

RECORDS AND PROCEEDINGS

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Pulaski County Special School District was held at 925 East Dixon Road on the 10th day of May 2011. The following business was transacted.

Opening 5/10/2011

President Bill Vasquez called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

Present: Mr. Bill Vasquez, Mr. Tim Clark, Mrs. Gloria Lawrence, Mrs. Sandra Sawyer, Mr. Tom Stuthard, Mrs. Mildred Tatum, Ms. Gwen Williams, and Superintendent Charles Hopson

Cayce Davis representing Robinson High School served as the student board member.

Oak Grove High School performed the National Anthem.

Special Recognition 5/10/2011

Bobby Lester
Crystal Apple
Award

Christine DeKay, teacher at Maumelle Middle School, received this award for the month of April.

Booker T.
Award of
Excellence

Corneshea Halton, teacher at Fuller Middle School, received this award.

NPHS Art
Students

Mr. Tom Stuthard presented certificates to four recipients of awards in the following competitions:

Kelsey Seats

Artwork Selected for the Governor's Mansion Association
Young Arkansas Artists Exhibit

Kelsey Whitmore

Artwork Selected for the Governor's Mansion Association
Young Arkansas Artists Exhibit

Emily Graham

First Place - 12th Grade Drawing
34th Annual ASU-Beebe Sr. High School Art Competition

Friederike Janssen

First Place - 10th Grade Drawing
34th Annual ASU-Beebe Sr. High School Art Competition

Minutes 5/10/2011

Mrs. Tatum moved, seconded by Ms. Williams, approval of the minutes for the April 12th regular board meeting, April 19th and April 27th special board meeting. The motion carried.

Reports/ Presentations 5/10/2011

NPHS Competitive
Speech Team

The North Pulaski High School Competitive Speech Team – Reader's Theater presented, "Are You My Hero".

AR Advanced Initiative for Math & Science (AAIMS)

Ms. Tommie Sue Anthony, President of AAIMS, Inc., presented this report on the Arkansas Advanced Initiative for Math & Science (AAIMS) Advanced Placement Teacher Training & Incentive Program (APTIP). The APTIP approach increases teacher effectiveness and student achievement through content training, teacher and student support, vertical alignment of teachers, open enrollment, and incentives. The National Math & Science Institute (NMSI) was launched in 2007 with foundational support from Exxon Mobil Corporation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation, in an effort to reverse the United States' decline in math and science education. Ten Arkansas schools (including Mills) have experienced two years of participation in the program from 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 school years. Because of the AAIMS program schools, the state of Arkansas ranks #1 in the U.S. in one year percent increases of scores of 3 or higher on AP math and science exams from 2009 to 2010 for all students; AP math, science, and English exams from 2009 to 2010 for minority students.

Ms. Anthony shared information from a recent press release held on April 14, 2011 at Ft. Carson, Colorado, by First Lady Obama, who recognized North Pulaski High School as one of the twenty-three schools identified as part of the National Math & Science Initiative for Military Families. Partners in the initiative for Military Families include the Military Child Education Coalition, the Military Impacted Schools Association, and the Colorado Legacy Foundation. Ms. Anthony stated she is currently writing the AP grant for eight Arkansas schools and must have a failing school mentioned. She said she has chosen Jacksonville as the recipient for consideration. She stated she is delighted to work with PCSSD and is glad to have North Pulaski High School included in the program.

Public Comments

5/10/2011

Debbie Breeding, a parent from Robinson High School, spoke on the changes in the grading policy revisions and how they would affect seniors there. She stated she recognizes a need for changes but feels the changes at this point will have damaging effects on the graduating seniors this school year. She asked the board to vote to amend the policy to be effective the upcoming school year.

Renee George, Geometry teacher at Robinson High School, spoke regarding two credits being added to the math curriculum program. She thanked the Board and Cabinet for looking into the program. She stated she does not want to discard a looping program that is working and please consider the allocations they are facing. She stated that getting rid of teachers is not helping the students.

PACT Marty Nix President of PACT welcomed home Ms. Tommie Sue Anthony, President of Arkansas Advanced Initiative for Math & Science (AAIMS). She recognized all of the students present and performing. She stated that despite all that is going on there are good things going on in the classroom. She asked everyone to please keep Gene Manfredini in their hearts and prayers. She thanked everyone for their time and attention. She stated she spoke with Dr. Bruce Bryant regarding the graduation requirements and PACT agrees it should not be addressed at this point in the school year. She asked everyone to keep the recent flood victims in mind. She stated that focus needs to be on board policies regarding the middle school concept. She said a lot of students are lost at that level.

