

RECORDS AND PROCEEDINGS

A special meeting of the Board of Education of the Pulaski County Special School District was held at 925 East Dixon Road on the 3rd day of March, 2009. The following business was transacted:

Opening
3/3/09

President Tim Clark called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Mrs. Shana Chaplin, Mr. Tim Clark, Mr. Danny Gililand, Mrs. Mildred Tatum, Mr. Bill Vasquez, Ms. Gwen Williams, Mr. Charlie Wood, and Superintendent James R. Sharpe.

Absent: None

Mr. Clark stated that certain citizens of Jacksonville had submitted a petition requesting a special meeting. He informed the public that this meeting was to listen to comments and no vote would be taken at the meeting. He welcomed Mayor Tommy Swaim of Jacksonville and thanked him for attending the meeting.

The purpose of the meeting included:

- The fiscal impact of the issuance of second lien bonds for the construction of Maumelle/Oak Grove High School and Sylvan Hills Middle School
- Possible loss of desegregation funding and projected loss of enrollment, and their effects on the repayment of proposed second lien bonds
- Possible effect on teachers' salaries and teaching positions caused by the issuance of second lien bonds and the requirement they be paid off
- Effect of possible litigation over the issuance of the second lien bonds and whether possible litigation would inhibit the issuance of the bonds
- Proposed cost of Maumelle High School and the bid process to determine the proposed cost
- Whether the Superintendent or Board should establish a finance committee to monitor and investigate the potential long term deficit ramifications and yearly financial expenditures of acquiring second lien bonds
- The combination of Jacksonville middle schools, and the overall problems between combining the schools in an improper fashion.

Ivory Tillman addressed concerns and reasons against combining the Jacksonville middle schools and urged the Board to reconsider their decision from the February 10, 2009, meeting. Dr. James Bolden stated that he was against combining the Jacksonville Middle Schools and urged the Board not to get back in fiscal distress.

Daniel Gray spoke on behalf of the Jacksonville World Class Education Committee and requested the Board to reconsider the decision for the building of Maumelle/Oak Grove High School and Sylvan Hills Middle School which would place a debt to the District of \$81,000,000. He said that the superintendent and the chief financial officer had stated that the District could not afford this debt and could not be certain

It could repay the debt after 3-5 years. Mr. Gray asked to be shown a budget to see if the District could afford these two new schools without putting the future of the District and the Jacksonville/North Pulaski area in jeopardy. He recommended that the Board or Superintendent establish a committee to monitor these expenses.

Former state Representative Will Bond voiced concerns regarding the detachment of Jacksonville and still being responsible for the 30-year debt for the new schools; and the issuance of the second lien bonds being bad for Jacksonville/ North Pulaski residents.

Mr. Gililand requested finding out from the fiscal agent the legal ramifications obligating the District and implementing this into the upcoming board workshop.

Mrs. Chaplin asked to have the cost projections available in the long range plans and decisions of having to scale back at the upcoming board workshop.

Adjournment

3/3/09

Ms. Williams moved, seconded by Mr. Wood to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Board President

Board Secretary