

BLYTHEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Blytheville, Arkansas
Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, September 26, 2011

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 26, 2011, with the following members present:

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| (1) Lori Hixson, Vice President | (2) Billy Fair, Secretary |
| (3) Gene Henton | (4) Carlony Lewis |
| (5) Tracey Ritchey | (6) Barbara Wells |
| (7) Tobey Johnson | |

The following member was absent:

Tommy Bennett, Jr., President

Other present for the meeting: Art Bell, Wyvonne Brown, Jean Cole, Daphnie Fair, Kevin Graves, Jennifer Hopper, Jerry Johnson, Dee Keiter, Betty Koval, Brian Lowe, Laraine McClendon, Terry Parker, Ron Self, Mindy Simpson, Clint Smith, Veda Struble, Courtney Votaw, and Mike Wallace. (There were others present for the meeting who did not place their names on the sign-in sheet.)

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| 1. CALL TO ORDER | Vice President Hixson called the regular meeting for the month of September 2011 to order. |
| 2. ESTABLISHMENT
OF A QUORUM | A quorum was established with seven members present. |
| 3. PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE | The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. |
| 4. WELCOMING
BOARD
MEMBERS | Tobey Johnson was welcomed as a newly-elected member of the Board. Tracey Ritchey was welcomed as a re-elected member of the Board. |
| 5. SCHOOL PRIDE
RECOGNITION | Principal Mike Wallace introduced Art Bell and Kevin Graves, Blytheville Middle School Student Council sponsors, who spoke about the organization and some of the activities that are planned for this year. |
| 6. ELECTION OF
OFFICERS | <p>A motion was made by Tracey Ritchey and seconded by Billy Fair that the Board re-elect the current officers—Tommy Bennett, Jr., President; Lori Hixson, Vice President; and Billy Fair, Secretary.</p> <p>Motion passed 4-3, with Gene Henton, Carlony Lewis, and Barbara Wells casting the nay votes.</p> |

7. PRIMARY BOARD
DISBURSING
OFFICER

Upon a motion by Tobey Johnson and a second by Billy Fair, 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.

8. ACTION ITEMS

A. Minutes of the August 22, 2011, Meeting

B. Minutes of the September 12, 2011, Special Meeting

C. August Financial Report

D. ARRA Projects

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tracey Ritchey and seconded by Billy Fair that the Board approve items as listed in A. – D. above.

Motion passed 6-1, with Carlony Lewis casting the nay vote.

E. Budget for 2011-2012

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tobey Johnson and seconded by Tracey Richey that the Board approve the 2011-2012 budget as presented.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

F. Title VI-B Budget for 2011-2012

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tracey Ritchey and seconded by Barbara Wells that the Board approve the 2011-2012 Title VI-B (Special Education) Budget as presented.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

G. ACSIP Assurance Statement

Upon a motion by Barbara Wells and a second by Billy Fair, the Board approved the ACSIP 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 6-1, with Carlony Lewis casting the nay vote.

9. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

1. Mindy Simpson, Coordinator of the After School Program at Blytheville Primary School and Central Elementary School, showed a video and spoke about the program. The program is sponsored by Tenaris. Courtney Votaw, representative from Tenaris, was also present for the presentation.
2. Board members received copies of the 2011-2012 student handbooks.
3. The next Town Hall meeting will be held on Thursday, October 13, at 6:00 at the Blytheville High School Auditorium.

B. Instructional Reports

1. Sandy Hughey, Assistant Superintendent
 - a. The district will receive a Title I Grant in the amount of \$11,980. The money will be used at Blytheville Intermediate School, Blytheville Middle School, and Blytheville High School to purchase literacy materials for the literacy interventionists to help students who scored below proficient on the state-mandated tests.
 - b. The Annual Report to the Public will be given at the October Board meeting.
2. Letroy Gathen, Executive Director of Support Services
 - a. The Title I Budget for 2011-2012 has been finalized.
 - b. Supplemental Services Provider documents are being prepared and information will be shared with Board at the next regular meeting.

3. Sally Cooke, Curriculum Coordinator

The Blytheville School District, Arkansas State University and Arkansas Northeastern College are partnering in the College Preparatory Academy for the Delta. The Academy is designed to help students who want to go to college, but who are not yet ready. Forty-eight students will be chosen to participate. Four instructors will teach mathematics, science, literacy, and study skills/career awareness. Parent Night will be held on Tuesday, September 27, at 6:00 p.m. in the Governor's Ballroom at Arkansas Northeastern College.

C. Operations Report

Randy Jumper, Director of Facilities

1. Sandy Hughey, Sally Cooke, and Suzanne Kenner were thanked for helping with documentation for the ARRA projects.
2. The maintenance crew is commended for doing a great job getting the campuses ready for school to begin.
3. The new fence for Blytheville Middle Schools will be installed as soon as the highway department gives approval. The gates, provided by Blytheville Sheet Metal, are beautiful with the logo dream catchers.
4. Asbestos training is complete. Merle Burnett has been proactive in this effort. Only Blytheville Intermediate School and Blytheville Charter School have any asbestos, and it is a small amount.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

11. OPEN SESSION

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

A. Retirement of Administrator (December 17, 2011)

Willie Branch	Assistant Principal	BHS
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B. Retirement of Licensed Employee (October 31, 2011)

Joy Burnett	Literacy Inst. Facilitator	BIS
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C. Resignation of Licensed Employees

Kayla Gipson	Grade 4	CES
Codie Huffman	Grade 1	BPS

D. Appointment of Licensed Employee

Linda Bullock	Special Education	BPS
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E. Retirement of Classified Employee (October 31, 2011)

Merle Burnett	Dir. Main./Transportation	SVC
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F. Appointment of Classified Employees

Kathy Dodd	Paraprofessional	BPS
Melissa Hess	Nurse	BIS/BCS
Henry Twilley	Bus Driver	SVC
Tamara Walker	Paraprofessional	BKC
Lisa White	ELL Instructor	District

G. Resignation of Classified Employees

Marsha Beasley	Nurse	BIS/BCS
Patricia Chapman	Bus Driver	SVC
Marilyn Partee	Crossing Guard	CES

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tobey Johnson and seconded by Barbara Wells that the Board accept the appointments, resignations, and retirements as listed in A. – G. above.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Richard Atwill
Ex-officio Financial Secretary