

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS
APRIL 28, 2016 – 6:30 P.M.
PATRIOT ACADEMY**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bill Jarnigan called the meeting to order and then asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence. Board member present were Chairman Jarnigan, Vice Chairman Jim Vines, Judy Cavanah, Randall Bradley and Anne Marie Potts. Board members Ralph Lowery and Jonathan Rogers were absent. Dr. Charles Edmonds, Director of Schools and Secretary to the Board, was also present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Evan Ellison, Maury Middle School student, led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

SPECIAL FOCUS

Evan Ellison, a student at Maury Middle School and Reserve Champion of the Southern Appalachian Science and Engineering Fair, presented his project on fuel cell technology which won him the prestigious award.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Jarnigan requested that Item #6 Differentiated Pay Plan under New Business be removed from the agenda.

Upon motion by Vice Chairman Vines and second by Judy Cavanah, the board voted 5-0 to approve the remaining agenda as submitted. (see attached)

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Upon motion by Judy Cavanah and second by Vice Chairman Jim Vines, the board voted 5-0 to approve the consent agenda items as submitted. (see attached)

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

There were no items for discussion.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION – DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS

1. White Pine School Architect Agreement

Dr. Edmonds updated the board on the White Pine School architectural agreement. He commented that contract negotiations had been held with the school board attorney and county attorney regarding the agreement between Cope Associates and the board of education. He stated that good progress was made and hopefully they would know more on Friday. Dr. Edmonds stated that he would inform the board regarding the status of the agreement when he hears back.

There was some discussion regarding when construction would start once the agreement was signed. Dr. Edmonds stated the plans would have to be approved by the board before being sent to the fire marshal. Dr. Edmonds commented that it would take some time before the construction could start. Board member Potts stated that she thought it was a little odd that they had plans but no contract. Dr. Edmonds responded that it was. Board member Potts requested that the record reflect Dr. Edmonds' statement that Cope has a plan for White Pine but the board has no contract.

Langdon Potts, County Finance Director, commented that he would be out of the office on Friday and would not be available to sign the agreement if it was agreed upon at that time. He stated that he thought it would be early next week before they could move forward. He pointed out the next step would be to send out an RFP for a construction manager.

2. Presentation – 20/20 Vision

Dominique Davis, Director of Secondary Education and Curriculum, introduced Jacob Bellissimo and Susan Garber who gave a 20/20 Vision presentation focusing on 6-12 personalized learning. Board member Potts suggested having a work session with Mr. Bellissimo and Ms. Garber and the 20/20 Vision strategic planning team in order for the board to learn what their role would be in the program. Chairman Jarnigan set the work session for June 9, 2016.

3. Each board member received a copy of the current financial reports.

4. 2016-2017 School Budget Update

Chairman Jarnigan went over a new schedule for the 2016-2017 school budget. The schedule is as follows:

2016-2017 School Budget – continued

May 3, 2016	Board members will receive a copy of the budget.
May 12, 2016	Called meeting for budget review.
May 19, 2016	Regular Meeting to approve budget.

Dr. Edmonds commented that developing the budget had gone very well since the state BEP allocation had been received. He thanked the finance office and central office staff for all their hard work. He apologized for not having the budget ready for the board's review.

Board member Potts asked what the BEP allocation was. Mr. Potts responded that it was a \$2.5M increase. Sherry Finchum, Director of Federal Programs, Elementary Education and Curriculum, passed out information on the BEP allocation and the funding formula from the state. She gave a brief overview and answered questions from the board. Ms. Finchum stated the total amount of funds to be received from the state was \$35,548,000 and the local required match should be \$13,178,000 for a total amount of \$48,726,000 from the state through the BEP funding formula. She pointed out that \$820,000 of new state salary dollars must be used in certified salaries.

Board member Potts commented there were several things that needed to be addressed but her preference was to, "invest in our people across the board". She pointed out the board has had numerous discussions regarding increasing salaries. She commented they may never receive this much money again. She stated that she would like to have some discussion about holding the expenses from last year and to look at funding the 12th month insurance out of the \$2.5M. She stated that she would like to see what they could do with substitute teachers and instructional assistants pay, getting employees off the \$8 hourly wage pay and getting the teachers up to the state average.

