

**TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
September 8, 2015
12:00 p.m.**

The Board of Trustees of the Tupelo Public School District convened in a regular meeting of the Board held in Open Session at noon on Tuesday, September 8, 2015, at the Hancock Leadership Center, 1920 Briar Ridge Road, Tupelo, Mississippi.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Kenneth Wheeler who welcomed guests attending the meeting.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Board members present during roll call were: Mr. Joe Babb, Mrs. Sherry Davis, Mr. Rob Hudson, Mr. Eddie Prather and Mr. Kenneth Wheeler. Mr. Kenneth Wheeler announced a quorum and stated that the meeting was lawfully in session. Attorney Otis Tims was also present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Mr. Hudson, seconded by Mrs. Davis, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda for the regular September 8, 2015, Board meeting with the following changes:

- Addendum to the Consent Agenda (Section VII. Item C.3.) Approval of the FY2015 Closeout for Special Education Budget

A copy of the agenda is marked **EXHIBIT 1** and held in the Exhibit Book of this meeting date and incorporated herein.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes from the following meeting were presented for consideration for approval:

July 21, 2015	Regular Noon Meeting, Hancock Leadership Center
August 11, 2015	Regular Noon Meeting, Hancock Leadership Center
August 31, 2015	Special Called Meeting, 2:00 p.m., Central Administrative Office

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No requests for public comments were received for this meeting of the Board.

RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Andy Cantrell recognized Mr. Terry Hatch, for his hard work and dedication to Tupelo Public Schools.

Mr. Terry Hatch recognized John Jackson, Sam Ford, and Alan Hamilton all employees of the Security Department, as key people in ensuring the security of the district and the safety of students and employees.

COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD

The following informational reports were presented to the Board of Trustees:

- A. Dr. Kristy Luse gave a report on the District's Parent Academy.
- B. Dr. Eddie Peasant and Mr. Jason Harris gave an update on ACT Scores, AP Classes, and Dual Enrollment Classes.
- C. Dr. Eddie Peasant gave a report on Enrollment and Class Size
- D. Mrs. Rachel Murphree gave an update on the 2014-2015 Year-End closing and FY15 Audit
- E. Mrs. Rachel Murphree gave an update on Ad Valorem Collections for amounts received in August 2015. (TPSD Goal #4)

Copies of the above reports are on file in the Superintendent's Office.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following Consent Agenda items were presented for consideration for approval.

A. Office of Finance Director Mrs. Rachel Murphree (TPSD Goal #4)

1. Contractual Agreements:
 - Acknowledge and Award Contracts #CO1617 through #CO1618, and School Facility contracts SFR1617 through SFR1618
 - Ratification of Contract #CO1618
2. Permission to Accept Donations #2015-2016-004 through #2015-2016-007
3. Permission to Submit TPSD Grant #1605
4. Permission to Accept TPSD Grant #1601
5. Permission to Remove 22 Assets from the TPSD Asset Listing

B. Office of Assistant Superintendent Dr. Eddie Peasant

1. Student Transfer Report (TPSD Policy JBCD Transfers and Withdrawals of Students)
2. Readmission of Student #144-2013-2014
3. Overnight Field Trip Requests
 - THS Madrigals & Vocal Jazz to perform in Washington D.C. then to a National Festival in Williamsburg, VA 04/13-17/16
 - DECA to Olive Branch, MS for State Fall Leadership Conference November 7-9, 2015
 - THS Cross Country to compete in the Nike/Fleet Feet Coach Wood Invitational Race in Gainesville, GA

4. Memorandum of Understanding with Magnolia Guard Officer Leadership Development Program.
5. Dual Credit Agreement with Itawamba Community College

C. Office of Assistant Superintendent Dr. Diana Ezell (TPSD Goal #1 And #4)

1. Approval of 2015-2016 Special Education Budget
2. Permission to form a Booster Club for the Tupelo High School Show Choir

No Board Member requested the removal of any item from the Consent Agenda.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Office of Director of Finance Mrs. Rachel Murphree (TPSD Goal #4)

1. Docket of Claims

Mr. Joe Babb reviewed the Docket of Claims prior to the meeting and advised that at the 5:00 p.m. meeting of the Board he will recommend approval of the following:

- Docket of Claims for the period August 1, 2015 through August 31, 2015, Docket of Claims #29641 through #30277, Accounts Payable Checks #19093 through #19529 in the amount of \$2,685,114.94
- No Tupelo High School Activity Check Register for this month
- No Athletic Activity Check Register for this month
- The Athletic Activity Ref Pay paid officials in the amount of \$1,681.40 for the period of August 1, 2015 through August 31, 2015

The grand total for all funds is \$2,686,796.34

2. Required Monthly Financial Reports – Month Ending July 31, 2015

In accordance with MS Code 37-9-18 the following Financial Reports for the month ending July 31, 2015, were reviewed.

