

**FAYETTEVILLE CITY SCHOOL
SYSTEM REGULAR BOARD
MEETING
DECEMBER 7, 2020**

Present:

Jeff Whitmore, Chairman
Tom Holland, Vice Chairman
Pam Bryson
Mark Clark
Bridgett Hopkins
Jennifer Murdock
Danny Bryant
Bill Hopkins, Superintendent

Also Attending:

Christine Tuten
Cindy Young
Rujena Dotson
Tricia Jean
Claudia Styles
Adam McCormick

Absent: Eric Jones
Steve Giffin

Chairman Whitmore called the meeting to order and welcomed new board members, Pam Bryson and Bridgett Hopkins. Mr. Clark made a motion to approve the agenda; second by Mrs. Murdock. All board members voted aye.

Chairman Whitmore turned the meeting over to Mr. Hopkins for the election of the board chairman. Mr. Hopkins asked the board for nominations for board chairman. Vice Chairman Holland nominated Mr. Whitmore as chairman. Mr. Clark moved that nominations close; second by Vice Chairman Holland. All members voted aye.

The meeting was turned back over to Chairman Whitmore, who asked for nominations for vice chairman. Mr. Clark nominated Mr. Holland. Mrs. Murdock made a motion to close nominations; second by Ms. Bryson. All members voted aye.

Chairman Whitmore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Clark made a motion to approve minutes from the November 2, 2020 board meeting; second by Vice Chairman Holland. All board members voted aye.

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

Principals' Reports -

Dr. Claudia Styles – RAS student Kaidyn Ragsdale gave the report on behalf of Dr. Styles. She showed pictures of some of the activities recently held at the school, including lunch with Star Students, the RAS Morning Show, a door decorating contest, Fall Blast and a gift basket auction held in conjunction with Van Massey Realty & Auction, which raised \$900.

Mrs. Jean - introduced Vincent Ruhlander, Beta Club president and member of the working Student Council. He reported that FMS held a nonperishable food drive which raised 2,000 items for Hands of Mercy. The Beta Club is anxiously awaiting results of the Leadership Summit and to hear if the club qualified for nationals at Disney World. The school has also held several "Hat Days" and has raised \$953 for Landon Jones' family to help during this difficult time.

Mrs. Jean, in response to Mr. Hopkins' request, told board members that she is filling in in multiple classrooms because of absences. She said the school has a great plan for going fully virtual.

Mr. McCormick – Beta Club members Tejal Morris and Ally Harrington, accompanied by Chris Cain, Beta Club sponsor, reported on the activities of the Beta Club, including the Bundt cake sale, movie nights and a Thanksgiving food drive for Hands of Mercy. The club will also be adopting four children from the Angel Tree.

Mr. McCormick also congratulated the Tigers on winning the Class 1A State Football Championship and thanked the board for their support of the team and the students.

Supervisors' Reports -

Mr. Jones – In Mr. Jones' absence, Mr. Hopkins told the board that the FEMA grant for the new gymnasium is approved, but the City of Fayetteville has not yet received the official letter; therefore, the system cannot move forward until that is received. They have met with three architectural firms, which are planning presentations for the full board.

In the area of transportation, Mr. Hopkins said the department has taken a big hit with COVID illnesses, and substitutes have been driving routes. That is another reason why going fully virtual will be beneficial.

Mrs. Dotson – reported that we have our first two students in dual-enrollment at the Lincoln Center with the industrial maintenance program. There are only five slots available, and we have filled two. She has also been working with supervisors on COVID leave protocol.

Mr. Giffin – was absent but attending an FHS basketball game with Mr. Hopkins' permission.

Mrs. Tuten – welcomed new board members and offered to answer any questions.

Ms. Young - reported she had recently completed national certification in CLASS, which is Classroom Assessment Scoring System. She is in the process of evaluating Pre-K classrooms. She said additional assessments, including aimsweb, are being completed.

Reports -

Facilities and Transportation – Mr. Clark thanked Mr. Hopkins and the principals for taking the committee on extensive walkthroughs of the facilities. The committee hopes to develop a long-term strategic plan focusing on facilities. Chairman Whitmore noted that Mr. Clark and Mrs. Murdock would

continue to serve on the Facilities and Transportation Committee.

Finance – Chairman Whitmore recognized Paul Young with Putman & Hancock, who provided a detailed report on the Fayetteville City Schools' June 30, 2020 Financial Report and Internal School Fund audit. Chairman Whitmore made a motion to approve the audit; second by Mr. Clark. All members voted aye.

Chairman Whitmore then made a motion for Putman & Hancock to continue to be the system's external auditor; second by Vice Chairman Holland. All members voted aye.

Insurance and Policy – Chairman Whitmore asked Ms. Bryson and Mrs. Hockett to serve on the policy committee.

Superintendent's Report -

Mr. Hopkins asked the board to approve the 2020 Local Education Agency (LEA) Compliance Report. Chairman Whitmore made the motion; second by Mrs. Murdock. All members voted aye.

Mr. Hopkins commended JoAnn Stevens' for her service to the system and noted she is retiring. Chairman Whitmore made a motion to accept the resignation; second by Vice Chairman Holland. All member voted aye.

Mr. Hopkins said he will be delivering Christmas bonuses to the staff. Funds were approved in the budget. The reason the bonus is not more is that employees received a two-percent raise this year, which was not the case in surrounding systems.

He reported that we will be changing COVID protocol. The change relates to the number of quarantine days being reduced from 14 to 10, as recommended by the CDC guidelines. This will become effective in the second semester.

Mr. Hopkins said a plaque has been made honoring Dr. Wilson's retirement. A reception will be held at a later date, per Dr. Wilson's request, due to COVID.

He reminded board members that pictures will be taken before the next school board meeting on Jan. 4 just after the scheduled 4 p.m., work session.


The new staff member, Lisa Williams, who will take the position being vacated by Mrs. Stevens, will begin on Dec. 16.

Chairman's Report -


Chairman Whitmore presented the Director's Performance Evaluation Form for board approval. Mr. Clark made a motion to approve the form; second by Mrs. Murdock. All members voted aye.

Chairman Whitmore thanked Mr. Clark for his service as TSBA president and giving exposure to the Fayetteville City School System.

The meeting was adjourned.



Jeff Whitmore, Chairman



Thomas Holland, Jr., Vice Chairman

Minutes submitted by Sandy Williams