

BLYTHEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Blytheville, Arkansas
Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, May 24, 2010

The Blytheville Board of Education met at the Blytheville School District Administration Building at 405 West Park Street at 6:00 p.m. on May 24, 2010, with the following members present:

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| (1) Tommy Bennett, Jr., President | (2) Lori Hixson, Vice President |
| (3) Billy Fair, Secretary | (4) Gene Henton |
| (5) Marrietta Jerome | (6) Steve White |
| (7) Carlony Lewis | (8) Tracey Ritchey |

Others present for the meeting: Dixie Cross, Alessandra Davey, Donna Hilton (*Blytheville Courier News*), Vera James, Priscilla Johnson, Suzanne Kenner, Stephen Lester, Caitlin Neal, Angel Raper, Ben Rutherford, Ron Self, Kelvin Tisdell, Curtis Walker Jr., James Worsham, and Jessica Yancey.

1. CALL TO ORDER President Bennett called the meeting for the month of May 2010 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

Ben Rutherford, Blytheville High School FFA Advisor, introduced the 2010-2011 FFA Officers to the Board. The officers then awarded Superintendent Atwill an Honorary FFA Degree.

FFA President Ali Davey told the Board about activities that are planned for summer, including growing vegetables for use at Bistro Eleven 21 and attending the Arkansas State FFA Convention, where the chapter is hoping to win an award for the most service hours.

5. BONDS Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Marrietta Jerome and seconded by Lori Hixson that the Board adopt the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Delivery of the \$12,415,000, Blytheville School District No. 5 of Mississippi County, Arkansas, Refunding Bonds dated June 1, 2010, and other documents pertaining thereto as prepared by the Friday, Eldredge & Clark Law Firm.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Marshall Hughes of First Security Beardsley Public Finance suggested that the Board adopt a resolution and a Post-Issuance Compliance Policy Manual. The resolution and policy manual were left with Superintendent Atwill for consideration at a later date.

6. FINANCIAL ADVISOR

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Marrietta Jerome and seconded by Billy Fair that the Board approve to maintain the relationship with First Security Beardsley Public Finance and employ them as Financial Advisor for a period of three years.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

1. A meeting will be held on May 26 in Little Rock regarding next year's Scholastic Audits. The superintendent and the principals of Blytheville Primary School, Central Elementary School, and Blytheville Intermediate School plan to attend the meeting.
2. Tenaris is sponsoring an after-school program at Blytheville Primary School. The program has a good, strong curriculum, which will be aligned with the district's curriculum.
3. Ms. Dee Keiter, next year's Blytheville Intermediate School Principal, and Mrs. Chanda Walker, next year's Central Elementary School Principal, are already working hard on their new positions, while continuing to do their current jobs as assistant principals at other schools.

B. Instructional Reports

Sandy Hughey, Assistant Superintendent

1. Due to make-up days for snow, the last day for students will be Thursday, June 3. The last day for teachers will be Friday, June 4.
2. There will be a drop-in retirement reception for Mrs. Wanda Kemp on Sunday, June 6, from 1:00 until 3:00 p.m. in the Board Room.
3. Retirement receptions are being held at the schools for Mrs. Emma Gathen and Mrs. Geneva Harris.

C. Operations Report

Charles Van Pelt, Executive Director of Operations

1. Bookshelves in the Blytheville High School Library are being removed in order to repair the sinking concrete floor.
2. The sewer line is being replaced on the north side of the Blytheville High School Cafeteria.
3. The roofing project at Blytheville Charter School/ALC is complete, as well as the window replacements and HVAC systems.
4. The replacement of the windows and HVAC systems at Blytheville Intermediate School is complete.
5. The new canopies are up on the circle driveway at Central Elementary School. The concrete work is 50 percent complete on the playground.
6. Bids will be opened tomorrow for removal of the roof-top HVAC units and roof repair at Blytheville Intermediate School.

8. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Minutes of the April 26, 2010, Meeting
- B. Minutes of the May 17, 2010, Special Meeting
- C. April Financial Report

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Lori Hixson and seconded by Tracey Ritchey that the Board approve items as listed in A. - C. above.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

9. REVISED STUDENT POLICIES

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Lori Hixson and seconded by Billy Fair that the Board approve revised student policies, as follows:

- 4.2—Entrance Requirements
- 4.3—Compulsory Attendance Requirements
- 4.7—Absences
- 4.12—Student Organizations/Equal Access
- 4.18—Prohibited Conduct
- 4.22—Weapons and Dangerous Instruments

- 4.26—Gangs and Gang Activity
- 4.45—Smart Core Curriculum and Graduation Requirements for the Classes of 2010-11, 2011-12, and 2012-13
- 4.45.1—Smart Core Curriculum and Graduation Requirements for the Class of 2013-14 and All Classes Thereafter

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

10. STUDENT HANDBOOKS
FOR 2010-2011

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Marrietta Jerome and seconded by Billy Fair that the Board approve student handbooks for 2010-2011, with all policy revisions included, as follows:

- Blytheville High School
- Blytheville Charter School/ALC
- Blytheville Middle School
- Blytheville Intermediate School
- Central Elementary School
- Blytheville Primary School
- Blytheville Kindergarten Center

Motion passed 7-1, with Carloni Lewis casting the nay vote.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board went into executive session to discuss the appointment of personnel.

12. OPEN SESSION

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

A. Appointment of Certified Employees (2010-2011)

Charles Bridgers	Mathematics	BHS
Katheryn Nelson	Grade 1	BPS
Laura Coleman	Grade 4	CES
Mindy Simpson	After-School Program Coordinator	BPS

B. Appointment of Administrator (2010-2011)

Takida Jackson	Assistant Principal	CES
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C. Resignation of Certified Employee (end of 2009-2010)

Shannon Jones	Art	BPS
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Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tracey Ritchey and seconded by Billy Fair that the Board accept the appointments and resignation as listed in A., B., and C. above.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

13. DRUG TESTING
POLICY

Marrietta Jerome suggested that the district consider adopting a drug-testing policy for students and employees. The Board took no action on the matter at this time.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Richard Atwill
Ex-officio Financial Secretary