

BLYTHEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Blytheville, Arkansas
Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, December 16, 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 December 16, 2019, with the following members present:

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

The following members were absent:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| (1) Henrietta Watt, Secretary | (2) Billy Fair |
|-------------------------------|----------------|

Others present: Kris Williams, Michelle Walling, Chanda Walker, McKinley Walker, Tom Bennett, Blaine Alexander, Jana Wilson, Ashley Whitley, Carolyn Barnes, Mike Wallace, Jonet Washington, Curtis Walker, Tony Hollis, Jennifer Johnson, Tony Hollis, Paul Fowler, Larrie Bell and Bill Bracey.

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. CALL TO ORDER | President Johnson called the regular meeting for the Month of December 16, 2019 to order at 6:00 p.m. |
| 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM | A quorum was established with five members present. Barbara Wells arrived at 6:05 p.m. making six members present. |
| 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE | Led by McKinley Walker, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. McKinley is the daughter of BES Principal Chanda Walker. |

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.

Cell phones are prohibited in this meeting. Emergency calls must be taken outside.

Roberts Rules of Order specifies that board members must be recognized by the chair in order to speak. Members of the audience may not speak unless addressed by the board.

Announcements:

The Arkansas School Board Association meeting was held in Little Rock this past weekend. Billy Fair and Barbara Wells were both recognized for the Platinum Award with a plaque for attaining 400 hours of more of Board Training.

We want to thank First Security- Beardsley for the great dinner they provided for us. It is always a fun time for us.

Also, a big thank you to Baldwin and Shell Construction Company for our steak dinner. We had the opportunity to dine with the company President, Scott Copas and his wife, Shayla. It was a most enjoyable evening.

On behalf of the Blytheville Board of Education, We would like to wish our schools, our children and our community a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

January Reminders:

Home Ballgames: Jan 6, 7 13, 14, 24 and on January 31, we will celebrate SENIOR Night.

Jan. 14 is the BMS Academic Awards Assembly

Jan. 20 is Martin Luther King Holiday and school will not be in session

Jan. 22 is the BPS Fundraiser Kickoff. Jan 23 is BPS Family Movie Night

Jan. 27 will be our next School Board Meeting

5. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

1. New Gym Construction in Progress Financial Report
2. Blaine Alexander, Arkansas Leadership Academy
3. Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) has performed a financial evaluation of Arkansas School Districts; the initial evaluation used district audit reports, the Annual Financial Report and district financial data from the Arkansas

Public School Network. The evaluation of the Blytheville School District indicates issues that may jeopardize the fiscal integrity of the school district.

4. Board Members Barbara Wells and Billy Fair were recognized for receiving the ASBA Platinum Award for over four hundred training hours and Erin Carrington received the Master Board Award for over fifty training hours.

B. Instructional Report

Sally Cooke, Director of Curriculum

- Literacy Plans - Each building has been updating their literacy plan to show what they are doing to focus on reading. I have shared with you our belief in the PLC process of deeper learning in a collaborative setting and we are seeing huge results at primary this semester from it as they enter their second year under the grant.
 - Big growth in kindergarten and second grade on the Reading Istation.
 - Second grade increased their Tier 1 percentage by 4%, moving from 54% in November to 58% in December. We are also getting closer and closer to meeting our school wide end of the year goal of 51%. Our overall Tier 1 percentage increased by 3%, moving from 42% in November to 45% in December.
 - Kindergarten increased their Tier 1 percentage by 8%, moving from 37% in November to 45% in December. They have already met their end of the year goal! They made some big changes in their pacing and instructional practice this year that has resulted in students knowing their sounds and reading CVC words earlier than ever. They changed the way they taught letter ID at the beginning of the year and began teaching Connections in October. Their Tier 1 percentage has moved from 21% at the beginning of the year to 45% now. That is tremendous gain!
 - To add to the excitement, kindergarten also met their vocabulary smart goal. They set a goal to move from 17% in September to 30% by December. Their December vocabulary Tier 1 percentage was actually 33%. That is huge growth for our kindergarten students in vocabulary.
 - First grade is not showing the same results, but Mrs. Wilson and her team are working with that group of teachers to help them.
- Novice Teacher Plans
 - I've been in contact again with all novices who are on waivers or working on an additional licensure plan to ensure that they understand the importance of taking their praxis, getting admitted into a non-traditional program, and making progress each semester toward getting licensed. The principals have also visited with each of them and encouraged them to move forward. We

want to be sure they all understand that DESE wants them to be licensed within three years which is what most non-traditional programs take.

- Most are in a program of study, but there are a few who have dragged their feet and the principals and I send them updates and also visit with them face to face to encourage them to
- Giving at Schools: Our teachers and students have been very involved in community service and giving of their time, talents, and money- especially around the holidays.

Jean Cole, Director of Support Services

1. Special Education Department Staff is all excited. We have finished two monitoring visits; one was over the district general special education 21 domain which we were 100% in compliance.
2. We were chosen for a financial audit. We have done well with that audit as well. We had to provide IEP and lesson plans to show why we spent the money. I had to explain the things that are allowable for an IEP and things that are allowed in lesson plans. Activity daily living is on IEP. I am going to work with them. We provided them with everything and more they needed and more.
3. Continued focus in out of school suspension. Kudos to our principals and assistant principals; we have some things going on. The magic number is 4.0% and we are at 4.23%. Reports are twice a year; we will get another report at the end of the school year. I am very proud; we came down from 11.49%.

C. Operations Report

Brandon Harper, Director of Operations/Security

Transportation

1. Hosted the Feed the Children event December 12th at the Service Center
2. Ignite Ministries was December 14th (food, toiletries distributed to approximately 600 people)
3. Still averaging just under 700 students per day, no accidents or injuries.

Food Services

1. Volume of students is averaging the same as last month.
2. Per board approval, plan on moving forward with the installation project as proposed by D&L

New Gym

1. Researching utilizing existing core lock system from shuttered central elementary school on N. Division Street.
2. Researching camera needs (internal & external).

Maintenance

1. Assisted with set up for ACT testing at the BHS cafeteria on Saturday, December 14th
2. Assisted with the band concert at BMS on Monday, December 9th.
3. Assisted with the Feed the Children and Ignite Industries events at the Service Center
4. Processed over preventive maintenance orders last month in excess of 100
Safety & Security -
5. Access Control system was added to BES during Thanksgiving Break
6. New camera server was installed at BES along with 6 additional cameras

6. ACTION ITEMS

- A. November 18, 20 9, Meeting
- B. November Financial Report
- C. D & L HVAC & Sheet Metal - purchase (2) Greenheck Stainless Hoods
BES- \$43,255.00
BHS- \$37,942.00

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Ashley, a motion was made by Tracey Ritchey and seconded by Erin Carrington to accept items as listed in A. - C.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 7:28 p.m.

7. PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Appointment of Certified Employees

Lane Hall	Teacher	BMS
Margaret Thomas	Teacher	BMS

B. Appointment of Classified Employee

Patrina Jones	Paraprofessional	BMS
Patricia McClurg	Paraprofessional	District
Lakeisha Yankaway	Paraprofessional	BHS- ALE

C. Resignation of Classified Employee

Monica Joan Mier

Paraprofessional

BHS New Tech

D. Voluntary Resignation Due to Job Abandonment

Annette Moore

Food Service

BES

Upon recommendation of Superintendent Ashley, a motion was made by Desmond Hammett and seconded by Barbara Wells to accept appointments and resignations as listed in Items A. – D.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 7:30 p.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.


Bobby Ashley
Ex-officio Financial Secretary