

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS
MAY 12, 2011 – 6:30 P.M.
JCHS MEDIA CENTER

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Anne Marie Potts who then asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence. Board members present were Chair Potts, Vice Chair Bill Jarnigan, Randall Bradley, Maurice Solomon, Jim Vines and Michael Phagan. Board member Annette Loy was absent. Dr. Charles Edmonds, Director of Schools and Secretary to the Board, was also present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Nathan Hodge, JCHS student, led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Dr. Edmonds recognized Alexis Manus, Maury Middle 7th grader, as the winner of the Director's Gallery for the third nine weeks for grades 6-8 and Alex Brinker, JCHS 11th grader, for grades 9-12.

Chair Potts recognized Parker Susong with a certificate for his service as a student representative to the School Board for the 2010-2011 school year.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon motion by Jim Vines and second by Michael Phagan, the board unanimously approved the agenda as submitted. (see attached)

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Upon motion by Bill Jarnigan and second by Jim Vines, the board unanimously approved the consent agenda with the addition of a list of surplus property from the transportation department. (see attached)

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

There were no items for discussion.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION – DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS

1. Financial reports were not available at this time.

Items for Information – continued

Dr. Edmonds requested that the board approve a general fund budget amendment as requested by the finance department. (see attached)

Vice Chair Jarnigan made the motion to approve the general fund budget amendment as presented. Board member Solomon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Edmonds pointed out that after reviewing the budget, funding for the 9th grade academy modulars would not be available from the year's operating budget to cover the \$105,000 cost. He proposed that the funds needed to complete the project come from the fund balance. He commented that a budget amendment would have to be approved in order to take the amendment before the county commission budget committee on Monday, May 16th.

Upon motion by Michael Phagan and second by Jim Vines, the board unanimously approved the motion to spend \$105,000 from the fund balance in order to cover the cost for the 9th grade Academy modulars.

2. Dr. Edmonds went over the first draft of the 2011-2012 general purpose school budget. The projected state and local budget was \$48,120,000 compared to \$47,323,463 last year. He pointed out that state teacher raises were included which totaled \$351,000. He mentioned that he was asked to look for funds in the budget for funding local increases for support workers and teachers. He went over the 2010-2011 teacher salary schedule, total local supplement and combined state and local salary scale. A projected 1.6% raise for certified employees on the local salary schedule which included salary and benefits of \$34,434 and a 1.6% raise for support staff totaling \$95,361 were included in the budget. He pointed out that this did not include food service workers or federal funds. He further pointed out that it would take \$21,000 to fund the raise for federal and \$17,000 to fund the raise for food service. Chair Potts suggested that they hear from Dr. Clampitt's evaluation of the teacher salary schedule that he had prepared in order to get more information.

Dr. Edmonds went over the changes from the current year compared to what was being proposed for this year.

Vice Chair Jarnigan commented that he would like to see an increase in the Director's salary in order to make him the highest paid school system employee.

Items for Information – continued

After some discussion, Chair Potts commented that she would like an entire breakdown of the chart of accounts with a comparison of last year. Dr. Edmonds said that could be provided at the next meeting. The final budget is scheduled to be presented to county commission on May 26, 2011. Chair Potts recommended a board meeting prior to the county commission meeting on May 26th. Chair Potts expressed appreciation to everyone involved in the budget process.

3. Each board member received a memo from Dr. Edmonds informing them of non-tenured, certified teachers' whose contracts were not going to be renewed for the 2011-2012 school year. Dr. Edmonds commented that they had been notified.

4. Each board member received information and a memo from Dr. Edmonds informing them of the assignment of all educators and other school personnel to the schools where they are presently assigned as of May 12, 2011. This is in compliance with the state law requirements that personnel be assigned by May 15th.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval – Federal Projects and Special Education Permission – 2011-2012 School Year

Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV TIES, IDEA, Vocational Education Carl Perkins, Pre-School, Race to the Top

There was discussion regarding whether the item needed to be approved or if there was a standard board policy regarding the approval. Dr. Edmonds said he would check the policy. The item will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting if approval is necessary.

