

BLYTHEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Blytheville, Arkansas
Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, January 25, 2016
6:00 p.m.

The Blytheville Board of Education met the Blytheville School District Administration Building at 405 West Park Street at 6:00 p.m. on January 25, 2016, with the following members present:

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

The following members were absent: Henrietta Watt

Others present: Marshall Hughes, Eddie Barger, Michelle Hepler, Halley Davis, Gregg Yarbrough, Paul Jenkins, Stacy Walker, Ron Hutton, Diane Delaportilla, Shannon Spears, Louise Davis, Jennifer Spurlock, Phil Gebhart, Joey Oxley, Angela Graham, Carson Goff, and Debbie Cleveland.

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1. CALL TO ORDER | President Bennett called the regular meeting for the month of January 2016 to order at 6 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 | |

A. Gregg Yarbrough, Principal, Blytheville Primary School

Mr. Yarbrough recognized and thanked all Board Members for their contributions to the district. Blytheville Primary students made posters, wrote letters and drew pictures of the Board Members in recognition of School Board Appreciation Month. Mr. Yarbrough presented a short video of BPS students thanking the Board Members for their time and service. Mr. Yarbrough

introduced teachers Halley Davis and Michelle Hepler who gave a presentation of how they start each day with a phonics lesson with the help of first grade student, Carson Goff. The teachers explained they use a hands-on approach to what they are already learning. There are seventeen Apple Connections teachers this year. Three are going to training this month and five will go in April, and hope all will be trained by next year.

Mr. Mike Wallace, Principal and Mrs. Louise Davis, Assistant Principal of Blytheville Middle School gave each member a BMS t-shirt and invited them to Board of Director's Brunch on Friday which will include a choir and band performance.

Mr. Bobby Ashley, Principal, Blytheville New Tech thanked Board Members for doing a great job and he appreciated their wisdom helping the district move forward with their hires. Mr. Ashley presented each Board Member with a key chain and invited them to a drop-in Wednesday morning from 8 – 9:30 a.m. in their honor.

Superintendent Atwill presented gift bags to Board Members from Blytheville Elementary School.

President Tommy Bennett thanked all schools for everything they do. President Bennett also welcomed BLI members who were present for the meeting.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

1. Superintendent Atwill introduced Marshall Hughes, First Security Beardsley Public Finance who explained refinance bond issue savings. Closing and transfer of funds is set for February 11, 2016 in the offices of the Friday, Eldredge & Clark Law Firm.

A motion was made by Tracey Ritchey and seconded by Billy Fair to adopt the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Delivery of the \$2,165,000, Blytheville School District No. 5 of Mississippi County, Arkansas, Refunding Bonds dated February 1, 2016 and other documents pertaining thereto as prepared by the Friday, Eldredge & Clark Law Firm.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 6:32 p.m.

2. Financial Interest Statements are due and need to be filed by the end of the month.
3. District count is up.
4. All that Jazz will be held at the Multipurpose Building on February 25th from 5 – 7 p.m.
5. We had two inclement weather days last week. One will be made up on February 15th, President's Day and the second make-up day decision will be made at the end of the month.
6. The District App finalization meeting will be Wednesday.

B. Instructional Report

Sally Cooke, Director of Curriculum

1. Information has been sent out to parents with report cards with PARCC scores to use as a guide for interpretation of scores. First online test across the state. 70% of Level 1, 2, & 3 as test scores were below and 30% met or exceeded. The state is now moving from PARCC to ACT Aspire.
2. Work continues of School Improvement Plan. 45 Day Play will go before the State at the next meeting. There is before and after school tutoring. We have student partnering as well as individualized learning specific work being done for where the students are. Students are being told why they are doing things, making a purpose. Students become active in their learning and working for mastery.
3. Leadership structure working smoothly and meeting weekly. Principals are focusing on observing learning and assistant principals are helping out with operations.
4. Teachers are saying what is working, what is not working, and what needs to be changed.

Jean Cole, Director of Support Services

1. Mrs. Cole is very proud of Blytheville School District Special Education.
2. District is under self monitoring. We have done well. Always have annual report third week of April.
3. We are doing the ABC Program. Mid-year report was approved and we are at full capacity of 20 students per class. There is a waiting list.
4. There is a new Rosetta Stone for elementary students. We hope to have it used to full capacity by next year.
5. All Title I Programs are working within budget.

C. Operations Report

Randy Jumper, Director of Facilities

1. Mr. Randy Jumper bragged on Mrs. Tiffany Snyder, Director of Food Services for the fantastic job on the state review. We were written up for a few issues but all were corrected within that week.
2. Kipp is meeting with engineers about the Central Building Wednesday. The process is moving in the right direction.
3. ASBA gave the PBIS presentation excellent recommendations during the annual conference in December. We have been asked by four other schools to come talk.
4. Mr. Tim Cowan, Athletic Surfaces Plus, Project Consultants to keep quality up and costs down gave a presentation on turf field project.

There was a short recess and the Board was back in session at 7:56 p.m.

6. ACTION ITEMS AND REPORTS

- A. December 14, 2015, Meeting
- B. December 15, 2015, Special Meeting
- C. December Financial Report
- D. School Board Legal Liability 2016 Renewal Proposal - ASBA Endorsed Program
- E. Rename Parental Involvement to Community Development Coordinator

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tobey Johnson and seconded by Billy Fair to accept items as listed in A., B., C., D., & E.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 8:02 p.m.

- F. Hire Certified School Security Officer

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tracey Ritchey and seconded by Tobey Johnson to table Action Item F. until a later meeting.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 8:27 p.m.

- G. Policy Revisions/Additions/Deletions

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tobey Johnson and seconded by Tracey Ritchey to accept items as listed in G.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 8:40 p.m.

Erin Carrington left the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

- H. Policy 7.24 Advertising on School Buses

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Billy Fair and seconded by Barbara Wells to accept items as listed in H.

Motion passed by 5:1 vote at 8:46 p.m. with Mr. Gene Henton casting the nay vote.

I. Fairview Bid

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tommy Bennett and seconded by Barbara Wells to accept item as listed in H.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 8:51 p.m.

7. Personnel Recommendations

A. Resignation of Certified Employee

Sandra Leaks	Teacher	BES
--------------	---------	-----

B. Resignation of Classified Employee

Janice Duncan	Bus Driver	SVC
---------------	------------	-----

C. Appointment of Classified Employee

Latosha Forrest	Paraprofessional	BMS – ISS/ALE
-----------------	------------------	---------------

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tobey Johnson and seconded by Billy Fair that the Board approve the appointments and resignations as listed in A. – C. above.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 8:53 p.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned 8:53 p.m.

 Richard Atwill
Ex-officio Financial Secretary