

OSCEOLA SCHOOL DISTRICT#1 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting

June 8, 2015

6:00 p.m.

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

Absent: None

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

1. James Baker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Alfred Hogan offered invocation.
3. Randy Carney stated that something was omitted from the May 26 Minutes and I think that it's important to have on record that when we hired all those people the question was asked by me and answered by Mr. Cox if these people were qualified to fill these positions or working on it and Mr. Cox's answer was yes. Motion Michael Ephlin, seconded by Jacqueline Baker to approve the May 4, 2015 Regular Minutes and to approve the May 26, 2015 Special Meeting Minutes with the inclusion of the question asked by Mr. Carney. Motion passed 7-0.
4. Mr. Cox stated that Mr. Sullivan is here and we have a plaque to present to him for his service on the School Board. Mr. Cox then presented the plaque to Mr. Sullivan and the Board thanked Mr. Sullivan for his service.
5. Mr. Cox handed out copies of a Petition for Transfer of Student that was handed to him after the school choice deadline had passed which was May 1. Mr. Cox stated the petition is from David Tucker to transfer his two children age eight and six from Osceola to Rivercrest, this is not school choice but a transfer. Mr. Cox stated that he believes in school choice because students shouldn't be trapped in a bad school system but we don't have a bad school system so I can't recommend this but it strictly up to the Board what you do but I don't recommend it. Motion Randy Carney, seconded by Michael Ephlin to approve the petition. Motion failed 3-4. Those voting yes were: Randy Carney, Terry Cole and Michael Ephlin. Those voting no were James Baker, Jacqueline Baker, Sylvester Belcher and Denise Williams. James Baker stated that he's afraid that if we open this door where it is going to stop. Mr. Carney stated that he believes in school choice and Mr. Cox did say that they changed the deadline so that could be a confusing factor as well. Michael Ephlin stated that he is for Osceola School District and thinks that every kid that lives here should go to Osceola School District but if the parents feel they need to go somewhere else to get a better education then you've lost them anyway. If you make them stay here then they will

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find a different way to take them out of here in my opinion and I want it on record that I am for Osceola School District and I think kids should go to this school but you're not going to stop it and I feel it's an easier road to let them go if they don't want their kids here. Sylvester Belcher stated I agreed but that's why we have choice. If we had had the paper work then we wouldn't bother with it but now we're talking about transferring then Mr. Belcher asked doesn't the receiving school have to accept them as well. Mr. Cox stated yes, if they will. Mr. Belcher then asked about declining enrollment. Mr. Cox explained funding for declining enrollment and stated that we have lost 44 kids due to school choice. Mr. Belcher stated that it concerns him that if we keep going down and down in enrollment then we are going to be in trouble.

6. Mr. Cox handed out the School Board Election information.
7. Mr. Cox handed out the licensed and classified and salary schedule along with the stipends, extra duty pay and the administrator salary schedule stating that it's kind of a formality to approve these every year and we haven't changed any of them. Motion Randy Carney, seconded by Denise Williams to approve the salary schedules as presented. Motion passed 7-0.
8. Mr. Cox handed out the 2016-2017 proposed budget of expenditures and stated that this needs to be approved and this will be what we published in the newspaper and placed on the ballot. Motion Randy Carney, seconded by Terry Cole to approve the 2016-2017 Proposed Budget of Expenditures. Motion passed 7-0.
9. Mr. Cox handed updated Licensed and Classified policies received from the Arkansas School Board Association. Mr. Cox stated that Donn Mixon's office went over these policies and provided input. Following the review of Licensed Policies 3.1, 3.2, 3.6, 3.8, 3.16, 3.19, 3.30, 3.31, 3.38, 3.44, 3.48, 3.49, 3.52, 3.54 and Classified Policies 8.1, 8.5, 8.11, 8.13, 8.24, 8.26, 8.28, 8.36, 8.38, 8.40, 8.41, Sylvester Belcher moved to adopt the updated Arkansas School Board Association policies as presented and Randy Carney seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.
10. Mr. Cox presented the Arkansas School Board Association Risk Management Program Insurance quote stating the premiums are down from last year. Mobile Equipment is \$212, property is \$118,467.86 and the vehicle premium is \$7,833.43. Motion Randy Carney, seconded by Michael Ephlin to approve the insurance quote for mobile, property and vehicle from Arkansas School Board Association. Motion passed 7-0.
11. Mr. Cox stated that we received three quotes for the student insurance and recommended accepting the lowest quote from Dwight Jones for \$12,649.31. Motion Terry Cole, seconded by Denise Williams to accept Mr. Cox's recommendation. Motion passed 7-0.
12. Mr. Cox stated that GCA added 5% from last year's contract which most of the 5% will go to employee raises. The total cost of the contract is \$769,471.68. Mr. Cox stated that taxes have also gone up which also contributed to the increased cost.

