

BLYTHEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Blytheville, Arkansas
Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, January 27, 2014

The Blytheville Board of Education met at the Blytheville School District Administration Building at 405 West Park Street at 6:00 p.m. on January 27, 2014, with the following members present:

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

The following members were absent:

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| (1) Billy Fair | (2) Carlony Lewis |
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Others present for the meeting: Christina Andrews, Bobby Ashley, Rai'Annon Beal, Arlet Castro, Louise Davis, Kenterriya Ford, Maddie Hixson, Veronica Holton, Lizzie Langston, Missy Langston, Breanna Luellen, Kimberly Luellen, Anna Millham, Debra Siegler, Crystal Wilbur, Shakiah Williams, and Gregg Yarbrough.

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| 1. CALL TO ORDER | President Bennett called the meeting for the month of January 2014 to order. |
| 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF
A QUORUM | A quorum was established with six members present. |
| 3. PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE | The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. |
| 4. BOARD APPRECIATION | |
| | A. Bobby Ashley, Principal of Blytheville High School, invited Board members for breakfast on Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in his office. Blytheville High School donated a book to the school's library in honor of the Board. |
| | B. Gregg Yarbrough, Principal of Blytheville Primary School, honored the Board with thank you notes written by students. |
| | C. Louise Davis, Vice Principal of Blytheville Middle School, presented the Board with ink pens and the school's cheerleaders showed their appreciation by cheering. |
| | D. Chanda Walker, Principal of Elementary School, left bottles of juice for the Board with cards of appreciation attached to them. |

5. SCHOOL PRIDE RECOGNITION

Teryn Spears, New Tech Director, thanked the Board for their support and stated that the school year was going exceptionally well. The Board was updated on instruction and activities for the school year. Other New Tech Schools have been to shadow the teachers. As with any new program, there have been challenges, but teachers, parents, and students were listened to carefully and changes have been made.

6. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

1. The superintendent will represent Crowley's Ridge Cooperative on the AAEA State Finance Committee.
2. Mrs. Spears is working on a partnership with Arkansas State University to fund summer STEM projects, such as the BHS Project Flight and BMS Robotics.
3. The President of the National School Board Association will speak at Arkansas State University on March 18. Board members were invited to attend.
4. Harry Wong will speak at Arkansas State University in May regarding classroom management.
5. Board members were reminded that the "Statement of Financial Interest" is due in the county clerk's office by Friday, January 31.

B. Instructional Reports

1. Jean Cole, Director of Support Services
 - a. The Title I allocation has been revised twice and the district will receive an additional \$10,000.
 - b. Twelve portfolio students recently took a field trip to the Civil Rights Museum in Memphis.
 - c. Walmart adopted a classroom of nine medically fragile students. Each student was given a \$60 gift card for a shopping spree. The students were also treated to refreshments in the VIP room.
 - d. On Friday, February 21, Blytheville will host the Region 13 Run, Dribble, and Shoot Tournament for Special Olympics in the Blytheville High School Gymnasium.
 - e. Special Olympics are scheduled in April at Gosnell.

- f. Special Education will present the School Pride Recognition at the May Board meeting.

2 Sally Cooke, Director of Curriculum

- a. Three of the district's schools will participate in the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College Careers (PARCC) field testing this year. Scores will not be given to the schools, but will be used to judge the effectiveness of the test. Arkansas is leading the country in participation in the field testing.
- b. Principals have passed TESS exams and are working with teachers on Response to Intervention (RTI). Each teacher can pinpoint the strengths and weaknesses of each student, so they can work to help them all make gains. Because of high stakes, all students must show growth. Teachers are working hard to help the students.

C. Operations Report

Randy Jumper, Director of Facilities

1. Public Meeting for the Ten-Year Master Plan
2. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tobey Johnson and seconded by Tracey Ritchey that the Board approve the Resolution for Local Support of the Ten-Year Master Plan.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 7:03 p.m.

7. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Minutes of the December 16, 2013, Meeting
- B. Minutes of the December 16, 2013, Special Meeting
- C. Minutes of the January 9, 2014, Special Meeting
- D. Minutes of the January 16, 2014, Special Meetings
- E. Minutes of the January 21, 2014, Special Meeting
- F. December Financial Report
- G. Arkansas Public School Unemployment Compensation Account

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

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 7:04 p.m.

8. PERSONNEL
RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Appointment of Classified Employees

Michelle Lee	Paraprofessional	BPS
Michelle Maddox	Payroll Bookkeeper	ADM

B. Appointment of Licensed Employee

Ben Fisher	Head Football Coach	BHS
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Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Atwill, a motion was made by Tracey Ritchey and seconded by Tobey Johnson that the Board accept the appointments as listed in A. and B. above.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 7:06 p.m.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION The Board went into executive session to discuss the contract for the superintendent.

10. OPEN SESSION The Board came back into open session and took the following action:

Extension of Superintendent's Contract

Upon a motion by Tracey Ritchey and a second by Gene Henton, the Board voted to extend the contract of Mr. Richard Atwill, as superintendent of the Blytheville School District, for one year. The new, three-year contract will begin July 1, 2014, and end June 30, 2017.

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 7:39 p.m.

11. ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.



Richard Atwill
Ex-officio Financial Secretary