

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
621 SOUTH STATE STREET
JACKSON, MS 39201
REGULAR MEETING OF THE JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2017

Board Present

Ms. Beneta D. Burt, President
Mr. Rickey D. Jones, Vice President
Ms. Camille S. Simms, Secretary
Mr. Jed Oppenheim, Member
Dr. Richard Lind, Member
Ms. Kimberly L. Campbell, Member, Esq.

Board Member Absent

Mr. Kodi D. Hobbs, Member

Attorneys and Administrative Staff

Dr. Freddrick Murray, Interim Supt.
Hon. Dorian Turner, Board Attorney
Hon. JoAnne Shepherd, Dist. Counsel
Dr. Jason Sargent, Chief of Staff
Dr. William Merritt, IV, Elem., CAO
Dr. Michelle King, Elem., CAO
Ms. Chinelo Evans, CAO
Dr. Morris Stanton, High School, CAO
Mr. Sherwin Johnson, Communications
Ms. Sharolyn Miller, CFO
Dr. Bishop Knox, Dir. Student Serv.
Dr. Margaret Wallace, Chief AO
Ms. Sandra Robinson, Facilities

Secretary to the Board

Ms. Vikki D. Mumford

- I. Call to Order, Pledge to the Flag, and Moment of Inspiration: The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District was called to order at 5:36 P.M. by Ms. Beneta D. Burt, Board President. She extended greetings to those who were present and those who were viewing by television. She then called for the introduction of the *Whitten Middle School Student, Charlicya Wilson*, who would lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Charlicya, better known as "Miss Whitten," participates in numerous school activities. She looks forward to attending Lanier High School next year. Her career aspirations are to become an oncologist and/or a professional dancer. Dr. James C. Shoulder, Pastor of the Rising Sun M. B. Church, provided a Moment of Inspiration.
- II. Establishment of a Quorum: A quorum was established as six (6) of seven (7) members were present. Mr. Jed Oppenheim participated by telephone. Mr. Kodi Hobbs was absent from the meeting.
- III. Adoption of the Agenda: The Board voted to adopt the agenda as presented, on motion of Ms. Kimberly L. Campbell, and second of Dr. Richard Lind. All six (6) participating members, Ms. Beneta D. Burt, Mr. Rickey Jones, Ms. Camille Simms, Mr. Jed Oppenheim, Ms. Kimberly Campbell and Dr. Richard Lind, voted "aye" in favor of the motion. The motion passed by a vote of six (6) to 0. Mr. Kodi Hobbs was absent from the meeting.
- IV. Reading and Approving Minutes: The Board approved minutes of the January 3, 2017, Special Meeting, the January 10, 2017, Regular Meeting, and the January 18, Special Meeting, on motion of Dr. Richard Lind and second of Ms. Kimberly Campbell. And for good cause shown, the motion passed by a vote of 6 to 0. Mr. Kodi Hobbs was absent from the meeting.

V. Public Participation for General Comments:

1. Jacqueline Griffin, a parent and a community activist spoke in opposition to the three search firms being recommended to the board for their involvement in the superintendent search. Each firm, according to Ms. Griffin, is under review for their failure to execute parts of their agreement. More specifically for failure to conduct thorough background checks. Secondly, "As stakeholders, members of the Jackson community have the skill set needed to hire a superintendent. We are vested members of this community and we know the qualities of a good superintendent," she said.
2. Mr. Willie C. Ford, a parent, a pastor and a 2003 JPS science teacher of the year, spoke in support of more student discipline. He says that students should show more respect for teachers and their peers. He quoted, Proverbs 3:6, which say, "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it." He added that students need direction and should realize that choices they make have consequences. Thank you.

VI. Review of Discipline Cases:

- a. Dr. Bishop Knox reported that there was no more discipline cases for review.

VII. Superintendent' Reports/Announcements:

Dr. Freddrick Murray, Interim Superintendent, gave updates on:

- The at-risk school process: There are eighteen (18) schools in which the district awaits feedback from MDE. Board members will likely receive feedback tomorrow. He handed out a template for which he asked board members to represent particular schools for training purposes by MDE. Once administration completes the Corrective Action Plan, it will need board approval. Thereafter, each school will be required to provide a monthly report to the board as MDE will ensure that this criterion is carried out. These supporting documents will become a part of these minutes. Following Dr. Murray's update, Dr. Jason Sargent gave a brief update relative to the Corrective Action Plan.

End of Superintendent's Reports and Announcements

VIII. Information Items Only:

- a. An update on the Proposed Budget Funding for 2017-18 was given by Ms. Sharolyn Miller.
- b. Ms. Miller stated that the budgeting process is a lengthy one and that the process begins before Christmas each year. The business department is working on a school calendar to ensure that teacher-contracts can be issued ASAP. This is done in an effort to maintain our teacher core. Ms. Miller added that our budget, JPS, has to be adopted on or before June 30th.

