

**Minutes of Regular Meeting of the El Dorado School Board  
April 14, 2004**

The directors of the board met on the above date, at 7:00 p.m., in the Board 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 Odom, Susan Turbeville, and Will Vance. Also attending were Supt. Bob Watson, Dr. James Fouse, Don Thompson, and Lou Ann Voris.

Teresa Swint called the meeting to order and asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the meetings held March 8 and March 23. On a motion by Pat Callaway, seconded by Wayne Gibson, and carried on an 8-0 vote, the minutes as published were approved.

The board reviewed the monthly bills. After some discussion and on a motion by Pat Callaway, seconded by Larry Holder, 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.

Mrs. Swint recognized two Students of the Month. She stated that the first to be recognized was Gladys Rivas from Watson Educational Center's English as a Second Language School. Gladys is the daughter of Juan and Fabiola Rivas. She is a sixth grader from Washington Middle School who attends Mrs. Bullard's sheltered classes. At Watson, she studies English, science, social studies, and math. Gladys makes A's and B's and has come a long way in the three years she has been in the United States. Mrs. Bullard selected Gladys because of her outstanding academic performance and exemplary behavior. Gladys works very hard and is always respectful and polite to her teachers and peers. She is known for her smiling face and positive attitude. Watson – ESL staff said they are proud to claim Gladys as one of "ours." Mrs. Swint presented Gladys with a certificate from the school board.

Mrs. Swint introduced Ty Owens from Yocum Elementary School as Student of the Month. Ty is the son of Lance and Shannon Owens and a second grader in Mrs. Griffen's classroom. Ty academically is a well-rounded student and is a perfectionist. He strives to do his best in any assignment that is given to him. One of Ty's strongest attributes is his willingness to do any task that is laid before him without hearing any complaints. Ty really excels in reading and is a member of the Fifty Point Club for Accelerated Readers. His teacher stated that the characteristic that is most impressive to her about Ty is his willingness to get along with and help his fellow classmates. Ty goes out of his way to make the new kid on the block feel welcome and accepted. He is also well known for his ability in sports such as soccer and basketball. Ty is a student that any teacher would be proud to have in their classroom. Mrs. Swint presented Ty with a certificate from the board.

Mrs. Swint said the Classified Employee of the Month is James Reed. Mr. Reed is retired from Reed's Body Shop and came to work for the school district as a bus driver in August 1986 – 18 years! He has been a positive role model for many students and staff. Employees nominating Mr. Reed stated that he is very friendly, is willing to help, and always has smile on his face. Mr. Reed is one that could retire and not work however, those that know and work with Mr. Reed know that he is a man with a servant's heart that is always looking and willing to help others.

Mrs. Swint stated that Genie Smith is the Teacher of the Month. Mrs. Smith received her Bachelor of Science degree from Louisiana Tech University with certification in health, physical education, and mathematics. The daughter of math professors and wife of Mark Smith, a math teacher at EHS, Mrs. Smith began her career fourteen years ago with the El Dorado School District. She teaches Algebra I in the freshman 100 program at EHS and transition math, which is a college preparatory class. She was a primary force in the implementation of both the CATS and the CATS Conference programs. Mrs. Haynie said that "going the extra mile" is an everyday attitude whenever it comes to empowering her students to stretch to another level of success. Making mathematics a real-life tool is

Genie Smith's ultimate goal. Mrs. Swint presented Mrs. Smith with a certificate from the board.

Mr. Watson recognized Mark Smith. Mr. Smith spoke to the board on education in Arkansas.

Mr. Watson presented bids on office and instructional supplies for the 2004-05 school term. He stated that bids were sent to the following companies:

Wholesale Direct, Jackson, TN  
Teachers Depot, West Monroe, LA  
Highsmith, Ft. Atkinson, WI  
School Specialty Supply, North Little Rock, AR  
Modern School Supplies, Hartford, CT  
Lakeshore Learning, Carson, CA

One bid was received in response to the district's invitations:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Amount</u>
School Specialty Supply	\$18,541.71

Mr. Watson recommended the bid. After some discussion and on a motion by Pat Odom, seconded by Vicky Dobson, and carried on an 8-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the bid from School Specialty Supply for \$18,541.71 for office and instructional supplies for the 2004-05 school year.

Tim Zylks stated that bids were received from the Office of State Purchasing for four buses:

<u>Bus</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2 – Type D, 71 passenger	Ward Transportation (trip bus)	\$63,305.00
1 – Type C, 65 passenger	Ward Transportation (wheelchair lift – special ed. bus)	55,465.00
1 – Type C, 65 passenger	Ward Transportation (route bus)	50,880.00

Mr. Watson stated that he is recommending the bid from Ward Transportation. On a motion by Pat Callaway, seconded by Larry Holder, and carried on an 8-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the bid from Ward Transportation for two Type D and two Type C passenger buses.

Mr. Watson presented bids for 466 seats for the high school gym. He said this finishes replacing the original 1963 seating in the gym. He stated that two bids were received but only one met specifications. The following total includes cost of the seats, removal of old seats, and installation of the new ones:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Murray Atkinson Construction	\$49,709.30

After some discussion and 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 bid from Murray Atkinson Construction for \$49,709.30 for 466 seats for the high school gym.

Dr. Fouse presented an amendment to the 2003 Technology Plan. He stated if the amendment was approved by the board that the addition inserts as page 43a. He said this is needed to receive E-Rate funding for 2004-05 and will reduce our phone bill from approximately \$34,000 to \$7,000. After some discussion and 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 amendment to the 2003 Technology Plan.

Dr. Fouse presented the 2004-05 District Calendar to the board. After some discussion and on a motion by Pat Odom, seconded by Pat Callaway, and carried on an 8-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the 2004-05 District Calendar.

Mrs. Swint brought before the board the need to set a date for the dinner for retiring district employees. Board members agreed to Tuesday, May 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the El Dorado Golf and Country Club.

Pat Odom communicated to the board and administration that a business applications course needed to be added as a high school graduate requirement. The information was given to Dr. Fouse and Bonnie Haynie for further consideration.

Mrs. Swint noted that an additional item was added to the agenda. Mr. Watson said that board approval was needed for the district's negotiations team that meets with the district staff representatives. On a motion by Pat Callaway, seconded by Susan Turbeville, and carried on an 8-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board approves the district's negotiations team: Nelson Post, Phillip Lansdell, Bonnie Haynie, Don Thompson, Bob Watson, and Shirley Billingly, chief negotiator.

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 Larry Holder, and carried on an 8-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby accepts the superintendent's recommendations concerning the acceptance of resignations, the employment of new personnel, and the re-employment of classified staff for 2004-05.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.