Ms. Nix mentioned she hoped the request for Impact Aid for National Board Certified Teachers is addressed and included in the budget upfront. She thanked Paul Brewer, Executive Director of Human Resources, Dr. Brenda Bowles, Assistant Superintendent of Equity & Pupil Services and Sam Altschul, Director of Federal Programs, for their support of the professional growth committees and for going above and beyond the call of duty to get things done. She stated she is looking forward to new buildings being built and seeing smiles on children's faces.

PASS Mr. Emery Chesterfield, President of PASS, thanked the Board for approving their contract, and Mr. Paul Brewer for spearheading efforts to get the PACT/ PASS contract book out. He thanked Mrs. Anita Farver for her diligence and willingness to help PASS. He recognized his advisor, Ms. Sandi Roy and thanked her for being a team player.

Joshua & Knight Intervenor, and PCSSD Equity/ Pupil Services No representative from ODM, Joshua and Knight Intervenor, or PCSSD Equity and Pupil Services expressed a desire to address the board.

Old Business

Approval of Amendment of Board Policy IKF, Third reading Mrs. Tatum motioned, seconded by Mr. Stuthard, approval of amendment of Board Policy IKF – Graduation Requirements, Third reading. A requirement of 22.5 credits, to include economics, will be required and effective for the class of 2014 and beyond. The motion carried.

Approval of Amendment of Board Policy IKA-R, Third reading Mr. Tom Stuthard moved, seconded by Mrs. Tatum, approval of amendment of Board Policy IKA-R – Grading Assessment System, Third reading. Due to a negative impact on the 2010-2011 graduates, the amended effective date will be the 2011-2012 school year. The motion carried.

Approval of Amendment of FY11 Budget to Add Grant Awards Mrs. Tatum moved, seconded by Mrs. Sawyer, approval of amendment of FY11 Budget to add grant awards. The motion carried.

New Business

Approval of
Board Policy
DD-R, First
reading

First reading.

Approval of
K-5 Common
Core Text
Selections

Mrs. Sawyer moved, seconded by Mrs. Tatum, approval of K-5 Common Core Text Selections. Mrs. Tatum questioned whether funds are being provided by NSLA and Title I funds. Dr. June Elliott, Deputy Superintendent of Elementary Schools/Chief Academic Officer, responded that the funds are supplemental NSLA and Title I funds that have not been expended and cannot carry over. There was no further discussion. The motion carried.

Impact Aid -
Landmark
Elem Science
Field Trip

Mrs. Sawyer moved, seconded by Mrs. Lawrence, approval of Impact Aid for Landmark Elementary Science Field Trip. The motion was withdrawn since monies were received from an outside sponsor. Pending ADE approval, the impact aid will be applied to the Landmark activities at the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year.

Impact Aid -
Nat'l Board
Certified
Teachers

Mr. Vasquez moved, seconded by Ms. Williams, approval of Impact Aid for National Board Certified Teachers, pending ADE approval. The motion carried.

Award of Bids

Mrs. Tatum moved, seconded by Mrs. Sandra Sawyer, approval of Award of Bids for *Jewel of a Lawn* lawn care service for Zone 1 & Zone 3.

11-019 Lawn Care Service

Jewel of a Lawn was awarded bid in the amount of \$2,050 for Zones 1 and \$1,690 for Zone 3; Zone 1 received 1 competitive bid in the amount of \$4,108.80; 1 competitive bid in the amount of \$3,258.70. Zone 3 received 1 competitive bid in the amount of \$2,348.65; 1 competitive bid in the amount of \$2,187.25.

Ms. Williams stated she wanted it noted that she is opposed to outsourcing and would always vote no.

Mr. Stuthard asked if a system is in place to monitor if adequate services are being provided by the lawn care service providers. Mr. Derek Scott, Chief Operating Officer, responded that a request is in place for a custodial grounds supervisor, who will monitor the services and provide feedback to principals. There was no further discussion. The motion carried.

Addendums

Approval of
Resolution to
Name Maumelle
HS Media Center

This item was pulled from the agenda.

Approval of
Resolution to
Name the
Maumelle HS
Theater

This item was pulled from the agenda.

Approval of
Revisions of
2011-2012
PCSSD Parent/
Student
Handbook

Mrs. Lawrence moved, seconded by Mrs. Sawyer, approval of revisions of the 2011-2012 PCSSD Parent/Student Handbook for Student Conduct & Discipline. The motion carried.

NCA (AdvanceED)
Approval to
Proceed to
Commitment to
District-wide
Accreditation

Mrs. Tatum moved, seconded by Ms. Williams, approval of North Central Association (AdvanceED): Approval to Proceed to Commitment to District-wide Accreditation. The motion carried.

