

**Minutes of Regular Meeting of the El Dorado School Board
March 8, 2004**

The directors of the board met on the above date, at 7:00 p.m., in the Conference Room, School Administration Building, 200 West Oak Street, with Teresa Swint presiding. Other directors present were Pat Callaway, Vicky Dobson, Wayne Gibson, Larry Holder, Pat Odon, Susan Turbeville, and Will Vance. Also, attending were Supt. Bob Watson, Dr. James Fouse, Shirley Billingly, Don Thompson, and Lou Ann Voris.

Mrs. Swint called the meeting to order and asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the meetings held February 9 and February 16. On a motion by Pat Callaway, seconded by Pat Odom, and carried on an 8-0 vote, the minutes were approved.

The board reviewed the monthly bills. After some discussion and on a motion by Pat Callaway, seconded by Wayne Gibson, and carried on an 8-0 vote, the bills were approved for payment. A list of bills paid and monthly financial statement are on file in the business office.

The board approved the request for two El Dorado students to attend school in Parkers Chapel.

Geanie Davis, program coordinator with the Arkansas Council on Economic Education, recognized Jennifer Taunton as a Polly M. Jackson Master Economics Teacher. Miss Taunton teaches at Retta Brown and Northwest Elementary Schools and was one of four nominees chosen by the 2004 M.E.T. Selection Committee from the many nominations across the state. She joins the ranks of a distinguished group of twenty-five active Arkansas educators who have received this honor. Mrs. Davis presented Miss Taunton with a plaque.

Mrs. Swint recognized Kasey Lewis as the 2004 District Spelling Bee Champion. Kasey is the daughter of Kaye and David Lewis and is an eighth grade student at Barton Junior High School. Kasey won her first spelling bee this year in Mrs. Nancy Deason's third period English class. She then competed in the eighth grade bee at Barton, where she was runner-up. The top spellers from seventh and eighth grade then competed for the title of Barton Spelling Bee Champion and the chance to go to the district spelling bee. Kasey won the Barton Spelling Bee, then on January 16th she won the El Dorado School District Spelling Bee. She represented our district in the Union County Spelling Bee held on January 30th. Kasey is an example of a student who rises to accept new challenges and takes advantage of educational opportunities. She is a member of the girl's basketball team at Barton and also enjoys tennis and listening to music. Mrs. Swint presented Kasey with a certificate from the board.

Mrs. Swint stated that Kadijah Lowery is the Student of the Month. Kadijah is the daughter of Phaley Thompson and Kenneth Lowery. She is a fourth grade student in Ms. Kilton's classroom at Murnil Accelerated Aerospace Academy. She has maintained the honor roll since kindergarten and is a very well behaved young lady. She is a member of the El Dorado Boys and Girls Club where she plays on the girl's basketball team. She enjoys reading and is a member of the 50 Point Club. She is on the Beautification Champs Team and can often be found during her after school hours helping other teachers in their classrooms. She is a member of the St. James Baptist Church where she sings in the youth choir. For fun, Kadijah likes watching the TV show "The Parkers", playing basketball and reading. Mrs. Swint presented Kadijah with a certificate from the board.

Mrs. Swint recognized George Rainwater as the Classified Employee of the Month. Mr. Rainwater started working for the district March 1988 in the building and grounds department. He was promoted to Field Foreman in August 1997. He will begin his seventeenth year with the district on March 16th. Employees nominating Mr. Rainwater said that he is kind, helpful, takes time to listen and solve the problem, and always has a smile on his face. Mrs. Swint read the certificate from the board for Mr. Rainwater.

Mrs. Swint stated that Kathy Sixbey is the Teacher of the Month. Mrs. Sixbey is a first grade teacher at Yocum Elementary School. She received her B.S.E. degree from Southern Arkansas University with a major in Elementary Education and minor in Early Childhood Education. Mrs. Sixbey has ten years teaching experience and has been with our district for nine years. Her principal, Kelly Walters, said that Kathy is an asset to Yocum. She is very committed to doing a good job; she is bright, resourceful, and anxious to teach. Her classroom is colorful and she teaches with a very enthusiastic style. Mrs. Sixbey assures that each child strives to reach their full potential. Mrs. Swint presented Mrs. Sixbey with a certificate from the board.

Sandy Maguire made a power point presentation on the history of Southside Elementary School. Dylan Haney and Dillon Smith represented Margaret Cupp's fourth grade students that worked on compiling the seventy-five year history in facts and pictures. Mrs. Maguire stated that Jennifer Taunton's third and fourth grade gifted and talented students also worked on the project.

Senator Gene Jeffress spoke to the board about the recent legislative session.

Mr. Watson presented bids on security cameras for El Dorado High School.

<u>Company</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Custom Wiring, Sherwood, Arkansas	\$98,000.00
Arkansas State Protective Service, Mabelvale, AR	78,822.00

He stated the sixty-one cameras would not be in classrooms but in the hallways, walkways, gyms, and parking lot. After a time of discussion and on a motion by Pat Callaway, seconded by Will Vance, and carried on an 8-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the bid for \$78,822.00 for security cameras at El Dorado High School.

Mr. Watson stated the administration is in the process of updating and amending the district's *School Board Policies and Regulations* handbook. He noted that the administrative advisory and teacher negotiating groups would also be given a copy to review. He asked the board members to read the first installment of the revisions and vote at a later date.

The meeting adjourned to an executive session to discuss personnel matters, then reconvened to an open meeting. On a motion by Pat Callaway, seconded by Susan Turbeville, and carried on an 8-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the superintendent's recommendations concerning the acceptance of resignations, the employment of new personnel, and the re-employment of certified staff.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.