

MENA SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
September 15, 2009

MINUTES

The Mena School Board met in regular session on Tuesday night, September 15, 2009 with the following members present: Robby Hines, Robert Crawford, Randy Horton, Will Robbins, Clint Montgomery Edd Puckett and Kyle Cannon.

President Robby Hines called the meeting to order and asked Robert Crawford to open the meeting with prayer.

Minutes of the August Board meeting were reviewed. Robert Crawford made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Kyle Cannon seconded the motion and the motion carried.

In the Superintendent's report, Dr. Gathright reported that Construction is progressing on schedule. There is a water issue on the south side of the building where ground water is seeping in. French drains are being created to accommodate this before other issues develop when it will be too late to fix it for a reasonable price. Plumbing, electric, and concrete work begin this week.

Plans are progressing on the safe rooms for MHS, MMS, and Holly Harshman. The size for MMS and Holly has been decreased, but the MHS one will remain the approximately 6400 sq ft size.

Board election is September 15.

Numbers at each school are about the same level as last year with little fluctuation.

New bus schedules are in place and are now running smoothly, even on rainy days.

Mena High School

A good start to the year with a focus on colleges in the area is being well-received by students and teachers. Teachers wear their college shirts to convey their pride in their Alma Matas.

President Obama's speech was shown in the library three times to allow any student interested in viewing the opportunity to attend.

Plans are underway to have an optional Saturday refresher prior to the ACT.

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be Monday, October 26.

Plans are underway to elect the homecoming court by the student body and for the team to select the queen.

Rich Mountain Electric and two additional donors have added to the meals for out of town football games for the football team. At the recommendation of Larry Wood, the meals will consist of pasta, cheese topping, bread, and a side of salad or beans.

Additional funds may be needed to complete the meal.

Mena Middle School

The Back to School Dance was well attended at the MMS gym. Sixth grade students were invited and enjoyed the event as much as in years past.

The furnishings that are being replaced by the insurance company are being ordered and inventoried.

The ACSIP committee is working with the staff to complete the plan for the coming year. Parent/Teacher Conferences are Wednesday, October 28 from 3:30-9:30. The MMS Book Fair will be the week of October 26-30.

Holly Harshman Elementary School

The first Word of the Month assembly will be September 17 at 1:30.

Progress reports go out the week of September 14.

The new afternoon recess schedule is in effect this week.

Grade level meetings are going well with good planning and helpful information being shared. The block schedule is working well for the teachers and students.

Mrs. Shotzman's husband and father are doing better.

Literacy Day brought many people to Holly classrooms to share in the reading of books.

Watch DOGs are working in the school.

In conjunction with Arkansas' First Lady Beebe's "Together we Read Program", HHES has had a week of grandparents in to read with our students during their Library time.

National Literacy Day was celebrated Tuesday with many guest readers, including Dr. Gathright.

HHES is participating in requesting the PE4Life grant funds.

We will form the PTO officers Tuesday Night at our first PTO meeting.

We have added a 15min PM recess. We are very close to the minimum required instructional minutes.

Louise Durham Elementary School

The WATCH D.O.G.S. Pizza night is September 14 from 6-7 pm. It is the kickoff event for dads and kids. Mrs. Collins is the coordinator.

Fall pictures are September 16th.

Jimma Holder and Paulette Sherrer did a presentation to the faculty on Anchor Charts during the faculty meeting Tuesday. Next week they will present, discuss, and model a Literacy mini lessons to the faculty.

The Literacy/Math coordinators/coaches are modeling and observing in the classrooms. It has been very positive and well received.

Progress reports will go out next week.

All students submitted art projects for the fair. Mrs. Warrington worked closely with classroom teachers to help complete in the short time available.

Parent Teacher Conf for LD are Monday, 10/26 and Tuesday, 10/27 from 3:30-6:30.

Enrollment as of 9/9/09--Kindergarten 146, 1st grade 142, 2nd grade 139.

The presentation that was to be given by RMCC will be given at next month's board meeting.

Dr. Gathright informed the board of training dates at the Coop on September 22 and October 20 and the training date for new board members at Little Rock will be October 14.

Due to a conflict in the training date for board members at the Coop on October 20, next months board meeting was moved to October 19. The public meeting date was also set for October 19 at 6:00 p.m.

Randy Horton made a motion to approve the Petty Cash and Change Funds, see attached sheet. Kyle Cannon seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Robert Crawford made a motion to approve a Resolution Adopting the Hazard Mitigation Plan for the Mena School District, Polk County, Arkansas, see attached resolution. Clint Montgomery seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Randy Horton made a motion to approve the 2009-2010 budget. Kyle Cannon seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Financial reports were reviewed. No action was necessary.

After reviewing the August bill list, Randy Horton made a motion that bills be paid. Clint Montgomery seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Will Robbins made a motion to have the 50' X 150' narrow strip of property adjacent to Ward Creed on the north side of the Middle School property appraised and offered for sale. Robert Crawford seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Robert Crawford made a motion to have the Middle School property appraised as is and what it would appraise for if divided into 3 sections. Will Robbins seconded the motion and the motion carried.

In personnel matters, Dr. Gathright recommended accepting the resignation of Sandy Morgan RN at high school and hiring Brent Tibbs as full time custodian as of September 2, 2009. Randy Horton made a motion to accept Dr. Gathright's recommendations. Robert Crawford seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Kyle Cannon made a motion to adjourn. Clint Montgomery seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Robby Hines, President

Will Robbins, Secretary