Suspension of
the Rules

Mrs. Lawrence moved, seconded by Ms. Williams, to suspend the rules to discuss middle school concept. Only four votes were received to suspend the rules. A roll call vote was requested.

Roll Call

Yes: Sawyer, Lawrence, Vasquez, Williams
No: Tatum, Stuthard

The motion failed.

Mr. Vasquez stated that a workshop would be scheduled at a later date to discuss the middle school concept.

Consent Agenda 5/10/2011

Mrs. Tatum moved, seconded by Mrs. Sawyer, to approve the consent agenda with all noted corrections (removal of resignation #5 and verification of duplicate entries in the financial report). The motion carried.

Those items included:

- Expulsions
- Personnel—certified and support staff (remove Resignation #5)
- Bills for payment (Mrs. Farver will verify duplicate entries on p. 73)
- Financial Report

**Superintendent's
Comments**

5/10/2011

Dr. Hopson recognized families affected by the flooding and tornadoes and asked that everyone remember them during this time.

Dr. Hopson shared a note from the principal at Taylor Elementary regarding an incident involving a 5th grade student whose determination to avoid missing another day of school instruction motivated her father to row her and her two sisters in their boat to catch the bus during the flood. He acknowledged administrators and others who made significant sacrifices to make sure schools remained open.

**Board Member
Comments**

5/10/2011

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| Gwen Williams | Ms. Williams stated she had a wonderful Mother's Day and hoped everyone else did. She recognized her grandchildren on their undefeated T-ball/fast pitch/softball wins. She congratulated Tommy Norman with the North Little Rock Police Department who won \$10,000 for Officer of the Year out of seven contestants nationwide. She stated Mr. Norman announced he will give the money to the "Shop with a Cop" charity. She wished Mr. Vasquez a happy belated birthday. |
| Tom Stuthard | Mr. Stuthard recognized North Pulaski High School Competitive Speech Team. He stated they were champs for two consecutive years. NPHS had three teams involved and placed 2 nd in the fishing tournament with two students and three additional students. Cheri Dunlap, a 5 th grade teacher received the Teacher Award in Excellence from the Lions Club. |
| Mildred Tatum | Mrs. Tatum wished Mr. Vasquez a happy belated birthday. She stated that Mills High School prom will be held on Saturday night and she is looking forward to seeing the students all dressed up. She stated the NPHS skits are always very touching and a lot of time and effort is involved in preparing for them. She asked everyone to try attending at least one of the skits and join her in attending the graduation exercises. |
| Sandra Sawyer | Mrs. Sawyer asked everyone to keep all of the students on their prayer lists during proms and graduations this month. She wished Mr. Vasquez happy birthday. She said she is looking forward to seeing the drawings for Robinson Middle School. |
| Gloria Lawrence | Mrs. Lawrence invited everyone to the Bear Bash at Sylvan Hills Middle School on May 24 th . She finished tutoring at Clinton and is looking forward to the end of the school year. Sylvan Hills High School's prom was held on Saturday night and her granddaughter is a graduating senior this year. |

Board Member
Comments
(cont'd)

Gloria Lawrence
(cont'd) Mrs. Lawrence asked that everyone keep Mr. Gene Manfredini and the students in their prayers. Let's take care of our families and children.

Bill Vasquez Mr. Vasquez stated there is no greater satisfaction than being a part of an organization that gets the type of awards received by the students. He congratulated North Pulaski High School's Competitive Speech Team on their skit, "Are You My Hero". He said it put a lot of things into perspective and lets us know that our children are exposed to a lot more than we were and face challenges that we did not have at their ages. He stated they need our help and support and we need to do whatever we have to do to help them. He asked for prayers for Mr. Manfredini, all of the flood victims, as well as the nation. He thanked the first responders, teachers, parents and administrators for their immediate reaction to the disasters.

Mr. Vasquez mentioned the middle school concept and stated there needs to be more discussion. He stated there is good work within the committees and PACT/PASS are working together. He said it will be good to have a contract in everyone's hands by the end of the year. He asked the communities to support the students, especially during the graduation exercises. He stated there is nothing as inspiring as watching young men and women take that big step across the stage. Mr. Vasquez asked everyone to remember the soldiers on Memorial Day and take time to attend as many of the graduations as possible. He stated his dream is to see all of the schools in the district touched with a major renovation if it takes fifteen years to accomplish it.

Adjournment
5/10/2011

Mrs. Tatum moved, seconded by Mrs. Sawyer, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Board President

Board Secretary