

**FAYETTEVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**AUGUST 7, 2023 @ 5 PM**

**FAYETTEVILLE MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM**

**Present:**

Mark Clark, Chairman  
Tommy Holland, Vice-Chairman  
Pam Bryson  
Bridgett Hopkins  
Jennifer Murdock  
Shawnta Fulton  
Jeff Alder, ex-officio  
Eric Jones, Director of Schools

**Also Attending:**

Lisa Williams  
Steve Giffin  
Rujena Dotson  
Claudia Styles  
Tricia Jean  
Adam McCormick  
Michael Bobbitt  
Brittany Baker  
Spencer Perrin

**Absent:**

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

Chairman Clark led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Murdock made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2023 meeting; second by Mrs. Hopkins. All members voted aye.

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

**Principals' Reports –**

**Mrs. Baker** – presented the report for Ralph Askins School, saying the school year is off to a good start. She cited current enrollment as follows: 81 in pre-k; 97 in kindergarten; 71 in first grade; 85 in second grade; 92 in third grade; 85 in fourth grade; and 74 in fifth grade. Total is 585 students. Last year, RAS finished the year with 541 students. She said the increase in enrollment is primarily in kindergarten and pre-k. Mrs. Baker then introduced Mrs. Shana Smith, who teaches the STEM class at RAS. She shared a Power Point presentation highlighting STEM activities.

**Mr. Bobbitt** – presented the report for Fayetteville Middle School, citing enrollment as follows: 74 in sixth grade; 82 in seventh grade; and 92 in eighth grade. A Back-to-School Dance put on by the FMS cheerleaders is planned for the upcoming Saturday night. It will be a sneaker ball. He also shared information about the school's various extracurricular activities.

**Mr. Perrin** – presented the report from Fayetteville High School, saying the school is off to a great start. He expressed appreciation to the board members for coming out on the first day of school to greet students. He noted Ma'Raya Fulton will be the student ex-officio member of the school board. Enrollment is as follows: freshmen, 78; sophomores, 85; juniors, 97; and seniors, 88. Total enrollment is at 348. Enrollment is down slightly since last year's graduating class was the largest in school history.

### **Public Comment –**

Chairman Clark noted that, in accordance with Board Policy 1.404, members of the public wishing to make comments and who have given the board advance notice of their desire to speak are being provided that opportunity. No members of the public had requested to speak.

### **Supervisors' Reports –**

**Mrs. Dotson** – presented the board with information about EPSOs (Early Postsecondary Opportunities) that are recognized by the state and those that are utilized at FHS.

**Mr. Giffin** – said he has been busy working with the Student Information System and the related programs and noted that the system is in the process of updating servers, installing new Access Points and making sure that internet access is available in the new cosmetology room.

**Dr. Styles** – Dr. Styles noted that Fayetteville City is one of only 18 in the state of Tennessee awarded the Stronger Connections grant, with FCS securing \$1.1 million in grant funds. The funding has allowed the system to hire a social worker at each school. She noted that Mrs. Dotson had organized a meeting of the new social workers, counselors and nurses to brainstorm ideas and develop best practices. She also expressed appreciation to E'Sheia Hicks who went above and beyond to assist a homeless family who just relocated to Fayetteville. Karen Bobbitt also worked with Mrs. Hicks and local organizations to provide support for the family. Dr. Styles said FCS participated in the South Central Human Resource Agency's Children's Health Fair.

**Mrs. Jean** – said Lexie Wagster, a full-time special ed EA for Fayetteville City Schools, is in the system's "Grow Your Own" program, attending college in pursuit of a Special Education degree.

**Mr. McCormick** – reported the state has not yet approved the system's virtual school.

### **CFO Report –**

**Lisa Williams** – Mrs. Williams presented the July financial report for the board's review.

### **Reports -**

**Facilities and Transportation** – Mr. Jones shared an update on the FEMA project, noting that he has been able to have conversations with Ben from Congressman DesJarlais' office who may be able to assist in moving the project forward. He noted that the new cosmetology room looks fantastic and the classes will move in once furniture has arrived.

**Finance** – Chairman Clark made a motion to approve a revised supplement list to separate athletic directors at Fayetteville High School and Fayetteville Middle School; second by Vice Chairman Holland. All members voted aye.

**Insurance and Policy** – No report.

### **Superintendent's Report –**

Mr. Jones recommended approval of Disciplinary Hearing Authority (DHA) for 2023-24: Chairman Adam McCormick, Brittany Barnett, Maggie Warren, Julia Townsend, Julie Ezell and Kate Killebrew. Mrs.

Murdock made a motion to approve the DHA members for 2023-24; second by Mrs. Hopkins. All members voted aye.

Mr. Jones recommended tenure be granted to Lisa Binash. Chairman Clark made a motion to grant tenure; second by Mrs. Murdock. All members voted aye.

#### **Chairman's Report -**

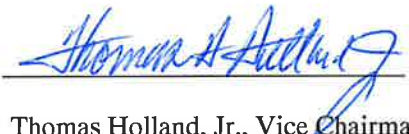
Chairman Clark made a motion to approve the Performance Evaluation Instrument for the Director of Schools that has been reviewed by the board; second by Vice Chairman Holland. All members voted aye.

Chairman Clark noted the next meeting of the school board will be held Tuesday, Sept. 5, at 5 p.m. in the multipurpose room. The meeting is delayed one day due to the Labor Day holiday on the board's regularly scheduled meeting night, the first Monday of the month.

The meeting was adjourned.



Mark Clark, Chairman



Thomas Holland, Jr., Vice Chairman

Minutes submitted by Sandy Williams