

Minutes of Board of Education Regular Meeting
Conway Public Schools Administration Building
2220 Prince St.
October 11, 2011

Members present: Mr. Andre' Acklin, Mr. Bill Clements, Mr. Carl Barger, Dr. Quentin Washispack, Mr. Chuck Shipp, Dr. Adam Lamey and Mrs. Susan McNabb.

Others present: Sup't. Murry, Assistant Superintendent Bishop; Directors: Dianne Allen, Charlotte Vann, Dr. K.K. Bradshaw, Debbie Miller, Dr. David Westmoreland; Gifted/Talented Supervisor Donna Whiting, Business Manager Zinnia Clanton, Recording Secretary Judy Harper, and Courtney Spradlin, Log Cabin Democrat Reporter.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Pres. Clements.

Sup't. Murry introduced Cade Jones, Student Ambassador of the Month, to the Board. Cade is a 10th grade student at CHSE. He enjoys playing football and baseball and is a member of the Beta Club, Spanish Club and K-Life. His parents are Tim and Amy Jones. Cade led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Re-organization of the Board

Dr. Washispack made a motion to elect the following slate of officers: Bill Clements-President, Susan McNabb-Vice-President, and Chuck Shipp-Secretary of the school board. Motion was seconded by Mr. Acklin and passed unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda

The consent agenda was unanimously approved on a motion made by Dr. Washispack and seconded by Mrs. McNabb. Items on the consent agenda included

1. approval of the minutes of the September 13, 2011, board meeting
2. approval of the list of bills paid in September 2011
3. approval of the purchase order to Video Reality for technology equipment
4. approval of the list of retired fixed assets and
5. approval of the bus bid for three busses from Diamond State Bus Company.

Superintendent's Report

- Donna Whiting recognized the District's 2012 National Merit Semifinalists: Eileen Ablondi, Jean Corbitt, Mallory Brooks, Molly Evans, Ruth Gomez, Joshua Lewis, Justin Murdock, Ben Sattelberg, Vincent Senclair, Valentin Velchev, and Parker West. Conway is ranked third in the state with the number of Semifinalists in the state this year. Lauren Hart and Gina Singel received a commendation from The National Merit Scholarship Corporation for scoring at or above the average selection index of 205 for Arkansas. National Merit Semifinalists are the highest-scoring entrants in each state. They represent less than one percent of each state's high school seniors.

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- Mark Lewis announced that Jim Stone Elementary School had been named a 2011 National Blue Ribbon School for their overall academic success by U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. He, Ms. Coleman and Ms. Gresham will travel to Washington D.C. and be recognized by Pres. Obama's administration as a continuing achievement school. Mr. Lewis lauded his staff for receiving this prestigious award.
- Charlotte Vann introduced Melissa Moix. She was named AR School Psychology Specialist of the Year by the Arkansas School Psychology Association. She has been a school psychologist for 8 years.
- Sup't Murry gave the Board an enrollment report. The official October 1 count is 9,432, an increase of 176 students from last year.

Sale of Bonds

Mr. Scott Beardsley with First Security Beardsley Public Finance told the Board the Refunding and Construction Bonds, Series C, dated November 1, 2011, for \$36,520,000 sold October 4, 2011. The bonds were sold to fund construction of the new Carolyn Lewis Elementary School. Four bids were received. Prager, Sealy & Co., LLC submitted the lowest TIC (true interest cost) rate, 4.138638%. Bank of the Ozarks, Little Rock, was appointed to serve as trustee. The bonds will close November 4 at 10:00 a.m. in the law offices of Friday, Eldredge & Clark. The net proceeds of \$11,142,667.18 will be credited to the school district. Of that amount, \$11,904.86 will be deposited to the bond fund and \$11,130,762.32 will be deposited to the construction fund of the Carolyn Lewis Elementary School. Pres. Clements called for a motion to adopt the resolution authorizing the issuance and delivery of the \$36,520,000 Conway School District No. 1 of Faulkner County, Arkansas, Refunding and Construction Bonds, Series C dated Nov. 1, 2011 and other documents pertaining thereto as prepared by the Friday, Eldredge & Clark Law Firm. Mr. Barger so moved; Mr. Shipp seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Annual Report to the Public

Dr. David Westmoreland presented the District's annual report. The report included AYP classifications, 2011-2012 strategies for technical assistance and support, results of the augmented benchmark and end of course exams, district demographics, enrollment patterns, student demographics, student reports concerning discipline and safety, graduation rates, and retention, attendance rates, ACT scores, National Merit Semi-Finalists and Finalists, certification of teaching staff, taxpayer investment, and training reports for each board member.

Elementary Zones Proposal for Review

Assistant Sup't. Bishop gave a report on the proposed elementary and middle school zones. The rezoning committee studied the suggestions made by parents and patrons on-

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line and at the public meeting. Their goal was to develop a map in the best interest of each student in Conway. Three potential maps were produced. The committee's choice of the three maps is proposed Map #1. Under this proposal, Woodrow Cummins and Ida Burns Elem. attend Ruth Doyle; Theodore Jones and Julia Lee Moore Elem. attend Simon; Marguerite Vann, Jim Stone and Carolyn Lewis attend Carl Stuart Middle School; and Florence Mattison and Ellen Smith attend Bob Courtway Middle School. The Board will study the proposed Zoning Map #1 and vote at the November board meeting.

Update on Construction Projects

Assistant Sup't. Bishop reported the progress on Carolyn Lewis Elementary School and Conway High School is on schedule for their estimated dates of completion.

ARRA Fund Report

Charlotte Vann gave an informational summary report on the status of the ARRA Stimulus Plan. The grant award totaled \$9,210,516. The district has expended \$8,810,567 and encumbered the balance of \$399,949. These monies will be spent prior to Dec. 16, 2011. The projects funded were SFSF/Renovation/Modernization, IDEA Special Education, Title I, and Jobs.

Board Financial Report

Sup't. Murry gave an informational financial summary report. The balance in the operating fund for the period ending Sept. 2011 is \$7,219,774.62. The negative balance in food service and federal programs is due to late reimbursement from the federal government.

An executive session was not needed and there was no other business to come before the board. The meeting was unanimously adjourned on a motion made by Mrs. McNabb and seconded by Dr. Lamey.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Clements, President

Chuck Shipp, Secretary