

**PARAGOULD SCHOOL DISTRICT
PARAGOULD, ARKANSAS**

BOARD MEETING – OCTOBER 15, 2007

Tracy Brengard called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the PSD Administration Building. Danny Rice gave the invocation. Other members present were Tim Coy, Keith Crook, Barry Bateman, Greg Graham, and Ron Kingston.

Others present were: Aaron Hosman, Superintendent; Karla Blackwood, Director of Curriculum; Richard Shelby, Deputy Superintendent; Ann Tritch, District Treasurer; Caroline Schenk, Literacy Specialist; Scott Martin, Federal Programs Director; Edie Allen, retired administrator and magnet school ambassador from Batesville School District; Mike Skelton, Baldwin Elementary principal; Brett Gibson, Paragould High School principal; Donna Singleton, Oak Grove Elementary/Middle School assistant principal; Dale Schenk, Paragould High School assistant principal/Athletic Director; Nick Jankoviak, Woodrow Wilson Elementary principal; Cody Hays and Brian Johnson, students from Williams Baptist; Joy Dachs, Daily Press reporter; and Lynn Respass, Superintendent's Secretary.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Greg Graham and seconded by Danny Rice to approve the consent agenda items. Motion carried.

- Approval of Minutes
September 17, 2007, 2007 – Regular Meeting
- Financial Reports
- Payment of Bills
- School Choice

INDIVIDUALS/GROUPS

Motion was made by Ron Kingston and seconded by Barry Bateman to add two items to the agenda:

1. Revision of school board officer policy as item #15, and
2. Purchase of a parcel of land as item #16.

Motion carried.

Dr. Hosman welcomed Cody Hays and Brian Johnson, Williams Baptist College students, and Joy Dachs, Daily Press reporter, to the board meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be a press release on Sandra Eddleman, as a regional winner for Teacher of the Year. She will be pursuing the Teacher of the Year award on the state level.

Greene County Tech will be hosting the ASBA regional meeting on October 23, 2007 at 6:00 pm. Also, Kristen Gould, legal council, will speak at the NEA Co-op on October 24, 2007 at 9:30 am. All board members were encouraged to attend both events.

On October 22, 2007, the district will host a dinner as a way of saying “Thanks” to the administrators, parents, and board members who visited the theme schools at Grecian Steakhouse. It will also allow everyone to come together and brainstorm ideas regarding implementing the theme school idea in our district.

Saturday, October 20, 2007 will be the date for the district’s first picnic. It will be held at Crowley’s Ridge State Park from 11-3 for all employee’s and their families, as well as board members.

Financial Interest Forms for the 2006 year were presented to the board. They are due in January of 2008.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Consistent with board policy, Barry Bateman replaced Tracy Brengard as President.

Motion was made by Ron Kingston and seconded by Barry Bateman to elect Danny Rice as Vice-President. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Greg Graham and seconded by Danny Rice to elect Keith Crook as Secretary. Motion carried.

BATESVILLE MAGNET SCHOOL PROGRAM PRESENTATION

Edie Allen, retired administrator and ambassador for Batesville School District, spoke to the board on the implementation and success of theme schools. The theme school idea keeps children interested in school and offers a wonderful opportunity that will benefit students. Because the children are engaged all day and even after school, all students are helped academically and socially.

DISTRICT PRESENTATIONS

Brett Gibson, high school principal, spoke to the board regarding the school’s credit recovery program and its success.

Karla Blackwood, Director of Curriculum, informed the board of the district's accreditation status, school improvement status, and successful Benchmark scores.

Nick Jankoviak, elementary school principal, discussed the "Stop and Think", Project Achieve, and Sprint Team projects that help students succeed in solving problems and difficult situations.

Caroline Schenk, Literacy Specialist, presented the success of the elementary summer literacy programs and the success of the teachers using Palm Pilots in their classrooms.

Scott Martin, Federal Programs Director, informed the board of how federal funds are used throughout the district in conjunction with school improvement process.

BOARD RESOLUTION – DOW LOHNES (EDUCATIONAL BROADBAND SERVICE)

The Paragould School District has an existing license and lease that was granted in 1994 with Educational Broadband Service for microwave frequencies. The district entered into this lease for distance learning at Stanford school. Because these frequencies are not being used, the district can sublease this to private bidders. Dow Lohnes, PLLC is a firm in Washington, D.C. who specializes in negotiating prospective leases. Motion was made by Tracy Brengard and seconded by Ron Kingston to adopt a resolution to allow the superintendent to work with Dow Lohnes in negotiating and seeking a lease proposal. Motion carried.

COMPUTER BIDS

Vernon DuBar, Assistant Technology Coordinator, solicited bids for fifty-eight computers. Because Gateway Companies is identified as the low bidder through the state contract, only one bid was submitted. Motion was made by Greg Graham and seconded by Danny Rice to accept the bid of Gateway Companies in the amount of \$65,893.34 for fifty-eight computers. Motion carried.

BUS DRIVERS' SALARY SCHEDULE 2007-2008

The salary schedule for bus drivers was approved in the spring of 2007; however, a statement was inadvertently omitted from the schedule regarding the payment for substitute bus drivers. Motion was made by Keith Crook and seconded by Tracy Brengard to adopt the amended bus drivers' salary schedule as presented with the added statement to say "Payment for Substitute Driver – Base Route Pay – Level I - \$16.14 per Trip" and make this retro to August 20, 2007. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION FOR ATHLETIC GATE RECEIPTS

To reward student athletes, Dr. Hosman proposed using athletic gate receipts for the purchase of awards, etc. Motion was made by Greg Graham and seconded by Keith Crook to adopt a resolution to use athletic gate receipts for the purchase of awards for students involved in school-sponsored events. Motion carried.

2005-2006 AUDIT REVIEW

Dr. Hosman stated that the district has one reportable condition on the 2005-2006 audit: segregation of duties; he stated that the district is doing everything possible to correct this cite. He is very pleased with the audit and was very complementary of Ann Tritch, the district's bookkeeper, and all of her hard work. Motion was made by Keith Crook and seconded by Danny Rice to accept the 2005-2006 audit. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL INTEREST FORMS

Dr. Hosman presented information regarding the 2007 financial interest forms during the announcements.

REVISE OFFICER POLICY

Motion was made by Ron Kingston and seconded by Keith Crook to revise the officer policy as follows:

Officers of the Paragould School District Board of Directors will be elected from its membership by a majority of members every two years. This will occur during the regularly-scheduled October meeting. All officers will serve a two year term.

The Vice-President and Secretary may serve multiple, consecutive two-year terms. The President may serve multiple terms but not consecutively. The Superintendent will be elected as Ex-Officio Financial Secretary.

Motion carried.

PURCHASE OF LAND

Because of the parking situation at Baldwin Elementary, Dr. Hosman proposed that the district purchase a parcel of land on 6th Street and Mueller to be used for parking. Motion was made by Ron Kingston and seconded by Keith Crook to purchase the land for \$13,000.00. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL

Motion was made by Greg Graham and seconded by Tracy Brengard to accept the resignations as listed. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Danny Rice and seconded by Ron Kingston to employ those as listed. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Greg Graham and seconded by Ron Kingston that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried.

(Board President)

(Board Secretary)