

ARKADELPHIA BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICIAL MINUTES: FEBRUARY 18, 2014

The Arkadelphia Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday February 18, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Boardroom of the Administration Building, located at 235 North Eleventh Street.

Members Present: Dr. Kenneth G. Harris, Jr., Vice President; Ms. Terri King, Secretary; Mr. Billy Groom, Mr. Randy Turner, Ms. Karrie Goodman, and Dr. Casey Motl . **Member absent:** Dr. Jeff Root, President. The Vice President called the meeting to order and established a quorum with six (6) members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board approved minutes of the meetings of January 21, February 4, and February 11, 2014 were approved as presented.

REVISION OF AGENDA

Mr. Donnie Whitten, Superintendent, requested the addition of an agenda item - 6C-6: "**Consideration of Partnership Program Resolution.**" A motion to approve addition of the agenda item was made by Dr. Motl, seconded by Mr. Turner, and carried 6-0.

REPORT OF EXCELLENCE

Ms. Jeanette Turner, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, led in honoring grant recipients recently selected by the Ross Foundation to receive project funding for use in various educational activity proposals. Those honored were Ms. Charlotte Dewitt, Ms. Jane Watson, and Ms. Patti Goodson.

INSTRUCTIONAL REPORT

Mr. Whitten introduced L.M. Goza Principal, Ms. Angela Garner, math faculty members – Jeremy Smith, Misty Smith, and Sarah Moss, as well as several students, for a demonstration of instructional methods illustrating the transition to Common Core from Arkansas Frameworks.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Board and Superintendent reviewed the District's financial statements.

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

Mr. Sean Ruggles, Director of Communications, presented an update on the progress of the District's communication system. Mr. Ruggles introduced the construction of a district smart phone Ap , as well as information on extensive updating of the District web page. A press release announcing completion of the projects will inform the staff of completion of these projects in the near future.

PRESENTATION: JOBS FOR CLARK COUNTY – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TAX

The Superintendent introduced Mr. Bill Wright, member of the Board of Directors of The Economic Development Corporation of Clark County, who provided information concerning the importance of continuing the Economic Development tax, to be voted on by citizens of Clark County during a special election to be conducted on March 11.

Mr. Henry Wilson, member of the audience, addressed Mr. Wright, with a question regarding small business owners' benefits from the tax. Mr. Wright responded to the question, and the need to focus on that issue.

ARKADELPHIA PROMISE UPDATE.

Mr. Jason Jones, Director of the Arkadelphia Promise Scholarship program, provided an update on the

program that is funded by Southern Bancorp and the Ross Foundation, showing data and student college retention rates resulting from the benefits of the program.

ARKANSAS RICE DEPOT – WELLNESS COMMITTEE REPORT

An update on the Arkansas Wellness Committee and partnership with the Arkansas Rice Depot was presented by Dr. Virginia Anderson. The program is coordinated through the counseling departments of all five schools in assuring that students needing nutritional/health assistance are serviced. There was discussion of board involvement in meeting health and nutritional needs of students. Mr. Whitten spoke on behalf of the Board’s desire to assist in any way(s) that might be needed.

CONSIDERATION OF PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM RESOLUTION

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Mr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Groom, and carried 6-0 to approve a resolution for 2015-2017 project application submissions for Partnership Program funding in the upcoming 1517 Partnership Program cycle.

PERSONNEL

The Board retired to executive session to consider personnel recommendations at 8:54 p.m.

Ms. Goodman was excused from the meeting at 9:10 p.m, and returned at 9:15 p.m.

In open session following executive session, a motion was made by Dr. Motl, seconded by Mr. Groom, and carried 5-0 to approve the recommendation of the superintendent for the following personnel actions:

Resignation/Intent to Retire

Ellen Wilcher, English teacher (AHS); effective end of 2013-14 year.

Resignation

Tiffany Terry, Primary teacher (Perritt); effective end of 2013-14 year.

Re-Employment of Administrators

Virginia Anderson	Melinda Morris	Carla Narlesky
Jeanette Turner	Nikki Thomas	Randy Hicks
Patricia Wright	Angela Garner	Jimmy King
Libby Wheaton	David Maxwell	
Callie Hunley	Cheryl Merk	

STUDENT DISCIPLINE HEARING

Dr. Kenneth G. Harris, Jr., Vice President called for a student discipline hearing for Student “A” at 9:15 p.m. The student’s representative requested the hearing be closed.

Following the closed hearing, the Board retired to executive session at 9:40 p.m.

In open session at 9:45 p.m., the following action was taken:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Goodman, and carried 6-0 to expel Student “A” for the remainder of the 2013-14 year for violation of 4.17a – Student Discipline.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:49 p.m.

MS. TERRI KING, SECRETARY