

OSCEOLA SCHOOL DISTRICT#1 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting

May 4, 2015

6:00 p.m.

Present: James Baker, Sylvester Belcher, Randy Carney, Terry Cole, Michael Ephlin, and Denise Williams

Absent: Shannon Sullivan

Others present: Michael Cox, Superintendent
Alfred Hogan, Assistant Superintendent
Jeanette Walker, Board Recorder
Sandra Brand, Osceola Times

1. James Baker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Alfred Hogan offered invocation.
3. Motion Sylvester Belcher, seconded by Terry Cole to approve the April 13, 2015 Regular Minutes Motion passed 6-0.
4. James Baker read a letter from Shannon Sullivan stating his resignation from the Osceola School Board effective May 4, 2015. Motion Terry Cole, seconded by Michael Ephlin to accept Mr. Sullivan's resignation. Motion passed 6-0.

Sylvester recommended Jacqueline Baker to fill Shannon Sullivan position. Mr. Belcher stated that Mrs. Baker has been interested in running for school board for a long time and has been a very active in the Booster Club. Terry Cole recommended Kathy Winston and read a letter from Mrs. Winston stating her interest and her qualifications.

Motion Terry Cole, seconded by Randy Carney to appoint Kathy Winston to the vacant position. Those voting yes: Terry Cole, Randy Carney and Michael Ephlin. Those voting no: James Baker, Sylvester Belcher and Denise Williams. Motion failed 3-.

Motion Sylvester Belcher, seconded by James Baker to appoint Jacqueline Baker to the vacant position. Those voting yes: Sylvester Belcher, James Baker, Michael Ephlin and Denise Williams. Those voting no: Randy Carney and Terry Cole. . Motion passed 4-2.

5. Mr. Cox handed out a list of job vacancies and stated that we have been running advertisements for most of these positions for a three or four months and we've had some response but not a lot. Terry Cole asked why the turnover was higher at high school than they are at the other schools. Mr. Cox said that it's always been that way. A lot of teachers want to get closer to home and we expect a lot out of our teachers. Mr. Cox stated that he has been working with the Chamber and the city on incentives to get people to live here.

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6. Mr. Cox handed out the Hiring and Retention Policy and stated that we have to do more in order to attract teachers and this money will be over and above the increments. Mr. Cox stated that we pay more than Rivercrest, Blytheville and Gosnell. Mr. Hogan stated that Blytheville and Marion also has a high turnover. Mr. Cox stated that we are going to write a grant to pay for this but we have NSLA funds that we can use for this. Mr. Cox stated that we invest in our teachers with professional development and training then they move on after we've spent a lot of money on them.

Motion Sylvester Belcher, seconded by Denise Williams to accept the incentive program put forth by Mr. Cox. Those voting yes: James Baker, Sylvester Belcher, Michael Ephlin and Denise Williams. Those voting no: Randy Carney and Terry Cole. Motion passed 4-2.

7. Mr. Cox stated the Baccalaureate will be this Sunday at 5:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium and the Graduation will be May 15th at 6:00 p.m. We have everything ready to hold the graduation at the High School Stadium but if it rains we will move it inside.
8. Motion Michael Ephlin, seconded by Sylvester Belcher to adjust the Timed Agenda to 7:04 p.m. Motion passed 6-0.
9. Mr. Cox stated that May 1st was the deadline for School Choice applications. We have 28 applicants moving out of the district, 22 were proficient or advanced. We did not receive any applicants coming in.
10. Mr. Cox reviewed the district financial report with the Board and stated that since we are having the meeting early this month, you didn't get the revenue report but you do have the expenditures. Motion Terry Cole, seconded by Michael Ephlin to approve the reports as presented. Motion passed 6-0.
11. Mr. Cox reviewed the list of bills with the Board. Motion Terry Cole, seconded by Sylvester Belcher to pay the bills as listed. Motion passed by 6-0.
12. Mr. Cox stated that we have one team going to OM World Finals in Iowa. The total cost will be \$6531.00. Motion Randy Carney, seconded by Michael Ephlin to approve the cost.
13. Mr. Cox recommended hiring Shana Wilbanks for High School English, Norris Weintz for High School business and Coaching Duties, Joey Barr for High School Vocational and Robert Thompson for High School Social Studies.

Motion Terry Cole, seconded by Michael Ephlin to accept Mr. Cox's recommendation. Motion passed 6-0.

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Mr. Cox recommended accepting the resignation of Billie Bowman – High School Librarian, Phillip Cook – High School Career & Tech, Tommy Ford – Social Studies at STEM, Angela Jefferson – High School English effective April 15, 2015, Yvonne Jones – Cafeteria, Terri Kane – High School Math Coach, Mary Lambert – Sp. Ed. Aide effective May 1, 2015, Aristioles Polio – High School Parapro effective April 17, 2015, Jennifer White G/T Teacher, and Justin Lynch – ALE effective June 3, 2015.

Motion Randy Carney, seconded by Michael Ephlin to accept Mr. Cox’s recommendation.
Motion passed 6-0.

14. Motion Terry Cole seconded by Sylvester Belcher to adjourn. Motion passed 6-0. (7:15 pm)

James Baker reconvened the meeting after the adjournment. Mr. Cox stated that new school board officers need to be elected since Mr. Sullivan has resigned. Motion Randy Carney, seconded by Terry Cole to move James Baker to President, Michael Ephlin to Vice-president and elect Denise Williams as Secretary. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion Terry Cole, seconded by Randy Carney to adjourn. (7:17 pm)

(Signed) Shannon Sullivan, President

(Signed) Michael Ephlin, Secretary