

DEWITT SCHOOL BOARD
September 13, 2016

The Board of Directors of the DeWitt School District met in its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 13, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the DeWitt Middle School Media Center.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-president Drew Whiting. Others present were Secretary Shawanna Wansley and Board Members Kenneth Graves (7:50 p.m.), April Herring, and Johnny Lockley. Brad Koen and Bruce Morgan were absent.

Consent Agenda

Minutes – A motion was made by Mrs. Herring to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2016, Regular meeting and the August 22, 2016, special meeting. Second by Mrs. Wansley. Motion carried 4-0. (7:02 p.m.)

Financial – Mr. Lockley made a motion to approve the August financial report as presented. Second by Mrs. Herring. Motion carried 4-0. (7:03 p.m.)

Addition to Agenda – A motion to add item N, Legal Transfer request, to the agenda was made by Mrs. Herring. Second by Mrs. Wansley. Motion carried 4-0. (7:04 p.m.)

New Business

Start of School Enrollment Numbers – Dr. Dardenne informed the board of the start of school enrollment.

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| DES | 517 |
| GES | 81 |
| DMS | 278 |
| DHS | 418 |
| Pre-K | 41 |

Due to the increased numbers the district generated growth funding for the first time in several years.

2016-17 Budget – After reviewing the budget for the 2016-17 school year, a motion was made by Mrs. Wansley to approve the budget as presented. Second by Mrs. Herring. Motion carried 4-0. (7:07 p.m.)

Middle School Math Curriculum – Seventh grade math teacher Melanie Hill presented information regarding the Eureka Math Curriculum for Middle School which is currently in use at the elementary level. Mr. Lockley made a motion to purchase the program at an annual cost of \$10,130.50 and to be implemented as soon as materials are made available. Second by Mrs. Wansley. Motion carried 4-0. (7:23 p.m.)

Acceptable Use Policy 4.29 and 4.29F – A motion to approve the Acceptable Use Policy 4.29 and 4.29F which are already in our policy manual and student handbooks, was made by Mrs. Herring. Second by Mrs. Wansley. Motion carried 4-0. (7:34 p.m.)

Minority Teacher and Administrator Recruitment Plan – Mrs. Herring made a motion to approve the Minority Teacher and Administrator Recruitment plan for 2016-17. Second by Mr. Lockley. Motion carried 4-0. (7:36 p.m.)

Cafeteria Air Conditioning – A motion was made by Mrs. Wansley to purchase a ductless, mini-split air conditioning system with outside condensation units which would be two 3-ton units and one 1.5 ton unit installed in the kitchen areas at a cost of \$35,695.00 from Mizell Heating and Air. Second by Mrs. Herring. Motion carried 4-0. (7:45 p.m.)

Fencing – Mr. Lockley made a motion to accept the quote in the amount of \$46,643.90 from Custom Fence Company to install a fence around the electrical areas at the new middle school but postpone action on the guard rail. Second by Mrs. Herring. Motion carried 4-0. (7:50 p.m.)

Waive Fee for Use of Cafeteria – A motion to waive the fee for the Arkansas County Fair Board's use of the DHS cafeteria was made by Mr. Lockley. Second by Mrs. Wansley. Motion carried 5-0. (7:52 p.m.)

Appraiser – Mrs. Herring made a motion that the board enter into an agreement with Ted Thornton of Southeast Arkansas Appraisal for appraisals of the old middle school properties and other properties owned by the district. Second by Mr. Lockley. Motion carried 5-0. (7:55 p.m.)

Bids for High School Cafeteria Oven – A motion to accept the bid in the amount of \$11,863.10 for a double decked convection oven for the DHS cafeteria from Supreme Fixture Company was made by Mrs. Wansley. Second by Mrs. Herring. Motion carried 5-0. (8:00 p.m.)

AdvancED – Mrs. Herring made a motion that the district discontinue membership with AdvancED. The cost of being a member is continually rising with the flat rate being \$4,250.00 plus every five (5) years when they come to evaluate the district the cost is around \$3,000.00 to \$4,000.00 for housing for them for a three-day visit. Second by Mrs. Wansley. Motion carried. 4 -1. (8:15 p.m.)

Federal Program Statement of Assurances – A motion was made by Mr. Graves to approve the Federal Program Statement of Assurances for 2016-17 as presented. Second by Mrs. Wansley. Motion carried 5-0. (8:16 p.m.)

Legal Transfer Request – A motion to grant a student legal transfer request was made by Mr. Lockley. Second by Mrs. Herring. Motion carried 5-0. (8:18 p.m.)

Superintendent’s Report

Facilities Partnership – Existing Agreement Demolition Clause – Dr. Dardenne reported that within the facilities partnership there is a clause that will penalize the district \$64,686.00 for the demolition of the old middle school.

2017-19 Partnership Cycle – During the 2017-19 partnership cycle Dr. Dardenne reported that the district has been approved for two (2) new partnerships (which would be air-conditioning the Agri building, roof and electrical), also the roof over the academic sections of the gym.

School Board Election – September 20th.

School Board Training/Learning Opportunities – will be held in October at the co-op.

Rachel’s Challenge – Trying to get a January or February date.

Community Open House and Ribbon Cutting for the new middle school will be October 23, 2016 from 2:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Arkansas Teacher of the Year, Megan Ables, visited DeWitt Middle School on September 16, 2016.

Plane Tickets – A motion was made by Mrs. Herring to approve Mr. Ashcraft and Dr. Dardenne to travel with APSRC to view STEM/AGRI Academy in Minnesota. Plane fare, meals & hotel will be paid by district. Second by Mr. Graves. Motion carried 5-0. (8:43 p.m.)

The Board then went into executive session for the consideration of personnel at 8.46 p.m. After coming out of executive session at 8:55 p.m. and declaring itself to be in open session The following action was taken.

Duties and Stipends Changes

A motion was made by Mr. Graves to adjust the stipends of the following for change in duties:
Mark Courtney - \$1,500.00 for added duties as Dean of Students at DeWitt Elementary and Temporarily DeWitt Middle School;

Jonathan Eggerman - will be adding Dean of Students at DeWitt Middle School as of October 1, 2016, by adjusting his salary by a prorate of 0.623;

Doug Corley – will have an additional \$1,000.00 added to his stipend for evaluation.
Second by Mrs. Herring. Motion carried 5-0.

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Bus Route Change – Mrs. Herring made a motion to change Elvin Wright’s bus route from x-long to medium. Second by Mrs. Wansley. Motion carried 5-0.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. on a motion by Mrs. Herring. Second by Mrs. Wansley. Motion carried 5-0.

DATE APPROVED: _____

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY