

## **Records and Proceedings**

**A Regular meeting of the Board of Education of Lake Hamilton School District No. 5-----**

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**At the meeting of the Board of Education of the School District aforesaid, at 7:00 p.m. on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of December 2012, there being present Don Smith, Vance Dobyns, Kevin Hale, Mark Curry, and Mike Tucker, all members of the board. The following business was transacted, to-wit:**

- I. A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Don Smith. The meeting was opened with prayer led by Kevin Hale and pledge to the United States Flag.
- II. Vance Dobyns made a motion, second by Kevin Hale, to accept the minutes of the previous meeting held on November 19, 2012. Motion approved 5-0.
- III. Mark Curry moved to approve the financial statement. Seconded by Mike Tucker, motion approved 5-0.
- IV. Reports:
  - A. Committee FOR Lake Hamilton Schools Millage Report: Perry Mixon, co-chairman for the Committee FOR Lake Hamilton Schools, stated that the committee has received mostly positive feedback from the community concerning the millage, especially when the needs are shown and the facts given. The committee is having signs, brochures, buttons and business cards made and will be gearing up after the holidays to get more information out to the public. Several of the board members and Mr. Anderson thanked Mr. Mixon and the committee for their efforts.
  - B. School Security Report: Superintendent Steve Anderson shared that after the tragic incident at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, last Friday there has been heightened interest and concern from parents and the community. This evil attack has raised everyone's awareness. Mr. Anderson stated that law enforcement and school officials are always in a high state of concern for safety and stated what measures are in place to try and maintain safety for our students. In this multi-level safety plan it includes:
    1. Awareness; 2. Extensive Counseling Services; 3. School Rules and Laws; 4. Safety and Security Equipment; 5. District Emergency Crisis Plans; 6. Commissioned Security Officers; 7. Law Enforcement Cooperation, Training and Support; and 8. Support from Various State Agencies.

While school personnel are always in a constant high level of concern for school security and school safety issues, we are stepping back and seeing what can be learned from this most recent attach on children and school staff. Here are some things that I have been involved in over the past few days:

- On the National Level: Today, all school superintendents received an email from the Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan, entitled "Resources for Schools to Prepare for and Recover from Crisis. In addition, I listened to President Obama's comments on the tragedy where he reminded us all that, "Our children are our number one priority."
- On the State Level: Arkansas Commissioner of Education Dr. Tom Kimbrell posted a message on the Arkansas Department of Education Website about the tragedy and provided suggestions to parents and online resources for them to access in dealing with their own children on this matter.

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- On the County Level: Over the weekend, I have had several telephone, email and text message conversations with Garland County Public School Leaders related to this event, school security and appropriate response to the matter. In addition to K-12 superintendent, National Park Community College President, Dr. Sally Carder, has been involved in our conversations. She is working to help facilitate a county-wide meeting of superintendents, law enforcement and school security professionals to help us evaluate our district security plans and find ways we can improve what we are already doing.
- On the District Level: Sunday evening I sent an email message to our staff. Each of you received this email where I reminded them that, "We must demonstrate to our community, parents and especially our children, that we are dedicated to provide safety, comfort and love to all of those entrusted to our care. While others are second guessing school safety and our ability to not only educate our children but also to protect them physically and emotionally, we must set the example of calm professionalism." Today, both Mr. Britt and I increased our visibility at Lake Hamilton Primary and Lake Hamilton Elementary Schools this morning during parent drop off time. I met with our district counseling staff at 8:00 and school administrators at 8:30. This afternoon, I met with Mr. Britt and Campus Security Officer Robert Sorenson. In these meetings, we discussed campus security issues, our Emergency Response Plans, and I have instructed every principal to make sure that their staff members were refreshed on our plan and procedures. In addition, we have instituted a review of our campus security and our preparedness to not only respond to threats, but to avoid any weaknesses to violent and criminal acts. I have told Mr. Britt to bring in extra security personnel tomorrow since we will have a large number of parents and visitors on campus for Christmas parties and activities.

Our first priority is to make sure our students are safe, then we can educate them.

**V. New Business:**

- A. Vance Dobyns moved to approve the contract for physical therapy services with Steadman's Physical Therapy. Seconded by Mark Curry, motion approved 5-0.
- B. Kevin Hale made a motion, second by Mike Tucker, to accept the following resignations. Motion approved 5-0.
  1. Summer Harris – Primary School Kindergarten Overflow Aide
  2. Shelly Koller – Primary School Kindergarten Overflow Aide
  3. Sharon Jones – Intermediate School Speech Therapist
- C. A motion was made by Mike Tucker, second by Kevin Hale, to hire the following employees.
  1. Amista Sutton – Intermediate School Paraprofessional
  2. Bethany Splawn – Intermediate School Speech Language Pathologist

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- D. A motion was made by Vance Dobyns, second by Kevin Hale, to accept the superintendent's recommendation to expel Rowan Paige Barrett for the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year. Motion approved 5-0.
  - E. Mike Tucker made a motion, seconded by Mark Curry, to accept the recommendation to expel Brandon Davis for the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year. Motion approved 5-0.
  - F. Mark Curry moved to accept the recommendation from the superintendent to expel Hali M. Cox for the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year. Seconded by Kevin Hale, motion approved 5-0.
  - G. Before adjourning, Superintendent Steve Anderson, took a moment to introduce Ms. Nancy Anderson, superintendent of Cutter Morning Star School District, and to thank her for being in attendance. Ms. Anderson is a first year superintendent and part of the new superintendent mentoring program.
- VI. Kevin Hale moved to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Mark Curry, motion approved 5-0.

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Don Smith, President

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Kevin Hale, Secretary