

BLYTHEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Blytheville, Arkansas
Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, June 26, 2017
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 June 26, 2017, with the following members present:

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| (1) Tracey Ritchey, President | (2) Erin Carrington, Vice-President |
| (3) Barbara Wells, Secretary | (4) Tommy Bennett |
| (5) Billy Fair | (6) Desmond Hammett |
| (7) Henrietta Watt | |

The following members were absent:

- (1) Tobey Johnson

Others present: Beth McGrain, A. Garcia, Jennifer Bennett, Chad Hale, Michael Jacques, and Terrence Thompson

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| 1. CALL TO ORDER | President Ritchey called the regular meeting for the month of June 2017 to order. |
| 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM | A quorum was established with five members present. Erin Carrington arrived at 6:06 p.m. making six members present. Barbara Wells arrived at 6:23 p.m. making seven members present. |
| 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE | The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. |
| 4. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS | |

A. Superintendent's Report

1. Meeting July 14, 2017 with Arkansas Department of Education to give end of year summary on our priority schools, Blytheville Middle School and High School.

2. All waivers were approved at ADE meeting on June 8, 2017.
3. Effective January 1, 2018, Act 910 2017 changes school board member election dates to be held either in May (Primary) or November (General). Most Mississippi County Superintendents will be doing May elections. There is an Act that states that if Board Members do not get necessary training, they can be put off the Board. We don't have that problem.
4. We have had forty employees who have left; we have replaced twenty-eight. We have hired twelve African-American teachers, seven African-American paraprofessionals, and one African-American custodian.
5. Looks like we will absorb eleven teacher positions.
6. Going to talk to Harley Bradley, Tax Assessor. Mr. Hughes, Beardesley Finance has already talked to the Board. The millage will go into effect immediately but the 2.5 mills money will not be Spring 2018. Working on budget now, looking at a bonus or something this fall.
7. Concerned about Federal Budgets and if we will receive funding.
8. We could expand our Pre-K by adding 2-3 classes where we have indoor P.E. if we had licensed teachers and paraprofessionals. This would be completely funded by our District.
9. Regarding the Panic Button, the Governor vetoed an appropriation bill that did not have any money. Attorney General notified us that they are going to pay for the Panic Button.
10. 2018-2019 raises will be paid by the 2.5 mills. Our Title I support money has gone from 2.8 to 1.9. If we do not receive this funding, the District will be responsible.

11. Policy 3.9 Certified Personnel Unused Sick Leave will change unused sick leave from ½ day to full substitute pay per day. This policy is not part of Arkansas School Board Association.
12. 2.5 mills will pay for 2018-2019 raises. Maintenance and Operation – life of school district unless bond is voted out. Beardsley Finance will sell bonds to companies who will sit on them for the next thirty years. Beardsley has a clearing house for people to bid on bonds.
13. John Roden used to be the county superintendent. For all taxes paid late there was a ten percent penalty of which the county received 5 percent and schools five percent. The 2015 Legislative Session got rid of the county superintendent and now all money goes to the county judge's account. We used to receive eleven payments, now we will receive twelve payments. After this year, we will not have to fund July and August out of our own pockets.
14. Raises have to be approved before June 30th. Board approves then it is sent to the Personnel Committee for approval and then all teachers vote. Schools can only pay back one year on raises.
15. There is a gap in federal spending in disposal of property. Above \$3,500 needs a bid and below \$3,000 does not require bid which is leaving \$3,001 - \$3,499 out.

B. Instructional Report

Jean Cole, Director of Support Services

1. Working on budgets and working on professional development.
2. All principals, vice principals and administration will receive 504 Training this summer.

3. When we compare students from our Pre-K classrooms with other agencies, there is a big difference, ours are way ahead.

C. Operations Report

Randy Jumper, Director of Facilities

1. We are very excited and very busy. Surveyors and architects started Wednesday after election. We have been out with people from the City of Blytheville going over drainage.
2. There is a meeting tomorrow at 10:30 a.m. with architects. September 7, 2017 is the soft date for turf for junior high game. We want things done right and Hixson and Fisher are looking at fields all over. Our specs will be very specific. We will have to keep up with the process. If anything is done wrong it will be our fault. We are going to be watching.
3. A time lapsed camera was installed at the field that will snapshots of the progress every five seconds.
4. Timeline will come out tomorrow.
5. The only two places we anticipate locating the facility is by the high school old gym or at the elementary school. They will start doing soil borings. Footing will be important.
6. FEMA come out with a new flood map and Moultrie is in a flood zone that we missed by forty five feet. City will not license us to build in flood zone according to flood map.
7. Talking to people with real estate in surrounding area to see if anyone wants to sell or donate.
8. We will have extensive plans for gym, parking, and landscaping. We do not want a concrete jungle. Gym and parking will be 5A tournament ready with extensive and multiple levels of parking. Big thing about the gym, regardless where it is located, we

need multiple inlets and outlets. Our old gym has one entry. We need to stay focused on what we are doing.

9. Chamber backed the millage and our town is now thinking more about our community instead of themselves.
10. The Board has been in the loop. Final rendering on football field and all tentative plans have been given to the Board. We had three meetings, then two more. All meetings were advertised and we might have fifty people at a meeting but it was the same people. Packets will be sent out as soon as information is available

5. ACTION ITEMS AND REPORTS

- A. Minutes of the May 22, 2017, Meeting
- B. Minutes of the June 5, 2017 Special Meeting
- C. Minutes of the June 20, 2017, Special Meeting
- D. May Financial Report
- E. Appoint Superintendent Atwill Ex-officio Financial Secretary 2017-2018
- F. Policy Revisions

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tommy Bennett and seconded by Billy Fair to accept items as listed in A., B., C., D., E., and F. above.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 7:22 p.m.

6. STUDENT TRANSFER REQUEST

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Barbara Wells and seconded by Billy Fair to accept student transfer request.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 7:22 p.m.

7. PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

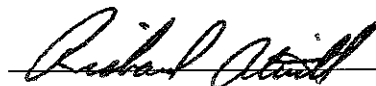
A. Appointments of Certified Employees

Cyntwynet Hopkins	Teacher	BPS
LaToya Riley	Teacher	BMS
Ruby Vaden	Teacher	BES

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Billy Fair and seconded by Tommy Bennett to accept appointment as listed in A. above.

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

8. ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.



Richard Atwill
Ex-officio Financial Secretary