

MENA SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING BOARD ROOM

MONDAY, JULY 24, 2017

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Robert Hines, Kyle Cannon, Edd Puckett, Judith Roberson, Todd Aynes, Clint Montgomery and Brian Kesterson.

Members absent: None

Kyle Cannon made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Clint Montgomery seconded the motion and motion carried 7-0.

During the Superintendent's Report, Mr. Weston, reported on the public virtual academy meeting held at the Performing Arts Center. If approved, another meeting will be schedule and the virtual academy could begin with the 2018-2019 school years. Mr. Weston stated blended learning will begin this year with our 9th grade students. The blended learning program is made possible through a grant.

Robert Hines opened a bid for school vehicle and bus insurance submitted from Farm Bureau Insurance. Clint Montgomery made a motion to accept Farm Bureau's bid of \$20,893.60 for 2017-2018 school vehicles and school bus insurance. Kyle Cannon seconded the motion and motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Weston asked President Hines to add an Agenda Item. Mr. Weston recommended the addition of air conditioning to one of the district's trip buses through Central States Bus Sales, Inc. at a cost of \$10,253.25. Kyle Cannon made a motion to add air conditioning to the district's third trip bus. Brian Kesterson seconded the motion and motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Weston recommended the 2017-2018 building petty cash for each building and central office. Edd Puckett made a motion to accept Mr. Weston's petty cash recommendation. Judith Roberson seconded the motion and motion carried 7-0.

Jeanne Smith, Assistant Superintendent, presented 2017-2018 Board Policies for Sections 1,4,5,6, and 7. Mr. Weston recommended the board approve the 2017-2018 Board Policies as presented. Kyle Cannon made a motion to approve the 2017-2018 Board Policies. Brian Kesterson seconded the motion and motion carried 7-0.

Jimma Holder, Louise Durham Elementary Principal, presented the 2017-2018 Louise Durham Elementary building handbook. Clint Montgomery made a motion to approve the 2017-2018 Louise Durham Elementary building handbook as presented. Kyle Cannon seconded the motion and motion carried 7-0.

Tamra Smart, Holly Harshman Elementary Principal, presented the 2017-2018 Holly Harshman Elementary building handbook. Edd Puckett made a motion to approve the 2017-2018 Holly Harshman Elementary building handbook as presented. Clint Montgomery seconded the motion and motion carried 7-0.

Clifton Sherrer, Mena Middle School Principal, presented the 2017-2018 Mena Middle School building handbook. Kyle Cannon made a motion to approve the 2017-2018 Mena Middle School building handbook as presented. Clint Montgomery seconded the motion and motion carried 7-0.

Shane Torix, Mena High School Principal, presented the 2017-2018 Mena High School building handbook. During Mr. Torix's presentation, Mr. Weston asked the Board to table the Mena High School 2017-2018 building handbook until further discussion.

Tim Harper, Athletic Director, presented the 2017-2018 Athletic Handbook. Edd Puckett made a motion to approve the 2017-2018 Athletic Handbook. Kyle Cannon seconded the motion and motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Weston explained our two board members up for re-election, Robert Hines and Todd Aynes, have no opponents and the District is not requesting a millage increase. Therefore, through a Resolution, adopted by the Board, the District could request the County Clerk to open no polling places on the day of the annual election and to conduct the election only by absentee ballot and early voting. Kyle Cannon read the attached Resolution. Todd Aynes made a motion to approve Resolution as read. Clint Montgomery seconded the motion and motion carried 7-0.

Paulette Sherrer, Federal Programs Director, presented the assurances for programs as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. Mr. Weston recommended the board authorize him to sign the set of assurances. Edd Puckett made a motion to authorize the Superintendent, Benny Weston, sign the Arkansas Department of Education Assurances for Programs under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Public Law 107-110. The assurances as required by Section 9306 and to submit an Arkansas Comprehensive School Improvement Plan application to the Arkansas Department of Education as required by Section 9305. Kyle Cannon seconded the motion and motion carried 7-0.

