, it is recommended that the district not file a claim on this particular bus. Ms. Barnes can confirm Bus 10 is near its end of life cycle. Further, Ms. Barnes states there are other buses within inventory that can replace Bus 10. Bus 10 can be utilized for parts needed by other buses in inventory. And finally, we are slightly over three months into the school year, and may likely need to file a claim when the district begins experiencing winter weather, and/or heavy rain during Spring 2020.

4. New Gym Construction in Progress Financial Report
and things we talked about as far as teacher recruitment.

6. ACTION ITEMS

- A. October 28, 2019, Meeting
- B. November 11, 2019 Special Meeting
- C. October Financial Report
- D. Driver Education Standards of Assurance
- E. Continuing Disclosure Dissemination Agreement
- F. Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Delivery
- G. 3.7 Licensed Personnel Bus Driver Drug Testing
- H. 8.4 Classified Employees Drug Testing
- I. Facilities Master Plan
- J. Proposed Budget of Expenditures with Tax Levy

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Ashley, a motion was made by Tracey Ritchey and seconded by Billy Fair to accept items as listed in A., B., C., D., G., H., I., and J.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 7:39 p.m.

Action Item E -Continuing Disclosure Dissemination Agreement and Action Item F – Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Delivery were approved under the Superintendent's Report at 6:22 p.m.

7. PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Appointment of Certified Employee

Joyce Jacks	Teacher	BES
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B. Resignation of Certified Employee

Justin Gavito	Teacher	BMS
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C. Appointment of Classified Employees

Latorrence Aldridge	Bus Driver	SVC
Lauren Hall	Food Service	BES
Kizzie Lucas	Bus Driver	SVC
Lisa Wright	Bus Driver	SVC

D. Resignation of Classified Employee

Tamatha Rucker	Paraprofessional	BES
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Upon recommendation of Superintendent Ashley, a motion was made by Desmond Hammett and seconded by Michelle Sims to accept appointments and resignations as listed in Items A. – D.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 7:43 p.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.



Bobby Ashley
Ex-officio Financial Secretary