2. Approval – 2011 Summer School

Upon motion by Maurice Solomon and second by Jim Vines, the board unanimously approved the 2011 Summer School program to begin May 31, 2011.

3. Approval of Tenure Teachers for the 2011-2012 School Year

Upon motion by Maurice Solomon and second by Michael Phagan, the board with the recommendation of Dr. Edmonds approved the list of tenure teachers for the 2011-2012 as submitted. (see attached)

New Business - continued

4. Approval – JCHS Class Fee for 2011-2012 - Science Research & Design and AP Chemistry

Upon motion by Michael Phagan and second by Bill Jarnigan, the board unanimously approved the class fee for science research and design in the amount of \$20 and AP Chemistry in the amount of \$40 for the 2011-2012 school year.

5. Personnel Action

Dr. Edmonds requested that the item be removed and presented at a later date.

6. Board member Solomon congratulated the baseball and softball teams on their winning season. He also commented that he would like to see improvements made on the softball field. Dr. Edmonds commented that they were currently working to make that happen. He mentioned that he would bring back information to the board at the next meeting.

7. Board member Bradley commented that he had participated in a bike fair at Rush Strong on April 30 and he wanted to thank Earl Stroup, assistant principal at Maury Middle, and his wife for organizing the fund raising event.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Building Program

Tony Pettit from Rentenbach updated the board on the new elementary school proceedings. He commented that Rentenbach would be receiving plans from Cope Associates on Friday; bid packages were being issued and advertised in local papers on Monday with bid opening on June 1. A pre-bid conference will take place on May 24 in the JCHS commons area. He commented that hopefully they could come back to the board at their meeting on June 9th under budget with a recommendation on a contract to proceed with construction on June 13, 2011.

Doug Shover and Jerry Lewis, from The Lewis Group, updated the board with a power point presentation on renovations and additions to the existing high school and the new high school facility. Mr. Shover commented that the new high school facility plans provided for three (3) options in the amount of square footage for consideration based on the amount of bid price and available funding. He commented that on May 18th they would provide as much information as possible on the renovations and additions for the existing high school to Rentenbach so they could

Unfinished Business – continued

develop some pricing in advance of the June board meeting. He further commented that they were looking at a construction document deadline of July 1.

2. Salary Information

Dr. Bill Clampitt, retiree from IBM dealing with compensation, addressed the board regarding information relating to the evaluation of salary schedules for teachers at the request of Dr. Edmonds. Dr. Clampitt volunteered his services for the study.

Dr. Clampitt commented that his findings showed that teachers' starting salaries are low compared to the average of the five (5) surrounding counties and the state average and the teacher salary schedules for each degree level had abnormalities causing varying levels of increase between levels of experience.

It was determined that by adding a small percentage to the starting salaries each year for five (5) years, the starting salaries would be at approximately the state average in the fifth year. The percentage add-on would range from 0.5% to 1.0%. Adjusting the percentage differential between the levels of experience over a five (5) year period would result in a smooth 2% difference between each experience level in the fifth year.

The total cost to implement the program for the 2011-2012 school year would be \$560,148.

Dr. Clampitt's recommendation was that both the starting salary add-on and salary schedule adjustment be implemented. (see attached study)

Board member Vines felt they needed more information on the budget. Chair Potts suggested that board member Phagan, Dr. Edmonds, and the finance department meet next Tuesday in order to further look at Dr. Clampitt's recommendation and bring back more information to the board.

Board member Vines commented that he would like to look at Dr. Edmond's salary because he also felt he should be the highest paid employee in the school system.

Board member Vines made the motion to add \$10,000 to Dr. Edmond's base salary. Vice Chair Jarnigan seconded the motion and the motion passed 5-1 with board member Bradley voting against.

Unfinished Business - continued

The board scheduled a meeting for Thursday, May 19th at 5:00 p.m. in the JCHS Media Center.

3. There was no discussion regarding longevity pay.

ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Anne Marie Potts, Chair

Charles Edmonds, Director of Schools &
Secretary to the Board

Date

Date