Danny Minton, Maintenance Supervisor, gave updates on the Louise Durham renovations. Extensive electrical and plumbing have been re-ran and old air conditioner units have been removed. The subcontractors are working nights and weekends in order to get staff back into the building by August 7th. After August 7th, the construction crews will move outside and begin the new addition. Outside work at Holly Harshman has also been completed.

Mr. Weston stated through the construction contingency money, change orders are necessary for the removal of old pipes, roof drains, a bulkhead relocated, a wall in the teacher's workroom, plumbing fixtures, new water fountains, hot and

cold water with mixer valves, gas lines rerouted, and a building permit for the City of Mena. The changes orders totaled \$52,530 and Mr. Weston asked the board to approve the change orders. Kyle Cannon made a motion to approve the changes orders presented by Mr. Weston. Brian Kesterson seconded the motion and motion carried 7-0.

Nathan Stone, Technology Director, presented information on an Apple equipment trade-in program through Diamond Assets, after discussion, Mr. Weston asked to table the trade-in program. Mr. Stone continued with a proposal for 46 Hewlett Packard ProBooks with a total price of \$28,152.00. The ProBooks would be used in the Mena High School credit recovery and health classes and paid through the Title 1 budget. Judith Roberson made a motion to approve the 46 Hewlett Packard ProBooks. Kyle Cannon seconded the motion and motion carried 7-0.

Judith Roberson made a motion to approve Financial Reports and payment of bills. Brian Kesterson seconded the motion and motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Weston recommended the following retirement and resignation:

Retirement: Teresa Mitchell - Elementary - Music

Resignation: Hope Valdovinos - Licensed Practical Nurse - Holly Harshman Elementary

Judith Roberson made a motion to approve Mr. Weston's resignation and resignation recommendations. Kyle Cannon seconded the motion and motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Weston recommended the following reassignments:

Melea Ellison from Mena Middle School 6th grade Skills for Learning to 7th grade Math replacing Karen Larson

Tima Hansard from Mena Middle School instructional and duty aide to 6th grade Skills for Learning

Renee Carls from Mena Middle School AE Paraprofessional to Mena Middle School Paraprofessional instructional and duty aide

Judith Roberson made a motion to approve Mr. Weston's reassignments. Edd Puckett seconded the motion and motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Weston recommended the following hires:

Mary Alicia Hastey - Licensed Practical Nurse - Holly Harshman Elementary

Paul Hooper - Paraprofessional - Mena Middle School AE

Tiffani Lee - Elementary - Music ALP

Geraldine Krudwig - Secondary - Literacy

Jill Newbolt - Elementary - Holly Harshman Elementary

Sadeidre Smith - long term sub through SubTeach - Secondary - Literacy - Mena High School - Upon receiving provisional teaching license, a contract would be issued at that time, not retroactive.

Judith Roberson made a motion to approve Mr. Weston's hire recommendations. Kyle Cannon seconded the motion and motion carried 7-0.

At 9:00p.m., Mr. Weston asked the Board to move into an Executive Session. At 9:20 p.m. the Board re-convened. Shane Torix, Mena High School Principal continued his presentation of the 2017-2018 Mena High School building handbook which includes a Second Chance School. The Second Chance School would be an addition to the Alternative Education and HUB classrooms and used outside the possibility of expulsion. The Second Chance School would have approval with the state department and monitored through the Alternative Education Program. After discussion, Kyle Cannon made a motion to approve the 2017-2018 Mena High School building handbooks as presented. Brian Kesterson seconded the motion and motion carried 6-1 with Judith Roberson casting the no vote.

Mr. Weston asked to add the Louise Durham Elementary asphalt bid to the Agenda. Mr. Weston stated that in the Special Called Board meeting on June 29, 2017, the asphalt/paving project was put on hold for further consultations and verifications. Mr. Weston stated that after reviewing the asphalt and paving specifications with True Love Company, the company revised their bid to \$190,133.04 from \$250,000.00. The asphalt and paving would include the front and back parking lots, around the road, and stripping. Kyle Cannon made a motion to approve the asphalt and paving bid of \$190,133.04 from True Love. Todd Aynes seconded the motion and motion carried 7-0.

With no further business, Judith Roberson moved for adjournment, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Hines, President



Brian Kesterson, Secretary