

**FAYETTEVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

AUGUST 1, 2022

Present:

Mark Clark, Chairman
Tommy Holland, Vice-Chairman
Pam Bryson
Bridgett Hopkins
Jennifer Murdock
Shawnta Fulton
Danny Bryant, ex-officio
Bill Hopkins, Director of Schools

Also Attending:

Lisa Williams
Tricia Jean
Eddie Keys
Michael Bobbitt
Eric Jones
Rujena Dotson
Steve Giffin
Christine Tuten
Cindy Young

Absent:

Claudia Styles
Tricia Jean
Adam McCormick
Tonja Whitenack

Chairman Clark called the meeting to order. Vice Chairman Holland made a motion to approve the agenda; second by Mrs. Murdock. All members voted aye.

Chairman Clark led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Murdock made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2022 meeting; second by Mrs. Hopkins. All members voted aye.

Vice Chairman Holland made a motion to approve the July disbursements; second by Mrs. Murdock. All board members voted aye.

Chairman Clark noted that Mr. Hopkins had excused the principals from the meeting due to today being the first day of school.

Supervisors' Reports -

Mr. Jones – provided a detailed update to the board about the FEMA facility project and addressed questions he has been asked. He provided a history of the dome project, noting that the City of Fayetteville/Fayetteville High School Safe Room, Gymnasium project has been underway since December of 2019 when the original grant was written by Edward Keys and Eric Jones, signed by Mayor Michael Whisenant and submitted. Mr. Jones quoted from a prepared report, which read, “We were awarded the grant after a long delay due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. This award came from TEMA. FEMA funds go to TEMA who has been funding our grant since approval. We are very appreciative of the effort, advice, and help that the team at TEMA has provided us during this project.

“The grant must be awarded to The City of Fayetteville or the local EMA to be eligible. The school system could not take advantage of this grant without the support of the City and vice versa. We are grateful to Mayor Michael Whisenant and the current Board of Mayor and Alderman for supporting The Fayetteville City School System in this project. They have asked important questions to safeguard the financial position of the City and to ensure no additional tax burden to the citizens of Fayetteville. To that point the City of Fayetteville and Fayetteville City Schools have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding that allows the

School System to pay all expenses related to the project upon approval of the Board of Mayor and Alderman. They have supported each request for payment we have made. The MOU also states that while grant reimbursement checks will be paid to the City they will immediately pass those funds to Fayetteville City Schools for continued use on the project.

“This project has been covered in the Elk Valley Times on February 9, 2021. It has been showcased on Huntsville news stations. It has been reviewed and updated at almost every Fayetteville City School Board Meeting since December 2019. Every Recommendation of Payment has been presented and voted upon by the Board of Mayor and Alderman as well as the Fayetteville City School Board. These meetings are all recorded and available online. I would encourage anyone with questions to take a moment to familiarize themselves with these vast resources of information on the topic and rest assured that there has been an abundance of transparency related to this grant and project.”

Mr. Jones explained that the original PDM grant would provide a total of about \$5M. \$3.5M would come from FEMA/TEMA funding while City Schools would pay about \$1.25M plus any extra costs that are not grant eligible. This is a 75%/25% grant structure. TEMA and our project manager have advised us to change this PDM to a HMGP to make more funds available due to inflation. We plan to stop the PDM grant in process and continue under our new grant structure upon approval. We are in the process of changing the grant to a HMGP which can provide up to \$9,381,826. This type of grant would require Fayetteville City Schools to pay about \$400,000 plus any extra costs that are not grant eligible. This grant structure is 90% funded from TEMA, 5% State of Tennessee, and 5% Fayetteville City Schools. Obviously, this is a substantial improvement in our financial requirement under the grant.

Mr. Jones noted that the grant itself covers everything that makes the structure a safe room. The only things not covered are bid alternates that make the safe room a gym. Gym floors, goals, scoreboards, and seating are examples of this.

Mr. Jones emphasized that Fayetteville City Schools will pay for the project and ongoing maintenance. There will be no need for the City of Fayetteville to take on debt for this project. The City Schools has \$4M in the Capital Project budget to pay for this project and any additional costs associated with it. These funds came from a payment to Fayetteville City Schools when Lincoln County decided to build the new Blanche School. We hope to use as little of this money as possible to fund the project but we have prepared to cover the expenses that the grant will not.

