

ARKADELPHIA BOARD OF EDUCATION

Official Minutes: November 18, 2014

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

Members Present: Dr. Jeff Root, President; Dr. Kenneth G. Harris, Jr., Vice President; Ms. Terri King, Secretary; Mr. Billy Groom, Mr. Randy Turner, and Dr. Casey Motl. **Member absent:** Ms. Karrie Goodman.

The President called the meeting to order and established a quorum with six (6) members present. Dr. Root announced Superintendent Donnie Whitten's absence due to his selection by the U.S. Department of Education to participate in a White House conference on digital learning - "**ConnectED to the Future**," hosted by President Barack Obama on Wednesday, November 19. The event brings together superintendents and educators from across the country who are leading their schools and districts in the transition to digital learning.

Ms. Jeanette Turner, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, assisted the Board in conducting the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of October 16, 2014 and the special meeting of November 4, 2014 were approved as presented.

REPORT OF EXCELLENCE

The District's 2014 Teachers of the Year were honored with a reception in the cafeteria of Central Primary School prior to the meeting, and were presented plaques during the Report of Excellence. Those honored were: **Ms. Sherry French, Perritt; Ms. Jean Smithey, Central; Ms. Mary Snowden, Peake; Ms. Tami Green, Goza; Ms. Beverly Slavens, AHS and District Teacher of the Year.**

INSTRUCTIONAL REPORT

The following groups and teachers were recognized for receiving Ross Foundation Grants to be used in the schools: **Perritt:** First Grade teachers – "Reaching Reluctant Readers"; **Central:** Ms. Charlotte Dewitt - "Kindness Matters Week"; **Peake:** Ms. Jessica Wright - "Wrap Up Basic Facts"; **Goza:** Arkadelphia - "Building a Community for the Young"; Ms. Shirley Howard, – "Artists on Call/Artists in Training"; **AHS:** Ms. Clairissa Mays – "GPS for EPP in EAST".

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Board and District Treasurer, Ms. Jill Hilton, reviewed the District's financial statements.

CONSIDERATION OF ANNUAL STAFF CHRISTMAS BONUS

Upon the recommendation of the Administration, a motion was made by Mr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Groom, and carried \$150 to approve a \$150 Christmas bonus to staff.

ASBA ANNUAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Dr. Root announced the dates for the annual Arkansas School Board Association Conference on December 10-12 in Little Rock. Dr. Kenneth Harris will serve as the Board's delegate.

ANNUAL BOARD EVALUATION

Ms. Terri King, Board secretary, reviewed the tally of the Board members' self-evaluation instrument. Areas of concern and comments included: touring the school campuses during a school day and becoming more familiar with the Board Member Code of Ethics. It was agreed to work on setting time for campus tours by the Board.

Following discussion, a date of December 19 was set to submit the Superintendent evaluations to be compiled by Ms. King.

CONSIDERATION OF DECEMBER MEETING SCHEDULE

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Dr. Motl, seconded by Ms. King, and carried 6-0 to cancel all regularly scheduled meetings of the Board during the month of December.

PERSONNEL

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Dr. Harris, seconded by Ms. King, and carried 6-0 to approve the following personnel recommendations:

Resignation

Judy Beaty, Secretary/Bookkeeper, (Goza); effective 12/31/14

Employment

Phyllis Jones, Cafeteria employee (AHS); Effective 11/17/14; 116 –days – at scale

Tiffany Seymore, Childcare employee; fulltime – Effective 12/1/14; 151 days – at scale

Lynsey Garcia, , Childcare employee; fulltime – Effective 12/01/14; 151 days – at scale

Annette Keeling, Paraprofessional (Peake); Effective 11/12/14; 121.5 days – at scale

Latina Sisco, Secretary/Bookkeeper (AHS); Effective 01/05/15; 120 days – at scale

Lisa Ray, Secretary/Bookkeeper (Goza); Effective 01/05/15; 120 days – at scale

Transfer

Lillian Ball, From Special Ed paraprofessional (Peake) to Paraprofessional (Peake)**Annette**

Keeling, From Bus Driver (Route C) to Bus Driver (Route A); Effective 12/19/14

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

MS. TERRI KING, SECRETARY