

BLYTHEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Blytheville, Arkansas
Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, August 24, 2009

The Blytheville Board of Education met at the Blytheville School District Administration Building at 405 West Park Street at 6:00 p.m. on August 24, 2009, with the following members present:

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| (1) Marietta Jerome, President | (2) Ollie R. Lofton, Vice President |
| (3) Lori Hixson, Secretary | (4) Gene Henton |
| (5) Steve White | (6) Tommy Bennett, Jr. |
| (7) Billy Fair | (8) Bill Sullivan |

Others present for the meeting: Amanda Atwill, Vance Austin, Jody Baugus, Jennifer Blankenship, Kathy Bobo, Lynette Bowman, Willie Branch, Kim Brown, Sherrie Burton, Lauren Callender, Jean Cole, Effie Collins, Dora M. Conley, Sally Cooke, J.C. Crain, Dwayne Culp, Donald Davis, Brooke Fugate, Elaine Goff, Jennifer Haley, Michelle Hardy, Geneva A. Harris, Bruce Hay, Kenneth Heard (*Arkansas Democrat Gazette*), Ben Hubbard, Jill Hubbard, Vera James, Idell Jenkins, Paul R. Jenkins, Veda G. Jenkins, Mylas Jeffers, Sue Jeffers, Priscilla Johnson, Lucille Joplin, Scott Jowers, Suzanne Kenner, Wayne Kenner, Peggy Lemons, Carlony Lewis, Henry Lucas, Tracy Marshall, Inez McWhitaker, Patricia Mitchell, Donna J. Mosley, Rose Nichols, Janice Owers, Stephanie Palmore, Micha Pankey, Sherrie Prunty, Tracey Ritchey, Ron Self, Penny Sims, Rickie Sing, Howard Smith III, Denise Strawther, Jennifer Tisdell, Norma Valley, Jo Ann Van Pelt, Chanda Walker, Leslie Goff Wells, Kris Williams, Patricia Williams, and Jamie Wohl. (There were others present who did not place their names on the sign-in sheet.)

1. CALL TO ORDER President Jerome called the regular meeting for the month of August to order.

2. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM A quorum was established with all members present.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. SCHOOL PRIDE RECOGNITION
 - A. Doug Quinn, Athletic Director and Head Football Coach, introduced the following senior football players: Michael Cole, Jeremy Heard, Johna McNeal, Jacob Ritchey, Dennis Stone, and Ervin Torres. Coach Quinn spoke about each player and stated that he was very proud of them. There is great participation in the program this year, with the first home game scheduled for October 2.

- B. Harriett Jumper, Cheerleader Sponsor, introduced the following Blytheville High School cheerleaders: Kellye Brown, Chole Campbell, Courtney Cooke, O'Jaynese Cullins, Brooke Fugate, Jordan Hardy, Tyronissia Mitchell, and Megan Ramirez. Tyronissia outlined this year's activities for the Board. The cheerleaders lead a cheer.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

1. Early voting for the school board and millage election begins on September 8 at the courthouse. The election will be held in the Board room on Tuesday, September 15. Polls will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
2. Following the general session of the pre-school workshops, the staff was taken on various bus routes so that they could become familiar with their students' neighborhoods.
3. The superintendent will publish a monthly column in the *Blytheville Courier News* to update the community on the district's programs and activities. The first column has already been published.
4. Chief Ross Thompson told the Board that the Blytheville Police Department and the Blytheville School District are teaming to offer Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) and Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) this year.
5. High School Principal Bobby Ashley thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve the district. He stated that he plans to continue the good things that are happening and improve others, because it is all about the students. He thanked the assistant principals and staff for their assistance.

B. Instructional Reports

1. Sandy Hughey, Assistant Superintendent
 - a. The start of school has been great. Morale is high and student behavior is outstanding.

Everyone seems to be excited about the new school year. It is going to be a great year!

- b. Upon a motion by Bill Sullivan and a second by Ollie Lofton, the Board voted to add "Computerized Business Applications" as one of the career/technical electives required for graduation beginning with the 2009 freshman class.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- 2. Letroy Gathen, Executive Director of Support Services
 - a. Budgets for the 2009-2010 year are being prepared.
 - b. Title I program services are being outlined for parents at each of the open houses.

C. Operations Report

Charles Van Pelt, Executive Director of Operations.

- 1. The bid for a new fire alarm system at Blytheville High School was awarded to Tech Systems, Inc., for \$78,944.25.
- 2. Bids will be opened on Thursday, August 27, for the new roof at Blytheville Charter School/ALC.
- 3. The Board was shown a diagram of proposed canopies at Blytheville Kindergarten Center and Blytheville Primary School. It will cost approximately \$119,500 to add to canopies for both of buildings.
- 4. The Blytheville High School gymnasium floor is being sanded today. Work is progressing very well. The project should be completed by mid-October at the latest.

6. ACTION ITEMS

- A. The minutes of the July 27, 2009, meeting were approved as written.

- B. The minutes of the August 6, 2009, special meeting were approved as written.
- C. The July 2009 financial report was approved as presented.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION The Board went into executive session to discuss personnel recommendations.

8. PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

After discussion, the Board came back into open session and took the following personnel actions:

A. Appointment of Administrator

Sandy Hughey	Asst. Superintendent	ADM
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B. Resignation of Certified Employees

Leesia Harrison	Counselor	BHS
Joyce Key	Computer Technology	BMS
Sharon McGee	Special Education	BHS

C. Appointment of Certified Employee

Tracy Leone	Computer Technology	BMS
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D. Resignation of Classified Employees

Sondra Jones	Paraprofessional	CES
Johnny Williams	Bus Driver	SVC

E. Appointment of Classified Employees

Deanna Bogard	Paraprofessional	CES
Edna Floyd	Crossing Guard	BPS
Nita Harris	Crossing Guard	BKC
Paul Johnson	Warehouse Supervisor	SVS
Lucinda Jones	Cafeteria	BPS
Phillip King	Paraprofessional	BHS
James Martin	Bus Driver	SVS
Ella Redditt	Cafeteria	BMS
Pat Skelton	Cafeteria	CES
Viola Smith	Cafeteria	BHS
John White	Paraprofessional	BHS

F. Appointment of Classified Employee (2009-2010 only)

Amy Parker

Paraprofessional

BKC/BPS

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tommy Bennett and seconded by Billy Fair that the Board accept the appointments and resignations as listed in A. – F. above.

Motion passed by unanimous vote

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Richard Atwill

Ex-officio Financial Secretary