Responding to a question about how the facility will be made available for the community, Mr. Jones said we are developing an Operations and Maintenance Manual for the Safe Room. This document will be the plan that explains this process in detail. There will be three teams that take part in the process outlined in the manual. A Safe Room Management Team, an Emergency Team and a Security Team will all play roles in the process. We plan to make this document available to the public when it attains final approval near the completion of the project. We also would like to provide a public training on the process at that time. Upon completion, we hope to have a training video available online. It would be opened any time there is a tornado watch as soon as personnel could reach the facility to open it. Fayetteville City Schools staff, the SRO team for FPD/FCSBOE, our local EMA and others will contribute to the process.

Mr. Jones said the dome is a tornado safe room primarily with a dual purpose as a gym. This has always been the case. The grant has a requirement of dual purpose use. It takes care of two important needs. The City of Fayetteville gets a tornado safe room which is open to the public during tornado watches and warnings and located on the campus of two schools. Fayetteville City Schools gets a gym that will be large enough to safely host some of our events and provide the required number of seats to host TSSAA tournaments.

He noted that the City of Fayetteville/Fayetteville High School Safe Room, Gymnasium is one of the most code compliant structures possible to build. It's ADA compliant and meets or exceeds the following codes. FEMA 361 – 4th Edition April 2021; ICC 500 2020 Edition; 2010 ADA Standards and Accessible Design Code; 2017 National Electric Code; 2012 International Fire Code; 2012 International Fuel Gas Code; 2012

International Mechanical Code; 2012 International Plumbing Code; 2012 International Building Code; 2012 National Fire and Protection Code 101; and IECC Climate Zone Code.

Responding to a question about a feasibility study for the dome project, Mr. Jones said that the grant application itself is a feasibility study. FEMA requires a large amount of data and applies this information to a formula to create a ratio (BCR) that must meet or exceed a score of 1.0. The BCR for this project is 5.6 or better. This calculation considers the number of people who are located near (within one half mile radius) the Safe Room at various times of the day. The location must be near a substantial number of people or it would not meet the requirements. Our location on campus and within walking distance (another factor) of the majority of public housing in our community are variables that helped us in our efforts to be awarded this grant. The BCA (another calculation used to determine eligibility as a cost benefit analysis) estimates that the total value of this project is worth \$56,000,000. The Safe Room will accommodate more than 1,000 people. Parking is available in front of the school and has been utilized to accommodate more than 1,000 people numerous times for events such as graduation. We will also have ADA parking available adjacent to the Safe Room.

Mr. Jones referred to a Public Notice for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Funding which was posted on December 18, 2019 and allowed 30 days after publication of the notice for community members to comment on the project.

When asked about annual maintenance costs, Mr. Jones said that while it is not possible to forecast energy costs long term we anticipate these costs will be in the neighborhood of \$18,000 per year. We will have a dome structure that is similar to the one in Tupelo. The annual maintenance cost for the Tupelo structure is \$15,000 per year. Fayetteville City Schools is prepared to pay for this expense.

Mr. Jones noted that the accurate name of the project taken directly from the grant is “City of Fayetteville/Fayetteville High School Safe Room, Gymnasium”. He also said no FEMA-361 rated Safe Rooms are listed as available to the public in Fayetteville or Lincoln County at this time per the FEMA website.

Mrs. Dotson – reported that Perkins Reserve grant funds were used to purchase student sets of equipment, including multimeters, screwdrivers, and other tools and a \$30,000 robotic arm. She said she attended the National GEAR UP conference in Washington, D.C., with Mandy Pitts. Mrs. Dotson reported that Audio Enhancement is completing the sound system setup in the schools. She also complimented the central office staff for their assistance in organizing the professional development prior to the first day of school. Mrs. Dotson said Motlow and TCAT are coming tomorrow for dual enrollment.

Mr. Giffin – complimented central office staff and Mr. Hopkins for their work on in-service, calling it the best in his tenure with Fayetteville City Schools. Mr. Giffin reported that he anticipates a little over 1,200 students this year. Currently, there is about 50 percent participation in online registration through Skyward. He expects other parents to use the online portal over the next few days.

Mrs. Tuten – reported that the SPED department is fully staffed for the beginning of the school year. A new SPED teacher training was conducted in addition to the annual new teacher training and she has set up new teachers with mentors.

Mrs. Young – reported that she has received notification that all four of our pre-k programs are grant funded now and that she anticipates having a waiting list for pre-k by the end of the week. After-school numbers are also at capacity now with 60 kids. A full-day literacy training was held at Ralph Askins School with a representative from SchoolKit conducting the training. She noted that this is an adoption year for math textbooks.

