

**MINUTES OF THE CALLED MEETING OF THE  
JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS  
FEBRUARY 9, 2017 – 6:30 P.M.  
PATRIOT ACADEMY**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jim Vines who then asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence. Board members present were Chairman Vines, Vice Chairman Bill Jarnigan, Randall Bradley, Denise Fair, Dusty Cox and Maurice Solomon. Board member Anne Marie Potts was absent. Dr. Charles Edmonds, Director of Schools and Secretary to the Board, was also present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Vice Chairman Jarnigan led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Upon motion by Vice Chairman Jarnigan and second by Maurice Solomon, the board voted 6-0 to approve the agenda as submitted. (attached)

**BUSINESS ITEMS**

1. Annual Performance Evaluation Document for Director of Schools

Each board member received a copy of the evaluation document for the Director of Schools for the 2015-2016 school year. Chairman Vines requested the completed document be turned in to the board secretary by Wednesday, February 15, 2017 in order to be forwarded to the Tennessee School Board Association for tabulation.

2. Consideration of List of Work Session Topics

Each board member received a list of suggested topics for upcoming work sessions. Dr. Edmonds stated the list was composed of different departments in the central office and the responsibilities they are involved in. He pointed out this would be a good opportunity to update the board on what occurs in the departments.

Board member Solomon requested that re-zoning be added to one of the work sessions. Dr. Edmonds responded that it would take some time to get all the statistics together. Chairman Vines suggested that the process begin.

Dr. Edmonds stated the board can add topics if they choose to do so.

**Business Items – continued**

3. Charges for Athletic Tickets for Students

Board member Solomon commented that he would like to see discounted tickets for students to attend athletic events. He stated that it is very expensive for a large family to attend those events when they have to pay \$4 for each ticket. There was discussion regarding possible season tickets. Dr. Edmonds suggested surveying all the schools in the county to see what they are doing and also the surrounding counties. Board member Fair also suggested checking with the principals to see if the schools are struggling to pay the bills required to have the athletic event. Dr. Edmonds stated he would bring back the information to the board for further review at the next meeting.

4. Draft Copies of the 2017-2018 School Calendar for Review

Each board member received two (2) versions of the draft 2017-2018 school calendar. Sherry Finchum, Chairman of the Calendar Committee, went over the calendars and answered any questions from the board.

Board member Fair had concerns regarding why the first day of school for students had to be on Thursday or Friday and the early dismissal time of 9:30 a.m. on the first day of school for students. Ms. Fair was also concerned over parents not receiving a supply list over the summer. Ms. Finchum pointed out the standard supply list is posted on the website. Ms. Fair commented that not all teachers use all of the items on the standard supply list. There was much discussion as to why the parents could not receive a supply list at the end of school when the students receive their report card or at least have each teacher's supply list posted. Board member Solomon asked that Ms. Finchum check with the principals to see how their supply list is handled and bring back information to the board.

Chairman Vines stated that he would like to see the calendar sent back to the calendar committee for further review. He stated he had several teachers complain to him about the 5 day fall break. He commented that some teachers suggested taking only 2 days for the fall break and applying the other 3 days to the first of the school year or the Christmas break. Board member Bradley commented that he could not support the fall break and where it was located in the calendar. He stated he would like to see school start on August 7th and do away with the fall break.

Several board members expressed their concerns regarding a July 31 start date for teachers.

**Business Items – continued**

After much discussion, the board directed Ms. Finchum to send the calendar back to the calendar committee in order to adjust the beginning date of the calendar to August 1, bump back the fall break to October 9 and 10 allowing only 2 days for the fall break and applying the remaining days left from the fall break to the Christmas break.

Ms. Finchum stated that she would bring back two (2) versions of the calendar for the board's review at the next board meeting.

5. Approval – General Purpose Fund 141 Budget Amendment #11 and #12

Upon motion by Maurice Solomon and second by Dusty Cox, the board voted 6-0 to approve General Purpose Fund 141 Budget Amendment #11 and #12 as submitted. (attached)

6. Board member Cox requested that Dr. Edmonds put together something in writing for the board regarding how the board received the \$200,000 for the completion of the band room at White Pine School and why they can't utilize the \$646,000.

7. Chairman Vines informed the board that the February 23, 2017 regular school board meeting will be held at the JCHS James D. Swann Performing Arts Center.

8. Dr. Edmonds updated the board on the recent Tennessee Organization of School Superintendents conference he attended. He commented that Governor Haslam projected there would be \$100,000,000 designated for education in his budget. He stated the majority of it would be earmarked for teacher salaries.

**ADJOURN**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

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Jim Vines, Chairman

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

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Date

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Date

