

BLYTHEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Blytheville, Arkansas
Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, March 26, 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 March 26, 2012, with the following members present:

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| (1) Tommy Bennett, Jr., President | (2) Lori Hixson, Vice President |
| (3) Gene Henton | (4) Tracey Ritchey |
| (5) Tobey Johnson | |

The following members were absent:

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| (1) Billy Fair, Secretary | (2) Carlony Lewis |
| (3) Barbra Wells | |

1. CALL TO ORDER	President Bennett called the meeting for the month of March 2012 to order.
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2. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM	A quorum was established with five members present.
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3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
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4. SCHOOL PRIDE RECOGNITION

A. Veda Struble, Principal of Blytheville Primary School, introduced Rachel Redican, Karen Ellis, and Candi Groves who spoke to the Board regarding activities in the school's art department, library, and computer lab.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

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| 1. | The Mississippi County Drug Task Force will stage a mock hostage situation on Saturday, May 5, at Blytheville High School. Several agencies and the media plan to participate in the event. |
| 2. | Subs with the Superintendent will be held on Wednesday, March 28, with local realtors. |
| 3. | A meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 29, to discuss after-school programs for next year. |

B. Instructional Reports

1. Sandy Hughey, Assistant Superintendent

- a. The district had a full day of professional development on Friday, March 16, for vertical alignment. Teachers completed surveys regarding the training. Plans are being developed for next year.
- b. The Iowa Tests of Basic Skills will be given next week to grades 1, 2, and 9.
- c. Benchmark exams will be given to grades 3–8 during the week of April 9-13.
- d. Administrators are beginning to fill positions for next year. Openings are being posted on websites, and administrators are attending career fairs.

2. Letroy Gathen, Executive Director of Support Services

Gregg Yarbrough, Jean Cole, and he attended a meeting in Little Rock regarding grant preparation for the Arkansas Better Chance preschool program. The application will be submitted prior to the April 5 deadline.

3. Sally Cooke, Curriculum Coordinator

- a. All schools are looking at programs, budgets, test scores, etc. to make plans for next year.
- b. There will be a meeting on Thursday, March 29, with Arkansas State University regarding the College Prep Academy. Mr. Atwill and she will attend, as well as Estelle Mathis from ADE, and representatives from Arkansas Northeastern College. Great strides are being made with these students.

C. Operations Report

Randy Jumper, Facilities Director

- a. This week the district is playing catch up from spring break. Yards will be mowed at the schools first, then at the administration building.
- b. Facilities are in great shape. At this time, there are no plans other than renovations needed for the Freshman Academy.
- c. There was an attempted break-in at the north concession stand.

- d. The district's current cleaning service, GCA, is doing a better job. They are also reducing the cost to the district.

6. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Minutes of the February 27, 2012, Meeting
- B. Minutes of the February 22, 2012, Special Meeting
- C. Minutes of the March 5, 2012, Special Meeting
- D. Minutes of the March 13, 2012, Special Meeting
- E. February Financial Report

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

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board went into executive session to discuss personnel recommendations.

8. OPEN SESSION

The Board came back into open session and took the following personnel actions:

A. Reappointment of Principals (2012-2013)

Bobby Ashley	BHS
Ann Lewis	BCS
Veda Struble	BPS
Mike Wallace	BMS
Chanda Walker	CES
David White	BIS
Gregg Yarbrough	BKC

B. Reappointment of Assistant Principals (2012-2013)

Jennifer Blankenship	BHS
Donald Davis	BHS
Louise Davis	BMS
Takida Jackson	CES
Dee Keiter	BPS
Charlie Sullivan	BHS
Paula Tiffany	BCS

C. Appointment of Assistant Principal (2012-2013)

Ryan Perkins	BIS
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D. Retirement of Licensed Employee (end of 2011-2012)

Kathy Byers	Choral Music	BHS
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E. Resignation of Licensed Employees (end of 2011-2012)

Jamie Cole	Kindergarten	BKC
Felicia Griggs	Grade 1	BIS

F. Appointment of Licensed Employees (2012-2013)

Candice Groves	French (.50)	BHS
Lynette Short	Business	BHS
Lisa White	Spanish/ELL	BHS

G. Retirement of Classified Employees (end of 2011-2012)

Larrie Bell	Bus Driver	SVC
Shirley Harris	Custodian	BIS

H. Resignation of Classified Employees (end of 2011-2012)

Wanda Bell	Bus Monitor	SVC
Lisa White	ELL Paraprofessional	BHS

I. Appointment of Classified Employee (2012-2013)

Candice Groves	Paraprofessional (.50)	BPS
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Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Lori Hixson and seconded by Tracey Ritchey that the Board approve items as listed in A. – I. above.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Richard Atwill
Ex-officio Financial Secretary