CFO Report –

Lisa Williams – Mrs. Williams said she is in the process of closing out the year and working with the auditors. She has been working with Local Government in implementing SubTracker so that teachers can request a substitute online and employees can keep track of their leave. Mrs. Williams has sent out links to staff to enroll in My HR Storage, which is part of the benefit package by American Fidelity. She has sent out notices for employees to log in to Employee Navigator which assists staff with required training. Mrs. Williams reminded the board that life insurance policies that are offered to each employee at no charge were increased from \$10,000 to \$12,000, per the board's earlier action, and becomes effective in July.

Reports -

Facilities and Transportation – Chairman Clark made a motion to approve Broaddus & Associates Invoice #10 [PDMC-PJ-04-TN-2019-03] in the amount of \$19,394.61 for project and program management services on the FEMA project, per Recommendation of Payment from Broaddus & Associates; second by Vice Chairman Holland. All members voted aye.

Chairman Clark made a motion to approve JBHM Architecture Invoice #7 [PDMC-PJ-04-TN-2019-03] in the amount of \$3,087.40 for architectural services through construction on the FEMA project, per Recommendation of Payment from Broaddus & Associates; second by Vice Chairman Holland. All members voted aye.

Finance – No report.

Insurance and Policy –

Mrs. Hopkins made a motion to approve revised Policy 1.102 Board Members on second reading; second by Ms. Fulton. All members voted aye.

Mrs. Hopkins made a motion to approve revised Policy 3.202 Emergency Preparedness Plan on second reading; second by Ms. Fulton. All members voted aye.

Mrs. Hopkins made a motion to approve revised Policy 4.210 Credit Recovery on second reading; second by Ms. Fulton. All members voted aye.

Mrs. Hopkins made a motion to approve revised Policy 4.212 Virtual Education Program on second reading; second by Ms. Fulton. All members voted aye.

Mrs. Hopkins made a motion to approve revised Policy 4.406 Use of the Internet on second reading; second by Ms. Fulton. All members voted aye.

Mrs. Hopkins made a motion to approve revised Policy 4.600 Grading System on second reading; second by Ms. Fulton. All members voted aye.

Mrs. Hopkins made a motion to approve revised Policy 5.201 Separation Practices for Non-Tenured Teachers on second reading; second by Ms. Fulton. All members voted aye.

Mrs. Hopkins made a motion to approve revised Policy 6.200 Attendance on second reading; second by Ms. Fulton. All members voted aye.

Mrs. Hopkins made a motion to approve revised Policy 6.204 Attendance of Non-Resident Students on second reading; second by Ms. Fulton. All members voted aye.

Mrs. Hopkins made a motion to approve revised Policy 6.306 Interference/Disruption of School Activities on second reading; second by Ms. Fulton. All members voted aye.

Mrs. Hopkins made a motion to approve new Policy 4.101 Instructional Standards on second reading; second by Ms. Fulton. All members voted aye.

Mrs. Hopkins made a motion to approve new Policy 4.402 Reconsideration of Textbooks and Instructional Materials on second reading; second by Ms. Fulton. All members voted aye.

Mrs. Hopkins made a motion to approve new Policy 4.403 Library Materials on second reading; second by Ms. Fulton. All members voted aye.

Mrs. Hopkins made a motion to approve new Policy 5.119 Employment of Retirees on second reading; second by Ms. Fulton. All members voted aye.


Superintendent's Report - Mr. Hopkins recommended approval of the contract with Central Technologies, Inc., for network management services. Chairman Clark made a motion to approve the contract; second by Ms. Fulton. All board members voted aye.

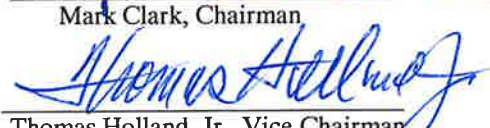
Mr. Hopkins asked for approval of the resignation of Kayla Camp, a tenured teacher. Ms. Bryson made a motion to approve the resignation; second by Vice Chairman Holland. All board members voted aye.

Chairman's Report -

Chairman Clark announced that the next meeting of the board will be Tuesday, Sept. 6, at 5 p.m., due to the Labor Day holiday falling on the first Monday of the month.

The meeting was adjourned.



Mark Clark, Chairman


Thomas Holland, Jr., Vice Chairman

Minutes submitted by Sandy Williams