- Audits: Each board member will be sent a questionnaire in connection with the District's annual audit. Information will be sought to ensure that a board member has no involvement in conflict of interest ventures and/or any improprieties. This questionnaire is sent in compliance with Standard four (4) of the MDE Code. The audit should be completed by the first week of March.
- Board members inquired about the dollar amount charter schools costs the district. Ms. Miller reported that 1.38 million dollars have been sent to three (3) charter schools this school year for the education of 514 children. She added that this is an increase from the 327 students last year who attended charter schools. Note: Charter school students do not receive full pupil allocations.) This school year, JPS enrolls 27,000. Updates were accepted on the 2017-18 School Funding report.

b. Review of Sections: A (School District Organization) and B: (Board of Trustees Operations) Policies: Ms. JoAnne Shepherd, District Counsel, reported that we have some policies with no changes. Going forward, each month the board will review a section of the District's policies and within a year, each policy will have been reviewed.

- School district legal status: Ms. Shepherd stated that the Board will use Robert's Rules of Order.
- Legally, there are two assistant secretaries to the Board. They are by policy, the superintendent and the board secretary.
- "We are up-to-date on policies, except the ones we tabled at the December meeting. Those policies will be brought back for board approval at a later date," Ms. Shepherd said.
- A board member's salary is \$2400.00 per year.
- Note: An open record's request is seven (7) days.

c. Review of Revisions to Policy BE-Conflict of Interest and Creation of Policy JKL-online and Blended Learning Program
JKL is a new policy and it allows our district to participate with the virtual online teaching and delivery services.
Policy Updates were accepted by the Board.

IX. Information/Action Items

- Approval of Monthly Financial Report: Ms. Sharolyn Miller, CFO: The Board approved this report on motion of Dr. Richard Lind and second of Ms. Kimberly L. Campbell. And for good cause shown, all six (6) participating members voted "aye" in favor of the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 6 to 0. Mr. Kodi Hobbs was absent from the meeting.
- Consideration of Proposal from Consulting Firms to Conduct Superintendent Search Presented by Ms. Dorian Turner, Board Attorney: A motion of Mr. Jed Oppenheim, that the District should keep funds in the District's treasury, and allow the community to conduct the whole superintendent's search process, died for lack of a second.

Next, Mr. Jed Oppenheim moved that the district re-open the RFP process and locate other superintendent search firms. Mr. Rickey Jones seconded the motion. And for good cause shown, three members, Mr. Rickey Jones, Mr. Jed Oppenheim and Ms. Kimberly Campbell, voted "aye" in favor of the motion; two members, Ms. Beneta D. Burt and Dr. Richard Lind voted "nay" in opposition to the motion. Ms. Camille Simms abstained from the vote. The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 2 to 1. Mr. Kodi Hobbs was absent from the meeting.

By consensus, the board members will:

- Give Ms. Dorian Turner, Board Attorney, distinctive qualities that each would like to see in a new superintendent. Ms. Turner will compile the information.
- The board requests that the firms be well vetted and ensure that neither has pending litigation against them.

X. Consent Agenda Items - Finance Presented by Ms. Miller, CFO:

- a. Approval of Disbursements and Account Payable and Activity Fund Claims for the period of December 22, 2016, through January 27, 2017;
- b. Approval of Various Donations;
- c. Approval to Award Formal Bids

The Board voted to approve all three finance items, a, b, and c, on motion of Mr. Rickey D. Jones and second of Dr. Richard Lind. And for good cause shown, all participating members voted "aye" in favor of the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 6 to 0. Mr. Kodi Hobbs was absent from the meeting.

XI. Consent Agenda Items - General

- a. Approval of Consulting Services Agreement between Eric Stringfellow and the Jackson Public School District: Dr. Richard Lind moved that this item be pulled and placed on the February 15, 2017, Work session meeting agenda. By consensus, the motion passed.

XII. Consent Agenda Item - Personnel: Ms. Sharolyn Miller, CFO

- a. Approval of Staff Personnel Matters: The Board approved all personnel matters: On motion of Mr. Rickey Jones and second of Ms. Kimberly Campbell. And for good cause shown, all six (6) participating members voted "aye" in favor of the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 6 to 0. Mr. Kodi Hobbs was absent from the meeting.
- b. Approval of the 2017-18 School Calendars: on motion of Ms. Kimberly Campbell and second of Mr. Rickey Jones. The Board approved school Calendars. And for good cause shown, all six (6) participating members voted "aye" in favor of the motion.

c. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 6 to 0. Mr. Kodi Hobbs was absent from the meeting.

XIII. Other Business: There was no "other business" for the Board to consider.

XIV. Consideration to Hold an Executive Session: None


XV. Adjournment:

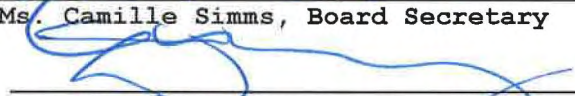
The meeting was adjourned on motion of Ms. Kimberly L. Campbell, and second of Mr. Rickey Jones, and for good cause shown, all six (6) participating members voted "aye" in favor of the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 P.M.

I, the undersigned, President and Secretary of the Board of Trustees; and I, Dr. Freddrick Murray, Interim Superintendent, of the Jackson Public School District, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the resolution of the Board of Trustees at its regular meeting held on February 7, 2017, as the same that appears on record in Minute Book of said Board.

GIVEN under my hand, this the 8th day of February, 2017.


Ms. Beneta D. Burt, Board President


Ms. Camille Simms, Board Secretary


Dr. Freddrick Murray, Interim Supt.

2-21-17
Date

2-21-17
Date

2-21-17
Date