Board member Potts commented that she would also like to see funds designated for renovating the restrooms at the football stadium, structural issues at the baseball field, and possibly fixing the tennis courts next year. She pointed out the softball field was in bad shape and there was no parking. She also commented that some of the funds could be designated to address the Rush Strong sewer problem. Ms. Potts stated that if the money was allocated to the different departments it would be very difficult to change and would not be reallocated back to the schools. She felt the board should have input on the \$2.5M.

Vice Chairman Vines was in agreement on increasing teacher salaries. Dr. Edmonds responded that he also agreed that salaries needed to be increased for teachers as well as support workers. He stated they have included that in the budget development.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval – Budget Amendments

(a) General Purpose Fund 141 Budget Amendment #14

Upon motion by Vice Chairman Vines and second by Randall Bradley, the board voted 5-0 to approve General Purpose Fund 141 Budget Amendment #14 as submitted. (see attached)

(b) Federal Purpose Fund 142 Budget Amendment #9

Upon motion by Anne Marie Potts and second by Judy Cavanah, the board voted 5-0 to approve Federal Purpose Fund 142 Budget Amendment #9 as submitted. (see attached)

2. Approval – Textbook Adoption – Information Technology, Human Services and Education and Training

Each board member received a cost sheet for information on the textbooks being adopted.

Upon motion by Vice Chairman Vines and second by Judy Cavanah, the board voted 5-0 to approve textbook adoptions for Information Technology, Human Services and Education and Training as submitted. (see attached)

3. TSBA 2017 Membership Dues - \$7,382

Upon motion by Anne Marie Potts and second by Vice Chairman Jim Vines, the board voted 5-0 to approve the 2017 Tennessee School Boards Association membership dues in the amount of \$7,382.

4. Resolution No. 2016-35 – Technology Department to Declare Surplus

Upon motion by Anne Marie Potts and second by Randall Bradley, the board voted 5-0 to adopt Resolution No. 2016-35 declaring equipment from the Technology Department surplus property. (see attached)

New Business - continued

5. Memorandum of Understanding – WIOA Out-of-School Youth Program and Douglas Cherokee Economic Authority

Mandy Schneitman, Director of Student Support, presented a Memorandum of Understanding for the WIOA Out-of-School Youth Program and Douglas Cherokee Economic Authority. Ms. Schneitman stated that it was a new revised WIA Program. She pointed out that the WIA Program ended in February 2016. The program has been revised and is now under 8 counties of which is contracted with Douglas Cherokee. The program will serve adult high school students who are no longer in school or have dropped out of school.

Ms. Schneitman stated the GED program would end after this year. The program has been taken over by the Department of Labor.

The board was in agreement with MOU as presented.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Elementary Basketball Program

Randy Rogers, JCHS Athletic Director, addressed the board regarding the continuation of the elementary basketball program held at the Field of Dreams. He presented two options for the board's consideration. The first option was to turn the program over to the Field of Dreams with no connection to the schools. The second option was to continue the program as last year with non-faculty coaches having some required training on a Saturday from basketball coaches at the high school. Chairman Jarnigan and Vice Chairman Vines commented they preferred to continue the program as last year. Mr. Rogers pointed out there was no profit made last year after concessions were removed. Board member Bradley asked about the uniform cost. Mr. Rogers commented that the uniform will be included in the fee of \$40 and will be kept by the players. There was discussion regarding the schools receiving some of the profit in order to buy basketballs. The Field of Dreams representative responded that the board of directors for the Field of Dreams was not in agreement with profit sharing.

Vice Chairman Vines made the motion to continue with the elementary basketball program for one more year using the same agreement as last year. Board member Potts seconded the motion.

Unfinished Business – Elementary Basketball - continued

Vice Chairman Vines requested the Field of Dreams representative report back to their board and let them know that he was disappointed they were not willing to share any of the profit with the schools. Mr. Rogers commented that there might be an opportunity for the schools to get basketballs next year.

The motion passed 5-0.

ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Bill Jarnigan, Chairman

Dr. Charles Edmonds, Director of Schools &
Secretary to the Board

Date

Date