

BLYTHEVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Blytheville, Arkansas
Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, May 23, 2016
6:00 p.m.

The Blytheville Board of Education met in a special meeting at the Blytheville School District Administration Building at 405 West Park Street at 6:00 p.m. on May 23, 2016 with the following members present:

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

The following members were absent:

- (1) Gene Henton

Others present: Michelle Hepler, Amy Wright, Paula Pitts, Lesha Foster, Amanda Abersman, 6 Brooke, Hall, 8 Tanya Razer, Allison Turner, Beth McGrain, Jennifer Bennett, Eileen Garris, Johnny Gart, Tracy Plunkett, Idell Jenkins, Gloria Brown, Cynthia McCustion, Bailee McCustion, Mark McCustion, Alex Smallwood, Janet Mason, April White, Nina Watson, Shane Spears, Jennifer Spurlock, McKenzie Pierce, Michelle R. Sims, Trey Hale, Jamie Hooks, J. Ben, Diane Jenkins, Sue Jeffers, Anes W. Abraham, Venita Nichols, Tacie Fulling, Dionne Diamond, Felice Williams, Dettris Poole, Adron Poole, Alisha Williams, and Rhonda Hodges.

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| 1. CALL TO ORDER | President Bennett called the regular meeting for the month of May 2016 to order at 6:02 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 RECOGNITION

A. Jean Cole, Director of Support Services, Special Olympic Students

Mrs. Cole introduced 2016 BHS graduates and Special Olympic team members Alisa Davidson and Brody Morgan. The students were involved in volleyball, bowling, floor hockey, basketball, power lifting and track and field. A video "What We See" was presented showing the point of view of the world athletes. Lawanda Davison, Special Olympic Director, Area 13 told the Board they students love going to events and showing off their medals, then presented a slideshow of area events.

B. Volunteers of the Year

Teryn Spears, Director of New Tech and Superintendent Atwill presented awards as follows: Pat Smallwood, Blytheville Primary School Volunteer of the Year, April White, Blytheville Elementary School Volunteer of the Year, Mark McCustion, Blytheville Middle School Volunteer of the Year and Jackie Plunkett, BHS-New Tech Volunteer of the Year. Jackie Plunkett was also named as the District Volunteer of the Year.

Mrs. Spears introduced Allison Turner, Community Development Coordinator to the Board.

C. District Retirees

Teryn Spears and Superintendent Atwill recognized district retirees: Brenda Richardson, Jerry Henderson, Erma McMiller, Susie Marshal, Elnora Thurman, Virginia Richardson, Rhonda Johnson, Dorothy Hill, Patricia Griffin, Robert Anderson, and Margaret Dobbins.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

1. Mrs. Teryn Spears and Mr. Shane Spears who are moving out of state thanked the Board for letting them serve our district for eleven years. There have been ups and downs but BHS is poised and ready to do great things.
2. Head Basketball Coach McKenzie Pierce was introduced and he told the Board that right now he was holding down his regular job working with students in the afternoon.
3. Blytheville School District Odyssey Teams are leaving tomorrow at

6 a.m. to travel to OM World Finals at Iowa State University.

4. Governor Hutchinson is not going to designate any more schools in academic distress.
5. We are on track. The process we are going through has integrity. Our schools have come a long way.

B. Instructional Report

Jean Cole, Director of Support Services

1. Principal Baruti Kafele, a national speaker has taken an interest in our district and will be coming to speak July 25th.
2. We have special education openings
3. We have high crime and poverty. BES teachers and BMS Leadership just returned from Ron Clarke Academy with new strategies that work in Atlanta and that will work here.
4. We had reduced suspensions with black males and all numbers are going down. We have a partnership with Chief Thompson, Captain Ward, DHS, juvenile judge and mental health facilitators.

C. Operations Report

Superintendent Atwill gave Operations Report for Randy Jumper, Director of Maintenance and Facilities who was not present.

1. Gearing up for summer painting.
2. There are having issues with trash pickup. We want our schools to be safe and clean.
3. We are learning lessons on electricity. We have had electrical issues. We had a fuse that had been in the box since 1965. When we do not have power, problems arise. Technology is a major tool in our district. We are looking into getting a generator to keep everything running.
4. There is a safety issue with the floors in the boys and girls gyms at BMS. There are tiles on top of concrete, with wax on top creates slippery floors. Looking at rubber replacement mats that connect to prevent falls and blunt force.
5. General maintenance on gutters, doors, door locks and windows

is ongoing.

6. ACTION ITEMS

- A. April 25, 2016, Meeting
- B. May 9, 2016, Special Meeting
- C. April Financial Report
- D. Community Eligibility Provision
- E. ADE Special Education Statement of Intent 2016-2017
- F. ASBA Model Policy Manual Continuing Service Agreement
- G. 2016-2017 Board Meeting Dates

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

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 7:09 p.m.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION The Board went into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Recommendations.

A. Appointment of Certified Employees (2016-2017)

Morgan Gardner	Teacher	BPS
Bryanna Nix	Teacher	BHS-New Tech
Lena Pierce	Teacher	BHS-New Tech
Micah Rogers	Teacher	BPS
Stephanie Starks	Math Instructional Specialist	BES
Donna Sunshine	Teacher	BHS-New Tech
Abbie Watson	Teacher	BPS

B. Resignations of Certified Employees (End of 2015- 2016)

Amanda Albersman	Teacher	BPS
Kia Fulkerson	Teacher	BES
Betty Gawthrop	Teacher	BHS-New Tech
Leilani Cato Lacer	Teacher	BPS
Greg Osborne	Teacher	BMS
Tanya Razer	Teacher	BPS
Teryn Spears	Director of New Tech/ Stakeholder Involvement	Admin
Shane Spears	Teacher	BHS-New Tech
Paula Tiffany	Assistant Principal	BPS
Christine Wagley	Teacher	BHS-New Tech

C. Certified Employee Termination

Jocelyn Davey	Teacher	BPS
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D. Appointment of Classified Employee

Tommy Dillon	Industrial Electrician	SVC
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E. Resignation of Classified Employee

Amanda Atwill	School RN
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OPEN SESSION The Board came back into open session at 8:21 p.m.

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

Motion passed by unanimous vote at 8:23 p.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.



Richard Atwill
Ex-officio Financial Secretary