

**Minutes of Regular Meeting of the El Dorado School Board
October 11, 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 Joey Bauman, Vicky Dobson, Wayne Gibson, Larry Holder, Susan Turbeville, and Will Vance. Also attending were Supt. Bob Watson, Dr. James Fouse, Shirley Billingly, Tim Zylks, Don Thompson, and Lou Ann Voris.

Mrs. Swint called the meeting to order and stated the first item of business was to reorganize the board. Mrs. Swint opened the floor to nominations for secretary to the board. Wayne Gibson nominated Lou Ann Voris, seconded by Vicky Dobson, and carried on a 7-0 vote. Wayne Gibson nominated Don Thompson for treasurer, seconded by Vicky Dobson, and carried on a 7-0 vote. Will Vance nominated Larry Holder for vice president, seconded by Wayne Gibson, and carried on a 7-0 vote. Joey Bauman nominated Will Vance for president, seconded by Vicky Dobson, and carried on a 7-0 vote.

Mr. Vance recognized Pat Callaway. He stated that Mrs. Callaway was being recognized for 29 years of service on the school board. Mr. Vance expressed the board's appreciation and listed the nineteen committees that she has served on or chaired over the years. Mr. Vance noted that Mrs. Callaway is still a vital volunteer in the schools especially in the district's swim team program. Mrs. Callaway was presented with a plaque.

Mr. Vance said that in accordance with Act 671 of 2003 the board needs to elect a designated disbursing officer and an alternate disbursing officer for the district. On a motion by Teresa Swint, seconded by Vicky Dobson, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the board president, Will Vance, as the designated disbursing officer and the vice president, Larry Holder, as the alternate disbursing officer for the El Dorado School District.

Mr. Vance asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the meetings held September 13 and October 4. On a motion by Wayne Gibson, seconded by Susan Turbeville, and carried on a 7-0 vote, the minutes were approved.

The board reviewed the monthly bills. After some discussion and on a motion by Larry Holder, seconded by Joey Bauman, and carried on 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the administration to pay a sum of \$68,723.96 for the three loans that El Dorado School District presently is responsible for as a result of consolidation.

On a motion by Larry Holder, seconded by Vicky Dobson, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves \$75,000 for development of the elementary focus program at Union. The money is to come from the \$554,000 balance that came from Union when the districts consolidated.

On a motion by Teresa Swint, seconded by Larry Holder, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board approves the monthly bills for payment.

A list of bills paid and monthly financial statement are on file in the business office.

Mr. Vance recognized Yasmine King as the Student of the Month. Yasmine is the daughter of Lashunda King and in Mrs. Ayree's fourth grade class at Murmil Heights Elementary School. Yasmine is the second of three children, having an older sister and

younger brother. She has been on the honor roll since the first grade. Not only is Yasmine a good student, but she is very well behaved and has a great personality. Her favorite subject is science and she is a member of the CHAMPS group at Murril. Yasmine enjoys drawing, riding her bike, playing basketball and collecting Strawberry Shortcake items. Yasmine is a self-motivated student and excels in all that she attempts. She understands the rewards of hard work and strives to do her best in everything she does. Murril is proud that Yasmine was chosen as Student of the Month. Mr. Vance presented Yasmine with a certificate from the board.

Mr. Vance introduced Wanda Leichmon as the September Classified Employee of the Month. The 2004-05 school year begins Mrs. Leichmon's twenty-ninth year with the district. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology and psychology from Southern State College and has worked as an attendance officer, Federal P.A.C. Coordinator, social worker, and bus driver for the school district. Fellow employees chose Mrs. Leichmon because she is prompt, dependable, friendly, and very faithful to her job. It has been said that Wanda's smile is contagious. Mr. Vance presented Mrs. Leichmon with a plaque.

The Classified Employee for the Month of October is Charlie Fox. Mr. Fox became an employee of the El Dorado School District in 1991, after completing a 30 year career with the Arkansas Highway Department. His punctuality and hard work along with the drive to "get the job done" has been a credit to the School Food Service program. Efficiency accompanied by courtesy is a rare combination in today's work world. Charlie extends both in meeting with the constant demands of 65 women in the district's nine cafeterias. He steadily and cooperatively unloads truck shipments at 6:00 a.m., works in a freezer with an average temperature of -10 degrees or below, and daily delivers an average truckload of 100 cases of food and supplies to the district's cafeterias. Credit goes to him for helping our children become better students, because we all know hungry students cannot learn. Mr. Vance presented Mr. Fox with a plaque from the board.

