FAYETTEVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM REGULAR BOARD MEETING APRIL 27, 2020

Present:

Jeff Whitmore, Chairman
Tom Holland, Vice-Chairman
Mark Clark
Joyce Eady
Jennifer Murdock
Sarah Raby
Dr. Janine Wilson, Superintendent

Also Attending:
Christine Tuten
Eric Jones
Rujena Dotson
Cindy Young
Steve Giffin
Bridgette Jones
Adam McCormick

Absent:

Danny Bryant, Liaison

Chairman Whitmore called the April 27, 2020 board meeting to order. Chairman Whitmore stated that under the guidance from the Comptroller and TSBA Protocol that The Fayetteville City School Board of Education is meeting under the provision of Governor Bill Lee's Executive Order #16 and that the board has determined that meeting electronically is necessary to protect public health, safety and welfare in light of the Coronavirus. All recorded votes will be by roll call for this meeting.

Vice Chairman Holland made a motion to approve the agenda; second by Mr. Clark. All board members present voted aye.

Mrs. Raby made a motion to approve minutes from the February 18, 2020 regularly scheduled board meeting; second by Mrs. Murdock. All board members present voted aye.

Mrs. Eady made a motion to approve March disbursements; second by Mrs. Raby. All board members present voted aye.

Reports:

Facilities and Transportation – Dr. Wilson reported that Mr. Jeff Groce with Lincoln Paving submitted the low bid of \$91,750 to pave the FHS track according to specifications contained within the bid document. Mrs. Raby made motion to accept the bid of \$91,750 from Lincoln Paving; second by Mrs. Eady. All board members present voted aye.

Dr. Wilson presented Budget Amendment #3 General Education Fund FY2020 to fund initial payment on the new attendance system, to cover funds for increased costs and TSSAA Legal Services. Chairman Whitmore made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #3 General Education Fund FY2020; second by Vice Chairman Holland. All board members voted aye.

Dr. Wilson presented Line Item Amendment #1 School Food Service FY2020 to clean up any balance deficiencies for year end purposes. Chairman Whitmore made a motion to approve Line Item Amendment #1 School Food Service FY2020; second by Vice Chairman Holland. All board members present voted aye.

Dr. Wilson told the board that the 2020-2021 Budget will be presented to the board at the May board meeting for approval. Due to unusual circumstances from the pandemic Dr. Wilson is waiting on word about funding and guidelines from the government along with documentation required by the federal government as to how funds are to be designated from stimulus money.

Finance - No report

Insurance and Policy – Dr. Wilson presented to the board Resolution – Emergency Suspension of Board Policies to suspend certain board policies concerning grading systems, graduation requirements, testing program, evaluation, qualifications, duties of the Director of Schools and attendance. Dr. Wilson stated how proud she is of the good job guidance counselors and teachers have done by staying in contact with parents and students by having group on-line discussions about ACT testing and alternatives to both juniors and seniors. They have kept students up to date on graduation requirements and have helped them fill out scholarship applications along with other required documentation. She stated "these have not been ideal circumstances." Dr. Wilson thanked Megan Hall, Food Service Manager and her staff for all they have done preparing and delivering food to the students. Dr. Wilson said they have worked without complaining and with grace. The principals and assistant principals have also handed out food and have only concerned themselves with getting food to the students with no thought to their own health. The policies that have been suspended by this resolution is with the best interest of the students in mind. Mr. Clark made a motion to approve the resolution as stated; second by Mrs. Raby. All board members voted aye.

Principals' Reports -

Bridgette Jones – reported that morning and afternoon meal distribution is going well. The staff is setting up times to enter the building to gather items belonging to students and their families. Pre-K and Kindergarten registration is still going on by being creative in getting paperwork distributed. Mr. Clark thanked Dr. Jones for her hard work along with the Askins staff.

Steve Giffin- reported students and teachers will be meeting on-line in May. Chromebooks will be taken up. Mr. Giffin is very proud of his staff for how much they have helped students during this time.

Adam McCormick – reported students will have a sign-up process to clean out lockers and turn in chromebooks. A limit of 10 students at a time will be allowed in the school. Prater Const. and other contractors have been contacted to move dates up for upcoming building projects. Tentative June dates have been set for the following events: June 20 – Prom, June 22 - Senior Awards, June 24 - Baccalaureate, June 26 – Graduation. Mr. McCormick said that all staff and teachers have been working hard to help the students.

Mrs. Raby stated that she does not feel any of the senior events should be held due to the seriousness of the Covid-19. She feels that closeness among students and their families in large groups could not be controlled in an effective way by June. She feels it would best for the students and their families health and safety not to have these events. She asked that she be on record as saying "she feels it would be best that we say that the school year is over and we are sorry that this happened to your class but we think we are doing best for children for not doing these things".

There was a discussion as to what other systems have planned as well.

Superintendent's Report -

Dr. Wilson asked Eric Jones to report on the pre-bid conference concerning installation of safer entrances at Askins and FHS. Mr. Jones reported there were three contracting groups in attendance. The bid has been extended until May 5 at 2:00 p.m. All qualifying bidders were in agreement to make this change.

New Hire: Faye Hill - FHS Librarian

Dr. Wilson furnished lunch to the Fayetteville Police Department thanking them for their help to the staff and students during this difficult time in distributing meals and other occasions.

Dr. Wilson shared a note from an employee thanking the system for continuing to pay for time off during the governor's at home order.

Dr. Wilson reported on results of the E-Rate bids. Chairman Whitmore made a motion to approve the bids; second by Vice Chairman Holland. All board members voted aye.

Dr. Wilson reported on closing FAST this summer due to inability to have trips for the students or being able to keep the children six feet apart. This is a safety issue.

Chairman's Report -

Chairman Whitmore stated TSBA plans to go forward with the Opryland Leadership and Convention registration.

Cindy Young reported that textbook adoption will be presented at the May board meeting.

Chairman Whitmore said that superintendent's evaluation is usually underway in May. He asked if the board would be in agreement to waive the evaluation process since Dr. Wilson has submitted her resignation. Mrs. Eady made a motion to suspend the evaluation process for Dr. Wilson this school year; second by Mr. Clark. All board members voted aye.

The work session will be on Monday, May 4 at 2:00 p.m. The May board meeting will be on May 5 at 5:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned.

Jeff Whitmore, Chairman

Thomas Holland, Jr., Vice Chairman

Minutes submitted by JoAnn Scott