



**LITTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT
810 WEST MARKHAM STREET
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201**

**MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
March 11, 2010**

The Board of Directors of the Little Rock School District held a special meeting on Thursday, March 11, 2010 in conjunction with the regularly scheduled agenda meeting. The meeting was held in the Boardroom of the Administration Building, 810 West Markham Street, Little Rock, Arkansas. President Charles Armstrong presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Charles Armstrong
Melanie Fox
Jody Carreiro
Dianne Curry
Mike Daugherty
Baker Kurrus
Katherine Mitchell

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

ALSO PRESENT:

Linda Watson, Superintendent
Beverly Griffin, Recorder of Minutes

I. Call to Order / Roll Call

Mr. Armstrong called the meeting to order at 5:47 p.m. All members of the board were present at roll call.

II. LRSD / LRCTA Proposed Re-Opener Salary Agreement 2009-2010

Mr. Hartz provided brief background information regarding the proposed salary increase for teachers, administrators, and other groups of support personnel. The proposed increases range from 1% - 2% based on the employee's job classification. Mr. Bailey provided information on the cost for implementing the recommended salary increases.

Mr. Kurrus expressed concerns regarding the proposal, especially in light of the salary recommendations made in the new Strategic Plan which is current being considered by the board. Mr. Hartz responded that the proposal was negotiated with the union based on the current contract. It was noted that the Strategic Plan recommends increasing the starting salary for teachers, and additional review will be required to determine how these new salaries will be established.

Dr. Mitchell commented on the difficulties faced by teachers who are being held to a higher standard of accountability and who are held responsible for things over which they have no control. She also spoke to the difficulties faced by the administration when trying to recruit new teachers.

Ms. Curry commended Mr. Bailey for providing the information on how the raises will impact the budget and stated that she was convinced the district is obligated under the current contract to provide the salary increases for the current school year. She also commended the administration for making an effort to increase the salaries of the employees on the lowest salary schedules, including bus drivers, aides, food service workers and custodians.

Dr. Daugherty spoke in support of the classroom teachers, especially those who have made their careers in teaching. He encouraged the administration to make sure all employees are treated equally.

Mr. Kurrus stated that he would have been in support of a flat dollar increase across the teacher salary schedules instead of a percentage increase, noting that raising salaries by percentage widens the gulf between the newer employees and those who have been here for a long time.

Dr. Mitchell made a motion to provide the recommended salary increases. Dr. Daugherty seconded the motion and it **carried 6-1**, with Mr. Kurrus voting no.

The board took a brief recess at 6:19 p.m. prior to convening a closed session to review an expulsion recommendation.

III. Expulsion Recommendation

The administration recommended expulsion for a full calendar year for a student who was found to be in possession of a firearm on the Hall High School campus. The board received background information on the circumstances surrounding the incident. The student is an 18-year-old senior who was seen by the building custodian with the weapon on the parking lot of the school. At the time of the hearing, the student remained in the juvenile detention center.

Dr. Watson recommended that the student be expelled for a full calendar year as specified by state law. If he were to return to the LRSD to complete his senior year, he would be placed at Felder Learning Academy.

Dr. Daugherty made a motion to uphold the administration's recommendation. Ms. Fox seconded the motion and it **carried unanimously**.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

APPROVED: 03-18-10

Originals Signed by:
Charles Armstrong, President
Jody Carriero, Secretary