Mr. Vance recognized Laura Ann Robbins as the Teacher of the Month. Mrs. Robbins received her Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Southern Arkansas University and her Masters degree from Louisiana Tech University. Mrs. Robbins has a business, marketing, and graphic design background prior to completing her masters degree. Currently she teaches sixth grade science, is an X Lab co-teacher, and parent facilitator at Washington Middle School. This begins her sixth year as a classroom teacher. Mr. Post stated she is very creative, utilizes new technology in creative ways, and has hands on, dynamic lessons for her students. She manages to accomplish this and more for our students while parenting her own small child and her husband serves military duty in Iraq. Mr. Vance presented Mrs. Robbins with a plaque from the board.

Mr. Watson stated that each year the board elects a Surrogate Parent Program Facilitator for the district. He recommended Ruthie Gibson. Mrs. Gibson stated that she facilitates three surrogate parents: Winnie Walton, Lois Meekins, and Odell Carr. She noted these surrogate parents are not employees of the district. On a motion by Teresa Swint, seconded by Vicky Dobson, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves Ruthie Gibson as the Surrogate Parent Program Facilitator.

Mrs. Gibson presented the 2004-05 special education and related services budgets and reports. After some discussion and on a motion by Larry Holder, seconded by Joey Bauman, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the 2004-05 LEA Consolidated Application for Special Education and Related Services (State/Local, Title VI-B, and Medicaid Budgets).

Dr. Fouse presented to the board the Employee Technology Acceptable Use Agreement. He asked the board to consider the proposal and vote in the November board meeting. A copy of the agreement is attached to the board minutes.

Dr. Fouse talked with the board about hiring a supplemental service contractor for Washington Middle School. He asked for the board's consideration in hiring Dr. William Broadnax with Educare International for \$80,000. He will work with the staff in an after-school program to raise test scores to bring that school into compliance with state assessment. On a motion by Larry Holder, seconded by Vicky Dobson, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board approves hiring Dr. William Broadnax with Educare International to work with the staff at Washington Middle School to raise test scores to meet state compliance.

Dr. Fouse presented policy updates that need board approval. He stated that he normally brings a policy before the board for consideration and then the board votes the following month. Larry Holder motioned that the board suspend the rules and approve the changes and additions in policy, seconded by Wayne Gibson, and carried on a 7-0 vote. Dr. Fouse stated the first change was to page 53 in the *School Board Policies and Regulations Handbook* (White Book). Changes to this page are:

- The heading from In-service Education to Professional Development,
- Include one (1) hour of Chemical Right to Know for all employees,
- Include six (6) hours of technical training each year for certified employees,
- Change thirty-six (36) hours of Professional Development to sixty (60) hours to meet new state requirements, and
- Add two (2) hours of parental involvement for teachers and three (3) hours for administrators to meet state changes.

Dr. Fouse also asked the board to add:

Professional Development activities shall be tied to the comprehensive improvement plan and designed to increase student learning and achievement. The District will form a Professional Development Committee to be comprised of those participants described in the law, to prioritize and sequence the training needs of all staff as determined by the disaggregation of the various forms of District data. Each year a staff development plan will be drawn up to meet A.Y.P. and other discerned needs for that year. On a motion by Larry Holder, seconded by Wayne Gibson, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board approves the changes to page 53 of the *School Board Policies and Regulations Handbook* as presented by Dr. Fouse.

Dr. Fouse stated an addition is needed on page 50 of the handbook to include military identification for proof of age for enrollment. On a motion by Teresa Swint, seconded by Larry Holder, and carried on a 7-0 vote it was

RESOLVED, That the board approves the addition to page 50 of the *School Board Policies and Regulations Handbook* to add military identification for proof of age for enrollment.

Dr. Fouse presented a policy change to extra curricular activities on page 30. On a motion by Larry Holder, seconded by Vicky Dobson, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board approves the policy change to page 30 of the *School Board Policies and Regulations Handbook* to: The El Dorado School District encourages every student, K-6 to participate in as many extracurricular activities of the school system as possible. Students K-6 will need to maintain a "C" average overall, while students 7-12 in athletic or non-athletic competitive extra curricular activities must meet the eligibility requirements of the Arkansas Activities Association. Students with medical conditions will participate based on their 504 or other health plan. Students with academic problems will need to meet all requirements prescribed by either their AIP or IEP to participate.

