BLYTHEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION Blytheville, Arkansas Regular School Board Meeting Monday, September 24, 2012

The Blytheville Board of Education met at the Blytheville School District Administration Building at 405 West Park Street at 6:00 p.m. on September 24, 2012, with the following members present:

- (1) Tommy Bennett, Jr., President
- (3) Billy Fair, Secretary
- (5) Carlony Lewis
- (7) Barbara Wells

- (2) Lori Hixson, Vice President
- (4) Gene Henton
- (6) Tracey Ritchey
- (8) Tobey Johnson

Others present for the meeting: Bobby Ashley, Verdelle Bowie, David Cooke, Jason Garner, Rachel Gifford, Rachel Hardesty, Scott Herron, Jennifer Hopper, Vera James, Paul Jenkins, Veda Jenkins, Ann Lewis, Carolyn Middlebrook, Jackie Plunkett, Tracy Plunkett, Sharon Randolph, Ron Self, and Bridget Shemwell. (There were others present for the meeting who did not place their names on the sign-in sheet.)

1. CALL TO ORDER

President called the regular meeting for the month of September 2012 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. Blytheville High School—Freshman Academy

Teachers Shane Spears, Paul Jenkins, and Rachel Hardesty, Principal Bobby Ashley, and parent, Jackie Plunkett, spoke regarding the success of the Freshman Academy.

B. Teryn Spears, Parental Involvement Coordinator/Technology Integration Specialist

The intent for the conversion charter school has been submitted. A time will be scheduled for Board members to tour a New Tech Network school. The district is partnering with *Blytheville Courier News* and reporter Chris Pinkard to spotlight our schools and teachers.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Tobey Johnson made a motion to re-elect the current officers. The motion was lost for the lack of a second.

A. Office of President

Tobey Johnson nominated Tommy Bennett, Jr., as President. There were no other nominations.

A motion was made by Lori Hixson and seconded by Tobey Johnson that Board elect Tommy Bennett, Jr., as President by acclamation.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

B. Office of Vice President

Billy Fair nominated Lori Hixson as Vice President. Carlony Lewis nominated Tracey Ritchey as Vice President.

Votes for Lori Hixson were cast by Tommy Bennett, Billy Fair, Lori Hixson, and Tobey Johnson.

Votes for Tracey Ritchey were cast by Carlony Lewis, Gene Henton, Tracey Ritchey, and Barbara Wells.

Since the vote was tied, Lori Hixson withdrew her name from nomination.

A motion was made by Tobey Johnson and seconded by Gene Henton to elect Tracey Ritchey as Vice President by acclamation.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

C. Office of Secretary

Carlony Lewis nominated Barbara Wells as Secretary. Lori Hixson nominated Billy Fair as Secretary.

Votes for Barbara Wells were cast by Carlony Lewis, Gene Henton, Tracey Ritchey, and Barbara Wells.

Votes for Billy Fair were cast by Tommy Bennett, Billy Fair, Lori Hixson, and Tobey Johnson.

Since the vote was tied, Billy Fair withdrew his name from nomination.

A motion was made by Tobey Johnson and seconded by Lori Hixson to elect Barbara Wells as Secretary by acclamation.

Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

6. PRIMARY BOARD DISBURSING OFFICER

Upon a motion by Billy Fair and a second by Tracey Ritchey, the Board approved a resolution to appoint Tommy Bennett, Jr., to serve as Primary Board Disbursing Officer of the District pursuant to Act 671 of 2003.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

7. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Minutes of the August 27, 2012, Meeting
- B. Minutes of the September 17, 2012, Special Meeting
- C. August Financial Report

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Lori Hixson and seconded by Barbara Wells that the Board approve items A., B., and C. above.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

D. Modify the 2012-2013 School Calendar

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tobey Johnson and seconded by Tracey Ritchey that the Board approve item D. above.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

E. Purchase 550 MacBooks from Cross County for the One-to-One Technology

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tracey Ritchey and seconded by Lori Hixson that the Board approve item E. above.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

F. Budget for 2012-2013

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tobey Johnson and seconded by Barbara Wells that the Board approve the 2012-2013 budget as presented.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

G. Title VI-B Budget for 2012-2013

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Lori Hixson and seconded by Lori Hixson that the Board approve the 2012-2013 Title VI-B (special services) budget as presented.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

H. ACSIP Assurance Statement

Upon a motion by Lori Hixson and a second by Tobey Johnson, the Board approved the assurances and authorized Superintendent Atwill to sign the assurances as required by Section 9306 and approved to submit an Arkansas Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (application) to the Arkansas Department of Education as required by Section 9305.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

I. Relinquish Blytheville Charter School Charter

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Lori Hixson and seconded by Billy Fair that the Board approve item I. above.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

- Surplus items are being posted on the auction site, GovDeals. There is a link on the district website. Individuals may bid on items, with the money being sent to the district.
- Marshall Hughes, of First Security Beardsley Public Finance, is willing to conduct a four-hour financial training for the Board. A date will be scheduled later. A two-hour training on team building could be conducted following, with the superintendent providing the training.
- Verdell Bowie, Director of Business Development for Chartwells Dining Services, spoke to the Board regarding the use of food service management companies to provide meals in the cafeterias.

A motion was made by Tobey Johnson and seconded by Barbara Wells to allow the superintendent to file a letter of intent to use a food service management company.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. Tobey Johnson invited the Board to the Mississippi County Teen Summit on October 19 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Arkansas Northeastern College Ballroom.

B. Instructional Reports

Sandy Hughey, Assistant Superintendent

The reorganization of Blytheville Primary School has gone very well. The new assistant principals, Mr. Fulkerson and Mr. Sherrell, are doing good jobs. Mr. Perkins, the new assistant principal at Blytheville Intermediate School, is doing a good job, also. The Board's support of the administrators is greatly appreciated.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

10. OPEN SESSION

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

A. Resignation of Licensed Employees

Melissa Barton	Grade 6	BIS
Anita Helms	Grade 5	BIS
Seth Parsons	Mathematics	BHS

B. Appointment of Classified Employee

Tasha Jackson Secretary to Principal CES

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Lori Hixson and seconded by Billy Fair that the Board accept the resignations (with the addition of Seth Parsons) and appointment as listed in A. and B. above.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Richard Atwill
Ex-officio Financial Secretary