

Minutes of Board of Education Regular Meeting
Conway Public Schools Administration Building
2220 Prince St.
October 13, 2009

Members present: Mr. Quentin Washispack, Mr. Chuck Shipp, Mrs. Susan McNabb, Mrs. Carolyn Lewis, Mr. Bill Clements, Mr. Carl Barger, and Dr. Adam Lamey. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Vice President Carolyn Lewis.

Others present: Sup't. Greg Murry, Assistant Sup't. Carroll Bishop, Directors: Charlotte Vann, K.K. Bradshaw, Peggy Woosley, David Westmoreland, Nick Stroman, Dianne Allen, Buzz Bolding, Ruth Ann Williams, Business Manager Zinnia Clanton, Gifted/Talented Supervisor Donna Whiting and Judy Harper, secretary.

Sup't. Murry welcomed fourth grader, Alex Gossett, and her mom, Kathaleen Hull, to the meeting. Alex is a student at Jim Stone Elementary School. She led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and told about some of her favorite activities and subjects at Jim Stone.

Reorganization of the Board

The following slate of officers was unanimously approved by the Board on a motion made by Mr. Shipp and seconded by Mr. Washispack:

President	Carolyn Lewis
Vice-President	Susan McNabb
Secretary	Bill Clements

Resolution for Appointment of Primary Board Disbursing Officer

Mr. Shipp made a motion to appoint Bill Clements as the Primary Board Disbursing Officer. Motion was seconded by Dr. Lamey and passed unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda

A motion to approve the consent agenda as presented was made by Dr. Lamey and seconded by Mr. Barger. Motion passed unanimously. Items on the consent agenda:

1. Approval of minutes, Sept. 8, 2009
2. Approval of purchase order for food service
3. Approval of the list of bills paid in September 2009
4. Approval of the out-of-district transfer requests filed by the following parents/guardians:
 - Angie Robinette family, 4 children to the Pulaski Co. Special School District
 - Mary Riley family, 1 child to the South Conway Co. School District

Superintendent's Report

- The Board heard a student enrollment report from Sup't. Murry. As of October 1, total student enrollment in the district stood at 9083 students, which is a decrease of 61 students for the same time period last year.
- Sup't. Murry summarized the revised job descriptors for the Central Office Directors.

- The timeline for reviewing and amending the district's policies was reviewed by Sup't. Murry. Sections 1 and 6 will be presented for study at the December board meeting.

2009 Conway School District Annual Report

The Board heard a report describing the status of the district from Dr. David Westmoreland. The annual report is mandated by law and details the frameworks the district works in, the tests given to the students and the performance levels for each subgroup. Each subgroup must meet or exceed the annual measurable performance levels. Student subgroups include white, black, Hispanic, economically disadvantaged, students with disabilities, and ELL. Performance levels are categorized as proficient, advanced, basic and below basic. The Arkansas Smart Accountability Plan has created new categories of improvement and selection criteria for those schools who have not met AYP. Schools are separated into either achieving, targeted or whole school improvement statuses under The Smart Accountability plan. Schools are identified as either achieving, alert, targeted improvement, whole school improvement, targeted intensive improvement, whole school intensive improvement, and state directed. Conway scored above the state average in every grade on the 2009 benchmarks. The report also lists the training received by the school board members and district demographics. The annual report is posted on the district's website.

Review of New Hiring Procedures

Dianne Allen reviewed the new hiring process. After a position has been posted, the principal or supervisor reviews applications for candidates, calls references, and sets up interviews. Interviews will take place at the building level. The principal or supervisor will make a final recommendation to the Superintendent and he will conduct a final district-level interview. If the candidate is approved, he/she will be given a Letter of Intent binding the district to employ him/her and may begin working the next day. The School Board will have final approval at the regular board meeting. The Board was asked to review a handout of the process and approve it in November. Copy of handout attached.

Resolution for Reimbursement for Architectural Fees

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Dr. Lamey and seconded by Mr. Washispack; motion passed unanimously.

Board Financial Report

Sup't. Murry reviewed the finance report for the period ending September 2009. The current balance in the operating fund is \$5.9 million. Revenue is up \$1.6million (15%), over the same time period last year; expenses have increased \$783,435 (7%).

Request to Address the Board

Kenneth Spatz addressed the Board concerning the district's hiring policy. Pres. Lewis stated that the Board would not take any action or have any comments concerning his presentation. Mr. Spatz gave each board member a data packet. He stated the public expects (1) the district's hiring policy to be transparent and guided to minimize the ease of corruption and to maintain the public's trust, (2) diversity in the staff and, (3) the best teacher for a position to be

hired. He volunteered to serve in the capacity of a community member on any committee organized for the purpose of developing a new hiring process.

Executive Session

The Board adjourned into executive session for the purpose of discussing employee resignations and elections. In open session, Pres. Lewis asked for a motion to approve the following:

Resignations –

Karen Cagle - Teacher, Effective Sept. 18, 2009
Alton Tyus - Bus Driver

Elections –

Emily Ann Peters - Special Educ. Resource Teacher, #10-19
Margaret Greene - Instructional Paraprofessional, #10-28
Brittney Moix - ABC Preschool Instructional Paraprofessional, #10-33
Samantha Felts - ABC Preschool Instructional Paraprofessional, #10-29
Jason Moix - Construction Paraprofessional, #10-32
Sherry Gwatney - Custodian, #10-35
Lisa Rickett - Special Educ. Instructional Paraprofessional, #10-36

Pres. Lewis called for a motion to approve the resignations and hiring of personnel as recommended by the Superintendent. Mr. Barger so moved; Mr. Washispack seconded; Motion passed unanimously.

No further business to come before the Board, Pres. Lewis called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Barger so moved; Mr. Washispack seconded; Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Lewis, President

Bill Clements, Secretary