

Minutes of Board of Education Regular Meeting
Conway Public Schools Administration Building
2220 Prince St.
December 8, 2009

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

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

Sup't. Murry welcomed Dallin Myers and his mom, Mrs. Reed Myers, to the meeting. Dallin is a third grade student at Ellen Smith Elementary School. He is a cub scout and is in the gifted/talented program. He led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Consent Agenda

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Mr. Quentin Washispack and seconded by Mr. Shipp. Motion carried unanimously. Items on the consent agenda:

1. Approval of minutes dated November 10, 2009
2. Approval of out-of-district transfer request filed by Janeice Henderson to transfer one child to the Quitman School District
3. Approval of the list of bills paid in November 2009

Superintendent's Report

- Coach J.R. Ross recognized cross country athlete, Erica Setzler. She is the State Meet champion and runs a 6 minute mile in a cross country 3.1 mile race.
- Sup't. Murry recognized Ruth Ann Williams. She was recently named the outstanding Adult Education Administrator for Arkansas.
- Sup't. Murry recognized board members, Mr. Bill Clements and Mr. Carl Barger. They have each attained Master Board Member status by earning a minimum of 50 hours of professional development through the Arkansas School Board's Association.

Arkansas Advanced Initiative for Math and Science (AAIMS) Grant

The AAIMS Grant is a five year program created by NMSI (National Math and Science Initiative). AAIMS is funded by the ExxonMobil Corporation, the Gates Foundation and Dell. NMSI (National Math and Science Initiative) oversees the grant. AAIMS, Inc. is a private corporation and is a separate entity from the state of Arkansas and the Arkansas Department of Education. The Conway Public Schools will not make any decisions for funding concerning this program. There are 23 schools in Arkansas involved in the program. The purpose of the program is to increase the number of students scoring 3-5 on Advanced Placement exams in math, science, and English that would help them to be

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successful in the fields of science and engineering. The grant requires that the Advanced Placement Strategies, Inc. of Texas model be replicated in the selected schools. Conway High School applied to the program in October and a site visit by a team from AAIMS was scheduled the first week of December. The district should know in February if they will be invited to participate in this grant.

Arkansas School Recognition Program

Act 35 introduced the Arkansas School Recognition Program. The program is based on a school's annual yearly progress. Schools are categorized as growth or gains models and/or status models: Gains schools achieved annual improvement category levels. Status schools met school annual performance category levels. Points are assigned based on the student's performance levels: below basic, basic, proficient, and advanced. Performance based funding in the amount of \$100 per student who participated in the CRT in grades 3-8 was allocated to each school meeting the requirements. The schools recognized as Gains Schools are Marguerite Vann, Simon, and Ruth Doyle; the schools recognized as Status Schools are Jim Stone, Julia Lee Moore, Ellen Smith and Ruth Doyle. The faculty at Simon, Vann, Ellen Smith, and Julia Lee Moore voted to use the award allocation for non-recurring bonuses for the faculty and staff; the faculty at Jim Stone voted to use the award allocation for non-recurring expenditures for education equipment or materials; and the faculty at Ruth Doyle Intermediate voted to use the award for non-recurring bonuses for the faculty and staff and for non-recurring expenditures for education equipment or materials.

Section I, Board Governance and Operations Policies

Sup't. Murry reviewed ASBA recommended changes to Policy 1.7-Powers and Duties of the Board and Policy 1.9-Policy Formulation. The Board was asked to study the changes for a vote at the January meeting.

June 30, 2008 Audit

Sup't. Murry told the Board the audit for the year ending June 30, 2008, was a very clean audit. There was only one finding for internal control: more employees need to be involved in the process of expenditures. This finding is a very routine finding for school districts.

December 1, 2009 Refunding Bond Issue

Scott Beardsley, Vice President of First Security Beardsley Public Finance, reported on the Dec. 1, 2009, Refunding Bond Issue. There were 4 bids received. The lowest bid was submitted by Prager, Sealy & Co., LLC. with a rate of 4.322754%. Metropolitan National Bank in Little Rock is the trustee for the bonds. The closing and transfer of funds is scheduled for December 22 in the offices of the Friday, Eldredge & Clark Law Firm. The district will receive \$101,600.20 after paying the balance of the Nov. 1, 2004, bond issue and the fiscal agent's fee. The dollar savings over the life of the bond issue is \$1,304,516.92 or 1.908% less than the payments would have been on the Nov. 1, 2004

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bond issue. Most of these savings will be realized this year. Pres. Lewis called for a “motion to adopt the resolution authorizing the issuance and delivery of the \$41,325,000, Conway School District No. 1 of Faulkner County, Arkansas, Refunding Bond Issue dated December 1, 2009 and other documents pertaining thereto as prepared by the Friday, Eldredge, & Clark Law Firm.” Mr. Lamey so moved. Mr. Washispack seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Board Report

The Board heard a financial report for the month ending Nov. 30, 2009. Sup’t. Murry told the Board the deficit in the federal programs was due to late payment from the government and the district should receive it by December 15th. The current balance in the operating fund is \$16,837,007.18.

Executive Session

The Board adjourned into executive session for discussion of personnel issues. In open session, Pres. Lewis called for a motion to approve the following resignations and elections as recommended by the Superintendent:

Resignations –

Rhonda Schiamare - Teacher, Effective Dec. 18, 2009
Helen Edwards - Food Service

Elections –

Kenneth Harris - Bus Driver
Virginia Weaver - Food Service
William “Dusty” Brown - Teacher, Julia Lee Moore Elementary, #10-37

Mr. Barger so moved; Mr. Lamey seconded. Motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Washispack left the meeting after executive session for a prior commitment and was not present for the vote.

No further business to come before the Board, Mr. Barger moved to adjourn. Mr. Lamey seconded and motion passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Carolyn Lewis, President

Mr. Bill Clements, Secretary