

**BLYTHEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Blytheville, Arkansas**  
**Regular School Board Meeting**  
**Monday, October 24, 2010**

The Blytheville Board of Education met at the Blytheville School District Administration Building at Blytheville Charter School/ALC at 415 Tennessee Street at 6:00 p.m. on October 24, 2011, with the following members present:

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| (1) Tommy Bennett, Jr., President | (2) Lori Hixson, Vice President |
| (3) Billy Fair, Secretary         | (4) Gene Henton                 |
| (5) Carlony Lewis                 | (6) Tracey Ritchey              |
| (7) Barbara Wells                 | (8) Tobey Johnson               |

Others present for the meeting: Jean Cole, Julia Daniels, Donald Davis, Sheila Gale, Gladys Gaston, Sam Jerome, Ann Lewis, Crystal McCandless, Alexx Ritchey, Kevin Snow, Wendy Williams, Consuela Wilson, Marilyn Woessner, and Eric Young.

1. CALL TO ORDER	President Bennett called the regular meeting for the month of October 2011 to order.
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2. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM	A quorum was established with all members present.
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3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
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4. SCHOOL PRIDE RECOGNITION

Ann Lewis, Principal of Blytheville Charter School/ALC, introduced Kim Byrd. Ms. Byrd introduced the students from the Food Production Class who prepared the meal for the Board.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

1. The town hall meetings have been held in several locations, with only a few in attendance at each meeting. Therefore, other approaches to reach parents, such as surveys and home visits, will be done.
2. There was approximately 60 percent attendance at last week's Parent-Teacher Conferences, which is down from last spring. Each school has a plan to follow up with the parents who did not attend.
3. The ASBA Region 7 Meeting will be held tomorrow night at Rivercrest High School at 6:00 p.m. Since the kickoff for the College Preparatory Academy for the Delta is also tomorrow

night, Board members agreed to meet at Arkansas Northeastern College and to go from there to the regional meeting.

4. Tools for Parents will be held Tuesday, October 25, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the administrative offices. Teryn Spears will work with parents on Home Access and other on-line activities.
5. Subs with the Superintendent will be held on Wednesday, October 26, at noon at Downtown Deli and Café. Blytheville City Council members have been invited to attend.
6. Cleaner, Safer Blytheville will host another work day on Saturday, October 29, 2011, from 8:00 a.m. to noon.
7. The district supports the IGNITE program, which helps families. Faculty and staff may donate \$18, which will help feed a family and purchase toys for Christmas.
8. Mississippi County Superintendents meet the third Thursday of each month to discuss issues common with the students in the county.
9. This year's official October 1 count was 2797, which is down 130 students from last year's count.
10. The Board was given information on a fundraiser for the Chickasaw Band. Superintendent Atwill asked Board members to consider the band parents' proposal to sell advertisements to be placed on signs at Haley Field.

#### B. Report to the Public

##### 1. Sandy Hughey, Assistant Superintendent

The district's primary academic focus is in literacy and math with reading, writing, and comprehension strategies being emphasized in all content areas. Four priorities have been set for this year—improving student performance, improving student attendance, improving student behavior, and increasing graduation rate. Information regarding goals, academic progress, AYP status, district accreditation, federal allocations, special needs funding, the Challenge Program, the competitive beverage contract, body mass index, and wellness, was shared with the Board. Board member training hours for January 1–December 31, 2010, were reported in accordance with Ark. Code Ann. §6-13-629.

2. Letroy Gathen, Executive Director of Support Services

The goal of the Title I program is "No Child Left Behind." This year's estimated budget is \$3,297,702. The program supports administrative costs, the parent/teacher center, five support staff, 49 paraprofessionals, two teachers, one math coach, and the preschool program. The program also supports various activities and staff development, as well as other district programs.

C. Instructional Reports

Sally Cooke, Curriculum Coordinator

Curriculum is being aligned to make a smoother transition for students moving to the next grade by having principals and instructional facilitators do peer visits in adjoining buildings.

D. Operations Report

Randy Jumper, Director of Facilities

1. The last section of the fence at Blytheville Middle School has been completed.
2. Outside lighting and cameras are improving security.
3. The district is working with Councilwoman Missy Langston in a recycling program, which will begin on Earth Day. Blytheville Middle School and Blytheville Intermediate School plan to participate in the project.
5. Insurance has been collected on the lawn mover that was stolen. The new one is being housed in a more secure location.

6. ACTION ITEMS

A. Minutes of the September 26, 2011, Meeting

B. Minutes of the October 4, 2011, Special Meeting

C. September Financial Report

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Barbara Wells and seconded by Tracey Ritchey that the Board approve the items as listed in A. - C. above.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

7. STUDENT TRANSFER

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Lori Hixson and seconded by Tobey Johnson that the Board accept the legal transfer of a student to the Blytheville School

District from the Manila School District under the provisions of Ark. Code Ann. 6-18-316.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

## 8. PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

The Board took the following personnel actions:

### A. Resignation of Licensed Employee

John Stanfill	Science	BHS
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### B. Appointment of Licensed Employees

Kimberly Richardson	Grade 1	BPS
Larry Sorrells	Science	BHS

### C. Appointment of Licensed Employee (January 2, 2012)

Alice Rae Galbraith	Special Education	BPS
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### D. Appointment of Classified Employees

Alicsaya Cade	Paraprofessional	BKC
Hattie Johnson	Cafeteria	CES
Jan Robbins	Cafeteria	CES
Oscielena Stokes	Cafeteria	BPS
Lee Ann Woodard	Cafeteria	BPS

### E. Resignation of Classified Employees

Mary Johnson	Cafeteria	BPS
Amy Parker	Paraprofessional	BKC

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

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

## 9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

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Richard Atwill  
Ex-officio Financial Secretary