Dennis Tucker, Federal Programs Coordinator, presented the federal budgets. He gave a report on the Title I budget. On a motion by Teresa Swint, seconded by Larry Holder, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the Title I budget of \$1,546,073.10 for district allocation and \$1,012,242.00 for school allocation.

Mr. Tucker then brought before the board the Title II-A budget. On a motion by Wayne Gibson, seconded by Joey Bauman, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the Title II-A budget of \$341,737.83.

Title II-D budget was presented. On a motion by Wayne Gibson, seconded by Susan Turbeville, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the Title II-D budget of \$42,252.84.

Mr. Tucker informed the board about the Title IV-A budget. On a motion by Wayne Gibson, seconded by Susan Turbeville, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the Title IV-A budget of \$45,844.00.

Mr. Tucker presented the Title V budget to the board. On a motion by Larry Holder, seconded by Wayne Gibson, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the Title V budget of \$29,920.51.

Mr. Tucker stated the Title VI budget is \$181,819.59. On a motion by Wayne Gibson, seconded by Teresa Swint, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the Title VI budget of \$181,819.59.

Dr. Fouse explained to the board the need for a liaison for homeless students. He asked the board to consider Dennis Tucker as the Homeless Liaison for the district. After a time of discussion and on a motion by Susan Turbeville, seconded by Teresa Swint, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves Dennis Tucker as the district's Homeless Liaison.

Dr. Fouse asked for the board's approval for a homeless policy to be added to the *School Board Policies and Regulations Handbook* on page 12. On a motion by Susan Turbeville, seconded by Teresa Swint, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves: The El Dorado School Board will see that no procedure or practice will deny a homeless student of a free and appropriate education. All policies made will be mindful of this provision. This addition will be to page 12 of the *School Board Policies and Regulations Handbook*.

Dr. Fouse brought before the board the need for a Concurrent Credit Policy. On a motion by Wayne Gibson, seconded by Vicky Dobson, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves: El Dorado High School students must have the principal's permission to enroll in any college course for concurrent credit. The course must be determined to meet State Standards based on the Arkansas Frameworks and must be from a fully accredited two (2) year or four (4) year college or university. This addition will be to page 83 (c.) of the *School Board Policies and Regulations Handbook*.

Dr. Fouse stated that the state asks that all policies be approved by the board once a year. After some discussion and on a motion by Wayne Gibson, seconded by Vicky Dobson, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board hereby approves the following addition to page 7 of the *School Board Policies and Regulations Handbook*: The El Dorado School Board will review, update, and approve all policies once a year in a regular meeting of the board in July.

Dr. Fouse presented the Citizens Textbook Committee for approval by the board. After a time of discussion and on a motion by Larry Holder, seconded by Teresa Swint, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board approves the following members to the Citizens Textbook Committee: Kristie Hodges, Mary Clark, Walter Compton, Jean Nixon, Lois Meekins, and David Ross.

Mr. Vance said that the board visits the district schools each year beginning in October. Following a time of discussion the board decided to begin noon visits to the schools beginning Tuesday, October 19.

Mr. Watson said that in accordance with Act 624 of 2001 we are required to set one week in October for Gun Violence Prevention Week. On a motion by Wayne Gibson, seconded by Susan Turbeville, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board approves the week of October 25 – 29, 2004 as Gun Violence Prevention Week for the district.

Mr. Vance announced that the Arkansas School Boards Association Region 13 Meeting will be held on Monday, October 18 at 6:00 p.m. at the A.H.E.C. Ellis Conference Center.

A parent, Tara Davis, brought before the board her request to extend a bus route. After some discussion and on a motion by Larry Holder, seconded by Susan Turbeville, and carried on a 7-0 vote, it was

RESOLVED, That the board approves the route of Bus 43 to remain the same.

The meeting adjourned to an executive session to discuss personnel matters, then reconvened to an open meeting. On a motion by Teresa Swint, seconded by Vicky Dobson, and carried on 7-0 vote, it was

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

There being no further discussion the meeting was adjourned.