

BLYTHEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Blytheville, Arkansas
Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, October 26, 2015
6:00 p.m.

The Blytheville Board of Education met in a special meeting at the Blytheville School District Administration Building at 405 West Park Street at 6:00 p.m. on October 26, 2015 the following members present:

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| (1) Tommy Bennett, President | (2) Tracey Ritchey, Vice President |
| (3) Erin Carrington | (4) Billy Fair |
| (5) Gene Henton | (6) Tobey Johnson |
| (7) Henrietta Watt | |

The following member was absent:

- (1) Barbara Wells, Secretary

Others present: Sharon Nash, Alesia Gibson, Sarah Koonce, Ted Smith, Brittany Nettles, Lance Nettles, Tyerra Richardson, Jessie Lang, Danny Pankey, Lori Hixson, Bobby Ashley, Carlony Lewis, Caylon Ford, Missy Langston, Vallie Langston, and Lizzie Langston.

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| 1. CALL TO ORDER | Tommy Bennett called the regular meeting for the month of October 2015 to order at 6:02 p.m. |
| 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM | A quorum was established with seven members present. |
| 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE | The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. |
| 4. SCHOOL PRIDE | Mike Wallace, Principal Blytheville Middle School told the Board their school's objective was to increase student voice and their perspective. Mr. Wallace introduced the Student Voice Sponsors Mrs. Sharon Nash and Mrs. Brittany Nettles. Mrs. Nash and Mrs. Nettles spoke briefly about Student Voice, then introduced students Taurus Crawford (6 th grade), Tyerra Richardson (7 th grade), Grant |

Langston (7th grade), Alesia Gibson (8th grade), and Sarah Koonce (8th grade) The students handed out Student Voice brochures to Board Members and then performed a skit.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

Tommy Bennett thanked Lori Hixson for her years of service to the Board and Tracey Ritchey read a thank you card to the Board from Mrs. Hixson.

1. Blytheville School District Report to the Public 2015 Sally Cooke, Director of Curriculum

All of our schools are fully accredited by the Arkansas Department of Education and NCA CASI/AdvanceED.

Our Federal/State Allocations for 2015-16 are:

Title II-A \$189,068.79
Title VI State – \$45,443.07
PD223 – \$60,643.00
NSLA – \$1,941,246.00
ALE state- \$261,806.00
ELL- \$18,468.00
Title I - \$1,856,432.72

The budgets fund many things with a focus on improving student achievement in literacy and math. We hire interventionists, instructional facilitators, and provide tutoring programs to help students with math and literacy. Teachers are provided with ongoing professional development to help improve achievement.

ADE has identified the dates to release scores from the PARCC assessment from last school year. School districts will have access to electronic reports for grades 9-12 on November 16, 2015 and for grades 3-8 on November 28th, 2015. Without any new scores, using the same three year averages from last year, the designations for each of our buildings changed to the following: Blytheville High School and Blytheville Middle School were designated Year I Priority and in Academic Distress. Blytheville Elementary and Blytheville Primary were designated Year 1 Focus Schools. The District's goal is to meet the annual measurable progress in

literacy and math with goals for improving attendance, graduation rate, wellness, and parental involvement.

The district has wellness committees at each school and the district level, which meet quarterly. All PE and fitness standards are met, there are no more than 9 days permitted for alternative foods, health screenings are completed for BMI, vision, hearing, and scoliosis, and healthy food selections are offered in the cafeterias with more choices for students.

Attendance committees are in place in every building and parents are notified when students miss at specific intervals according to the policies. We are partnering with Attendance Works and the Arkansas Grade Level Reading Campaign to stress the correlation between attendance and achievement.

Our students have the opportunity for extension through the Gifted & Talented Program starting with whole group enrichment in kindergarten and a pullout program in grades 1-3. Pre-ap classes are offered in grades 4-8. Advanced placement and concurrent credit courses are offered at BHS.

Our school board members have met the standards for training with the following hours logged by each in 2014: Tommy Bennett Jr. -15.5, Billy Fair-28, Gene Henton-36.5, Lori Hixson-8.75, Tobey Johnson-15.5, Tracey Ritchey 14.5, Barbara Wells-42.5, and Henrietta Watt-17.5 Board Member training hours reported in accordance with Ark. Code Ann. §6-15-1402.

2. BHS New Tech Annual Charter Report to the Public 2015
Teryn Spears, Director of New Tech

1. We want our students to possess the knowledge, skills and attributes to be successful in learning.
2. Students to be connected, engaged and challenged.
3. Students to be aware, eligible and prepared for their options beyond high school (college and career).

Goal 1: increase in scores. Blytheville High School Reading Comprehension, Mathematics and Mathematical Reasoning will increase to at least meet yearly AMO goals and individual student growth goals for each year for the first six years.

Goal 2: STAR Growth. There will be 1.5 years of grade level growth on Renaissance Learning, STAR Enterprise testing of each individual student each year, regardless of proficiency in Reading, Language Usage and Mathematics.

Goal 3: Mastery. All students will progress towards mastery of 80% by the end of the school year on each Common Core Standard as measured by End of Course exams and Star Enterprise.

Goal 4: Attendance. Attendance will increase by 0.5% over the current attendance rate of 95.33% each year for the next six years.

Goal 5: Graduation Rate. BHS graduation rate, based on the state Annual Measurable Objectives, will increase by 5.86% the first year, 4.44% the second year and 2.5% for each of the next four years thereafter.

BHS Leadership Core Team: Instructional, operational, cultural, a and stakeholder. Teacher Leaders: Content/Instructional. Teams: Grade level/cultural.

The Big 4:

1. School leadership will develop and implement a system for the effective use of data to inform all school improvement decisions and efforts.
2. School leadership, in collaboration with district administration, will plan and implement a program, designed to recruit, induct, and retain high-quality employees for all employment categories within the school/district.
3. School leadership will implement a team structure that supports student learning and improved student achievement as its primary purpose.
4. School leadership, in collaboration with district administration, will facilitate an analysis of current English/language arts and math curricula across all grade levels and articulate in writing the process for deep curriculum alignment.

Ragen Boling Teacher BES

D. Appointment of Classified Employees

Gregory Garner	Bus Driver	SVC
Patricia Keeling	Food Service	BES
Jasmine Thomas	Bus Driver	SVC
Brenda Turner	Food Service	BES

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tracey Ritchey and seconded by Henrietta Watt that the Board approve the appointments and resignations as listed in A. – D. above.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 8:58 p.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 9:19 p.m.



Richard Atwill
Ex-officio Financial Secretary