- Bank Reconciliation Report
- Revenue and Expenditure Report with Budget Status
- TPSD Cash Flow Statement
- Combined Balance Sheet
- July 31, 2015 Financial Statements

B. Office of Director of Human Resources Mr. Jim Turner (TPSD Goal #3)

1. Licensed Personnel Recommendations

Mr. Jim Turner presented the Licensed Personnel Recommendations for consideration for approval.

C. Office of Assistant Superintendent Dr. Diana Ezell

1. First Reading of Policy IDDHE

Dr. Diana Ezell presented the Service Animal Policy IDDHE, for a First Reading by the Board. Mrs. Davis asked if the District was expecting owners to train students and staff on handling or enacting with the service animal. Mr. Otis Tims told the Board he would review the policy and answer the question at a later date.

D. Office of Superintendent Dr. Gearl Loden (TPSD Goals #3)

The following items were shared with the Board as information items:

1. Information Items:

- **ESL Family Night—Anna Guntharp, Lea Ann Dunklee**
- **Teacher of Distinction—Kay Bishop**
- **Important Events**
 - ✓ **Community Tailgate—October 2nd**
 - ✓ **Professional Development Day, Students Out—October 9th**
 - ✓ **Tupelo High School Homecoming Game—October 9th**
 - ✓ **Columbus Day Holiday October 12th**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Service Agreement with JBHM Architects, P.A. for Security Command Center at Fillmore Center

Mr. Andy Cantrell presented for consideration of approval a Service Agreement for use with the Master Agreement between TPSD and JBHM Architects for the project of Security Command Center at the Fillmore Center.

B. Discussion of Updated TMS Classroom Addition and Renovation Plans

Mr. Andy Cantrell and Mr. Charles Laney of JBHM, led a discussion on the renovation and classroom addition plans.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration to Change Location of November 17, 2015, 5:00pm Board Meeting

Dr. Loden requested to change the location of the November 17, 2015 5:00pm Board Meeting to Parkway Elementary. This change was due to the fact of the Principal at Joyner Elementary being out on maternity leave.

B. Investment of Bond Proceeds Resolution

Mr. Tims presented for consideration of approval, a request authorizing the Superintendent to invest proceeds of the District's 2015 General Obligation Bond Issue in depository accounts or other instruments in which funds may legally be invested by the District until such time as the funds are needed by the District to pay costs of the projects for which the bonds were issued, and to take all other actions necessary or useful for the proper dealing with such funds.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

A. Future Agenda Topics – Superintendent Gearl Loden

Tentative Agenda for October 13, 2015 Regular Meeting (Noon, HLC and 5:00 p.m. at Lawhon Elementary

- **Legal Update**
- **Draft of 2016 School Board Meeting Dates**
- **Parent Academy**
- **Learning Foundation Board Meeting**

B. Future Agenda Topics – Board Members

There were no Future Agenda Topics suggested by the Board

C. Executive Session

Board President Kenneth Wheeler suggested to the School Board a temporary Executive Session to determine the need for a permanent Executive Session for the purpose of discussing several matters.

On a motion by Mr. Babb, seconded by Mrs. Davis, the Board voted unanimously to enter temporary Executive Session for the purpose of determining a need for permanent Executive Session. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the President of the Board declared the motion passed.

The room was cleared and the temporary Executive Session was called to order by Mr. Wheeler with the following people present: Mr. Joe Babb, Mrs. Sherry Davis, Mr. Rob Hudson, Mr. Otis Tims, Mrs. Kimberly Britton, Dr. Gearl Loden, Dr. Eddie Peasant, Mr. Andy Cantrell, Mr. Will Lewis and Charles Laney of JBHM, Mrs. Rachel Murphree, and Mrs. Modesty Shumpert.

The Board first considered the reason for entering Executive Session. Upon a motion by Mr. Babb, with a second by Mrs. Davis, the Board voted unanimously to remain in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the District Safety Plan, and a personnel matter. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the President of the Board declared the motion passed. Mr. Wheeler went out into the hallway to let everyone know that the Board will remain in Executive Session

Mr. Wheeler reentered the room, and reopened the meeting to tell all those in attendance the reason for going into Executive Session was to discuss the District Safety Plan and personnel matter.

First, Mr. Wheeler opened the discussion on the District Safety Plan. The discussion concluded with Mr. Wheeler stating that a decision will be made at a future meeting.

At this point the room was cleared of everyone except for the Board and Mr. Tims. There followed an extensive discussion of a personnel matter during which no action was taken. Following this discussion, Mr. Babb made a motion to leave Executive Session, which was seconded by Ms. Davis and adopted unanimously. Mr. Wheeler left the room and announced that the Board was returning to Open Session. Mr. Wheeler returned to the meeting and announced that the District Safety Plan and a personnel matter had been discussed during Executive Session, but that no action had been taken.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Babb made a motion that the meeting be adjourned, Mrs. Davis seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Mr. Wheeler then announced that the meeting stood adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

APPROVED:
TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ATTEST:

Kenneth Wheeler, President

Eddie Prather, Secretary