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Randy Carney stated that the only problem he has is giving GCA employees a raise and not giving our employees a raise. Mr. Cox stated that we give raises. Mr. Carney stated that we just approved the same salary schedule we had last year. Mr. Cox stated that they've been getting a thousand dollar bonus ever year and a lot of people got a raise when we put them on a salary schedule last year and they will get a raise every year because of that salary schedule. Mr. Carney stated that 5% is pretty brazen. Mr. Cox stated that the taxes went up this year, last year the taxes were \$63,000 and this year it's almost \$70,000, the total contract amount last year was \$729,000 and this year it's \$769,000 which is an increase of \$40,000. Mr. Cox recommended approving the 2015-2015 GCA Contract. Motion Terry Cole, seconded by Sylvester Belcher to accept Mr. Cox's recommendation. Motion passed 7-0.

13. Motion Denise Williams, seconded by Michael Ephlin to approve the Timed Agenda. Motion passed 7-0.
14. Mr. Cox reviewed the district financial report with the Board and stated that we are in good shape financially but we did go over some on gas and electric. Motion Michael Ephlin, seconded by Terry Cole to approve the financial reports as presented. Motion passed 7-0.
15. Mr. Cox reviewed the list of bills with the Board. Motion Terry Cole, seconded by Michael Ephlin to pay the bills as listed. Motion passed by 7-0.
16. In the Superintendent's Report Mr. Cox handed out a list of Air Force JROTC Accomplishments for 2014-2015. Mr. Cox then gave an Energy Project update stating that a pre-construction conference for the Middle School Project was held and they will start work any day now.
17. Mr. Cox recommended hiring the following certified personnel as listed. Amber Barnett – Kindergarten, Cara Greer – Kindergarten, Pam Smith – Add Dyslexia Coordinator to contract with 10 additional days, Crystal Watson – Math Coach at STEM, Kinsey Williams – Counselor at STEM, Martha Thomas-Williams, ALE at CSE, and Latasha Robinson – 2nd Grade at CSE. Randy Carney asked if everyone on the list is certified or working on it. Mr. Cox answered yes they are. Motion Sylvester Belcher, seconded by Jacqueline Baker to approve Mr. Cox's recommendation. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Cox recommended hiring Lolita Miller, RN for School Nurse. Motion Randy Carney, seconded by Michael Ephlin to approve Mr. Cox's recommendation. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Cox recommended accepting the resignation of Jade Brinkley – CSE 2nd Grade Teacher, Jacklyon Buford – STEM Parapro, Jennfier Gilley – CSE Sp. ED, Sarah Green – Kindergarten, Paul House – STEM Sp. Ed., Phyllis Langford – STEM Counselor, Dettris Poole – Kindergarten, Carmen West – High School Math, Diane Woods – Sp. Ed. At High School. Motion Sylvester Belcher, seconded by Terry Cole to accept Mr. Cox's recommendation. Motion passed 7-0.

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Mr. Cox recommended approving the following transfers:

Melissa Calvert from STEM to High School

Gwen Dyson from High School to STEM

Brandi George from CSE to GT at CSE and North

Rachel Gibson from Pre-school to Kindergarten

Kim Howard from Pre-school to Kindergarten

Bea McCorkley from STEM to High School

Toshiba Pugh from STEM Math Coach to High School Math Coach

Archie Thomas from High School to STEM

Jennifer Young from STEM to High School

Motion Randy Carney, seconded by Sylvester Belcher to approve Mr. Cox's recommendation.

Motion passed 7-0

18. Motion Terry Cole, seconded by Michael Ephlin to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0. (7:25 pm)

(Signed) James Baker, President

(Signed) Denise Williams, Secretary