

RECORD OF BOARD PROCEEDINGS
(MINUTES)

Blytheville, AR
September 22, 2008

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 22, 2008, with the following members present:

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| (1) Marrietta Jerome, President | (2) Ollie R. Lofton, Vice President |
| (3) Lori Hixson, Secretary | (4) Gene Henton |
| (5) James T. McMahan II | (6) Steve White |
| (7) Tommy Bennett, Jr. | (8) Billy Fair |

Others present for the meeting: Richard Atwill, Jenni Betts Deming (*Blytheville Courier News*), Peggy Lemons, and Ross Thompson.

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| 1. CALL TO ORDER | President Jerome called the regular meeting for the month of September 2008 to order. |
| 2. MINUTES | The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written. |
| 3. OLD BUSINESS | There was no old business to discuss. |
| 4. NEW BUSINESS | |

A. Election of Board Officers

A motion was made by Tommy Bennett and seconded by Gene Henton to re-elect the current officers, as follows: Marrietta Jerome, President; Ollie Lofton, Vice President; and Lori Hixson, Secretary.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

B. Resolution to Appoint Primary Board Disbursing Officer

Upon a motion by James McMahan and a second by Tommy Bennett, the Board approved a resolution to appoint Marrietta Jerome to serve as primary board disbursing officer of the district pursuant to Act 671 of 2003.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

C. Budget for 2008-2009

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Daniels, a motion was made by Ollie Lofton and seconded by Gene Henton that the Board approve the 2008-2009 budget as presented.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

1. Superintendent Daniels introduced Police Chief Ross Thompson, who addressed the Board regarding the School Resource Officer program and the good relationship between the Blytheville Police Department and the Blytheville School District.
2. The Wynne School District will host the ASBA Region 7 meeting on Thursday, October 30, at 6:00 p.m.
3. The Arkansas School Boards Association will move into the former Baldwin Shell Building. The Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators has purchased a building near the Capitol.
4. The 2008-2009 budget will be tight. Expenses are going to be closely monitored. Raises, if any, will be considered in November. Employees on salary schedules received step increases at the beginning of the year. Employees who are not on schedules have received no increases.
5. The failed millage increase was an disappointment, not only because the community did not support it, but because the staff did not support it. The Board was in agreement that another attempt to pass a millage increase should be made in the spring.

B. Instructional Reports

1. Sandy Hughey, Assistant Superintendent

The Board was shown a presentation regarding the AdvancED process for obtaining district-wide

accreditation. School employees, the Board, parents, students, and the community will be involved in the process. The accreditation visit will be held March 1-4, 2009.

2. Letroy Gathen, Executive Director Support Services

In preparation for the AdvancED visit, the Parent Center is distributing posters with the district's vision statement and mission statement to each of the schools and the administration building.

C. Operations Report

Charles Van Pelt, Executive Director of Operations

The construction of the cafeteria and kitchen at Central Elementary School, the roof at Blytheville Charter School, and the renovations to the HVAC systems at Blytheville Intermediate School are necessary. It is important that the district does not give up on the millage increase issue.

D. Recognition

James McMahan recognized the Blytheville High School Chickasaws and their coaches for an excellent start to the football season.

6. PERSONNEL

The Board took the following personnel actions:

A. Appointment of Certified Employee

William Brandon	Special Education	BHS
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B. Resignation of Classified Employees

Denise Diamond	Paraprofessional	BHS
Melissa Hill	Paraprofessional	BMS
Regina Merriweather	Paraprofessional	BKC

C. Appointment of Classified Employees

Janet Appling	Cafeteria	CES
Florence Harvell	Personal Care Aide	BIS
Amy Parker	Paraprofessional	BKC
Falonda Williams	Paraprofessional	BMS

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Daniels, a motion was made by James Mahan and seconded by Tommy Bennett that the Board accept the appointments and resignations as listed in A., B., and C. above.

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Bruce E. Daniels, Ph.D.
Ex-officio Financial Secretary