

## MENA SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

**APRIL 22, 2014**

### MINUTES

The Mena School Board met in regular session on Tuesday night, April 22, 2014, in the Administration Building Board Room, with the following members present: Edd Puckett, Clint Montgomery, Judith Roberson, and Kyle Cannon. Brian Kesterson, Will Robbins and Robert Hines were absent.

Brian Kesterson left meeting after Executive Session.

Vice-President Robertson asked Edd Puckett to open the meeting with prayer.

Minutes from previous Board meeting were reviewed. Edd Puckett made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Kyle Cannon seconded the motion and motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Weston asked the Board to move on to Agenda Item #1 concerning a student expulsion. Parents of the student were not present. Shane Torix, Principal of Mena High School informed the Board the parents were not contesting the expulsion.

Kyle Cannon made a motion to expel Mena High School student, I.D. #17197, based on board policy 4.24 for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school term. Edd Puckett seconded the motion and motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Weston, in an effort to go paperless, asked Nathan Stone, Technology Director, to inform the Board on iPads used for board meetings.

Continuing the meeting with the Superintendent's Report, Mr. Weston explained to the Board and public a rumor concerning the possibility of restructuring our schools. Mr. Weston stated during an administrator's team meeting, everyone was thinking outside the box, brain storming, etc. for ideas to improve enrollment. Those ideas were just thoughts that shouldn't have gone any further. Mr. Weston asked principal's Paulette Sherrer, Jimma Holder, Mike Hobson, and Shane Torix to explain how and why ideas came up during the administrator's team meetings. Tamra Smart and Doris Wells, both teachers at Holly Harshman Elementary, were granted permission from the Board to voice their opinions on restructuring. Mr. Weston stressed there would be no restructuring without in depth research and studies, which would include keeping district staff and the public informed.

The BearFacts Sponsor, Mysti Gates, along with The BearFacts student staff presented a power point covering new and exciting plans for the paper. After the presentation, the Board was presented with all papers published thus far this year.

G/T Program Review, Freda Moore. Mrs. Moore presented the board with Strengths and Problems of Gifted Children handout. Mrs. Moore highlighted several areas G/T students use their strengths in school settings and everyday life as well as possible problems G/T students may encounter. Each Board Member was given a survey to complete and return to Mrs. Moore as part of the state department G/T mandate reporting.

Mr. Weston advised the board the need to raise paid meal prices for the 2014-2015 school term. After discussion, Kyle Cannon made a motion to raise meal prices as follows:

Paid student lunch \$2.35

Paid student breakfast \$1.35

Adult lunch \$3.25

Adult breakfast \$2.00

Clint Montgomery seconded motion and motion carried 4-0.

Ken Marshall, Assistant Superintendent, stated the PPC and the CPPC voted to approve the 2014-2015 school calendar as presented. Edd Puckett made a motion to approve the 2014-2015 school calendar. Clint Montgomery seconded the motion and motion carried 4-0.

Ken Marshall, Assistant Superintendent, went over changes made in Sections 3 and 8 of Board Policies and approved by the PPC and CPPC. Clint Montgomery made a motion to approve changes to Sections 3 and 8 of board policies. Kyle Cannon seconded the motion and motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Weston received notice from the Commission for Arkansas Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation (Commission) biennium Year Two projects funding. Funds will become available on July 1, 2014. Our district was awarded Warm/Safe/Dry remodel for Louise Durham Elementary in the amount of \$1,209,819.64. After discussion, Kyle Cannon made a motion to approve funding. Clint Montgomery seconded the motion and motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Weston handed the Board New ADE Rules: Ethical Guidelines effective March 13, 2014. These revised rules are for Educational Administrators, Employees, Board Members, and Other Parties.

Clint Montgomery made a motion to appoint Robert Hines to the Health and Wellness Committee for a one (1) year term. Kyle Cannon seconded the motion and motion carried 4-0.

Clint Montgomery made a motion to appoint Kyle Cannon to the Staff Development Committee for a one (1) year term. Edd Puckett seconded the motion and motion carried 4-0.

Kyle Cannon made a motion to appoint Judith Roberson to the Personnel Policies Committee for a one (1) year term. Edd Puckett seconded the motion and motion carried 4-0.

Clint Montgomery made a motion to appoint Brian Kesterson to the Sick Leave Bank Committee for a one (1) year term. Kyle Cannon seconded the motion and motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Weston asked the Board to appoint a Board member to a new AD HOC committee; the committee will meet with Bearcat Foundation, Inc., as needed.

Clint Montgomery made a motion to appoint Kyle Cannon to the AD HOC committee, after a discussion of possible conflict; Clint Montgomery withdrew his motion to appoint Kyle Cannon and made a motion to appoint Edd Puckett to the AD HOC Committee for a one (1) year term. Kyle Cannon seconded the motion and motion carried 4-0.

Kyle Cannon made a motion to pay the bills. Clint Montgomery seconded the motion and motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Weston added two items to the Agenda.

Our Federal Programs audit was recently complete with no concerns.

Graduation is May 16<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 p.m., at Bearcat Stadium. Board members were asked to park in front of the Mena Middle School. In regard to graduation, chairs for students and dignitaries need to be purchased. The lifetime warranty chairs will cost approximately \$3,000.00.

In personnel matters, Mr. Weston made the following personnel recommendations:

Retirement of:

Joyce Rodgers – Elementary

Kyle Cannon made a motion to accept the retirement recommendation. Clint Montgomery seconded the motion and motion carried 4-0.

Resignations of:

Savannah Mizell – Senior Cheer Sponsor

Ladatha Hobson – Junior Cheer Sponsor

Clint Montgomery made a motion to accept the resignation recommendations. Kyle Cannon seconded the motion and motion carried 4-0.

Hire:

Ladatha Hobson – Senior Cheer Sponsor

Hannah Powell – Junior Cheer Sponsor

Clint Montgomery made a motion to accept the hire recommendations. Kyle Cannon seconded the motion and motion carried 4-0.

RENEWAL OF NON-LICENSED CONTRACTS FOR 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR:

SEE ATTACHED

Kyle Cannon made a motion to renew non-licensed contracts for 2014-2015 school year.  
Clint Montgomery seconded the motion and motion carried 4-0.

With no further business, Clint Montgomery moved to adjourn, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Judith Roberson, Vice-President

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Kyle Cannon, Secretary