FAYETTEVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM REGULAR BOARD MEETING

FEBRUARY 28, 2022

Present:

Mark Clark, Chairman Tommy Holland, Vice-Chairman Pam Bryson - present electronically Shawnta Fulton Danny Bryant, ex-officio Cason Seals, ex-officio Bill Hopkins, Director of Schools

Also Attending:

Lisa Williams
Cindy Young
Eric Jones
Steve Giffin
Christine Tuten
Rujena Dotson
Claudia Styles
Tonja Whitenack
Tricia Jean
Adam McCormick

Absent:

Bridgett Hopkins Jennifer Murdock

Chairman Clark called the meeting to order and noted that Ms. Bryson is attending electronically, which is allowed by state law. Vice Chairman Holland made a motion to approve the agenda; second by Ms. Fulton. All members present voted aye.

Chairman Clark led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Fulton made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2022 meeting; second by Vice Chairman Holland. All members present voted aye.

Vice Chairman Holland made a motion to approve the February disbursements; second by Ms. Fulton. All board members present voted aye.

Principals' Reports -

Mrs. Whitenack – introduced Kedron Allen, a first grader at Ralph Askins School, who will be competing in the Taekwondo National Championships in his age and weight division on July 4-9. Kedron showed his skills to the board. Mrs. Whitenack then introduced Lebron Alexander, who shared details about what he is learning in school and noted that students have been observing Black History Month and celebrated with a door decorating contest. Lebron also reported that Read Across America Week is underway at RAS.

Mrs. Jean – introduced Nora Kate Sumners, a sixth grader, who shared the upcoming sports schedule, as well as information about the Beta Club Induction Ceremony, where 41 new members will be inducted into the club. She also reported that the FMS Beta Club will compete in Gatlinburg. Logan Endsley, a student at FMS, has been nominated as a state leadership representative.

Mr. McCormick – introduced Jessica Howell and Bryce Bills, who told about the ACT Boot Camp and the upcoming ACT Exam scheduled for the following day. The students reported on the Freshman Forum/Transition Night event and mentioned that four students would represent FHS at the SCOPE Conference. Those students are Hannah Giffin, Vincent Buchanan, Kinsley Bryan and Brodie Baker.

Report

Todd Smith with Schneider Electric addressed the board, discussing the plan for Fayetteville City Schools to reduce operational costs while checking off projects in the capital plan. Mr. Smith said the projected 30 percent energy cost savings will fund the construction program. He noted that plans include new LED lighting for all three schools, a new automation system, standardizing of plumbing fixtures, implementing a machine that creates cleaning solution and refurbishing of the HVAC system to extend life of the equipment.

Supervisors' Reports -

Mr. Jones – updated the board about ongoing projects and noted that the FEMA facility project and the gym renovation project are in the hands of the fire marshal. Mr. Jones also said that recent flooding damaged the electrical systems at Don Davidson Park, and there would be no lights or electricity for the baseball and softball seasons. He thanked the City of Fayetteville for their commitment to upgrade facilities in the future.

Mrs. Dotson – complimented Mandy Pitts, college and career counselor at FHS, for her commitment to students and the resulting success of FAFSA filings. Due to this success, Mrs. Pitts recently presented at a Nashville meeting to share ideas with other school systems. Mrs. Dotson noted that the dual enrollment industrial maintenance program with TCAT is going to be self-sustaining. Currently, there are 12 FHS students in the program. Some FHS graduates have also enrolled in the program after enrollment was opened. Mrs. Dotson said plans are being made for a possible dual enrollment welding program which would be housed at FRANKE. She also said that former student Trey Allen will be the guest speaker, along with Angie McCue, HR rep from Toyota, at the Chamber of Commerce's Education Committee meeting the following morning. She also mentioned another student took the initiative, while a student in Youth Leadership, to approach management at Direct Coil about job opportunities. That student and another FHS student have since been hired. In regard to ESSER, she noted that boards have been purchased and the PO is pulled for the sound system, and laptops and Chromebooks are being rotated in.

Mrs. Tuten – noted that the Consolidated Federal Application opens the following day and is due May 1. She will be working with Dr. Styles on that. The district plan is also due the following day. She also reported that the system earned high praise from recent monitoring. Mr. Hopkins noted that the compliments were very impressive toward the FCS staff, saying officials called it "the cleanest monitoring" they had seen this year. He said he is very proud of the staff.

Mr. Giffin – reported he is working on the Civil Rights Data Collection report. That is due March 11. Testing is coming up soon, and he is working with schools to verify data in the student information program. TCAP test window is April 18 through May 6. Grades 3-8 will be taking the tests on paper, and those in grades 9-12 will take end-of-course tests via computers.

Dr. Styles – shared the three identified systemwide goals. Each of these goals will be separated and sent to the school level. Schools will then create their own goals based on the district goals. Over the last few months, the goals have been developed by examining data, talking to teachers and parents, conducting surveys, etc. She also noted system supervisors are excited about the monitoring results as mentioned earlier by Mrs. Tuten. Dr. Styles reported that monitors were really impressed with the system's work with the homeless, earning "exemplary" results. She complimented the teachers and staff who are instrumental in the program's success.

Mrs. Young – reported that the high school students are taking benchmarks three times per year online, and she feels the students will be well prepared for the transition to online testing. The newspaper will interview teachers at RAS about the new interactive boards. PreK registration is well underway, and numbers are higher than last year. Enrollment was held at the Junior Pro game and will be held at the library on Wednesday during Story Time.

CFO Report -

Lisa Williams – Mrs. Williams reported that the boards are being installed, and Chromebrooks and laptops are coming in. She said she is currently working on next year's budget and working with supervisors on their budget requests. She said she is excited about new funding through TISA.

Reports -

Facilities and Transportation – Mr. Jones said he had no additional report.

Finance – Vice Chairman Holland made a motion to approve a master lease agreement with Bci Capital, Inc., for the purpose of financing energy conservation measures to be provided by Schneider Electric Buildings Americas; second by Ms. Fulton. All board members present voted aye.

Vice Chairman Holland made a motion to approve an Energy Services Contract with Schneider Electric; second by Ms. Fulton. All board members present voted aye.

Vice Chairman Holland made a motion to authorize the Director of Schools to execute all documents related to Schneider Electric; second by Ms. Fulton. All board members present voted aye.

Insurance and Policy – Ms. Fulton moved to revise Policy 1.703 School Attendance Area on second reading; second by Ms. Bryson. All members present voted aye.

Superintendent's Report -

Mr. Hopkins recommended the approval of E-Rate bids. Chairman Clark made a motion to approve the E-Rate bids; second by Ms. Fulton. All members present voted aye.

Mr. Hopkins recommended approval of the technology surplus list. Motion made by Vice Chairman Holland; second by Ms. Fulton. All members present voted aye.

Chairman's Report -

Chairman Clark recommended the board approve a Resolution for Special Teachers Appreciation Day on March 3. Vice Chairman Holland made a motion to approve the Resolution; second by Ms. Fulton. All board members voted aye.

Chairman Clark reminded the board of its offsite meeting on April 1 at the First Commerce Bank board room. He noted the next board meeting is Monday, April 4.

The meeting was adjourned.

Mark Clark, Chairman

Thomas Holland, Jr., Vice Chairman

Minutes submitted by Sandy Williams