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Fayetteville Board of Education

Minutes of the May 28, 2009 Regular Meeting

The meeting convened at 5:00pm in the Adams Leadership Center with President Susan Heil presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by students from Washington Elementary School.

Roll Call

The roll was called and board members Jim Halsell, Howard Hamilton, Tim Kring, Susan Heil, Tim Hudson, Steve Percival and Becky Purcell were present.

Recognition

Matt Saferite, Ramay Junior High principal, received a Recognition of Outstanding Achievement award for being named the 2009 Arkansas Secondary School Principal of the year by the Arkansas Association of Secondary School Principals.

Geniece Yates, Fayetteville High School journalism teacher, received a Recognition of Outstanding Achievement Award for being named the 2009 Advisor of the Year by the Arkansas Scholastic Press Association.

Mac Macauley, technology integration specialist at Fayetteville High School, received an Above & Beyond Award.

Consent Agenda

Steve Percival made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Tim Hudson seconded the motion, which was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Millage Election

Dr. Bobby New, superintendent, introduced administrative staff members who presented information regarding questions that were raised at the May 13 board workshop. Dick Johnson, assistant superintendent, reported that the traffic engineering firm of Peters and Associates will conduct a traffic study to address the issues of closing Stone Street, the impact of adding the 9th grade population and make a recommendation for traffic management for the new high school campus. Mr. Johnson also reported that the district has received support from the City of Fayetteville and the University of Arkansas for the closing of Stone Street. The closure will start when the school design process begins and should take 60-90 days to complete. Wes Burgess from Crafton, Tull & Sparks reported that active construction areas will be surrounded by 6' fences and future parking areas will be used for storage, as well as off campus sites. He also discussed options for materials staging. Ginny Wiseman, associate superintendent, reported on the past and current work being done regarding small learning communities. Ms. Wiseman also noted that the average student/teacher ratio at the high school is 17



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to 1 and, barring any unforeseen circumstances, it should remain at that number. Dr. Lisa Morstad, chief financial officer, discussed debt wrapping and its effect on the millage. Ms. Susan Norton, chief information officer, noted that the mayor has indicated that the City of Fayetteville is not going to raise their millage in 2010. Tim Kring made a motion that the Fayetteville Board of Education place a millage rate increase on the September 2009 annual school election ballot for constructing and equipping new facilities and the renovation of existing facilities, including, but not limited to, a new high school. Tim Hudson seconded the motion, which passed by a 6-1 vote with Becky Purcell abstaining.

School Calendar Policy

The Board voted 7-0 to approve the School Calendar Policy that was presented at the April board meeting. Howard Hamilton made the motion, which was seconded by Tim Kring.

Bus Purchases

The Board voted 7-0 to purchase two 47-passenger lift special needs buses and two 71-passenger route buses. Tommy Davenport, director of transportation, noted that the purchases are part of the cyclic purchases of the bus fleet and that the funds are included in the transportation budget. Howard Hamilton made the motion, which was seconded by Steve Percival.

Bond Refunding

The Board voted 7-0 to approve the refunding of Series 2004 bonds. Dr. Morstad noted that the district will realize a net savings of \$374,000 as a result of the refunding process. Becky Purcell made the motion, which was seconded by Howard Hamilton.

Stimulus Funding Information

The Board voted 7-0 to approve the proposed budget for stimulus funds. Dr. Lisa Morstad and Linda Auman presented an overview of the budget, which includes \$1,719,329 for Title VI-B (IDEA), \$1,489,738 for Title I and \$5,110,074 for the construction of a new Happy Hollow Elementary School. Dr. Morstad added that the district is required to spend the money within a two year time frame. Steve Percival made the motion, which was seconded by Becky Purcell.

New Superintendent Goals

Board member Steve Percival presented information regarding the progress made toward establishing goals for the new superintendent. The Board will approve the final document in July.



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Certified & Classified Policy Changes

Greg Mones, director of human resources, presented changes to Policies 4141.2 (Stipend Schedule), 4150 (Certified Leave Policy), 4243 (Classified Leave Policy), 4115 (Transfer Policy), and 4119 (RIF Policy). All proposed changes have been approved by the classified and certified PPC's. The Board will be asked to vote on the changes at the June meeting.

Executive Session

The Board adjourned to executive session at 6:50pm to consider an employment matter. The Board returned to open session at 7:05pm. Dr. Bobby New recommended Kristen Scanlon for the position of principal at Owl Creek School effective July 1, 2009. Steve Percival made the motion to accept the recommendation to hire Kristen Scanlon as principal of Owl Creek School effective July 1, 2009. Becky Purcell seconded the motion, which passed by a 6-0 vote. Dr. Bobby New recommended Rhonda Moore for the position of principal at Root Elementary School effective July 1, 2009. Tim Hudson made the motion to accept the recommendation to hire Rhonda Moore as principal at Root Elementary effective July 1, 2009. Jim Halsell seconded the motion, which passed by a 6-0 vote.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07pm

Susan W. Heil, President

Tim Kring, Secretary