



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

**MINUTES  
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
December 10, 2009**

The Board of Directors of the Little Rock School District held a special board meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 10, 2009, 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 6:00 p.m. All members of the board were present at roll call. The teacher representative, Janet Buford from Pulaski Heights Middle School, and student representative, Samantha White, from Central High School, were also present.

**II. CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL – APPROVAL FOR ADDITIONAL FTE**

The head coach at Central High School resigned his coaching position effective November 5, 2009. However, he did not resign from his teaching responsibilities and will continue to be employed as a teacher. Coaching responsibilities continue during the second semester of the current school year, and the school principal and athletic director requested approval to appoint an individual to assume coaching responsibilities for the remainder of the 2009-10 school year. This appointment would require the creation of an additional FTE.

Ms. Fox made a motion to approve the recommendation for one FTE for the remainder of the school year. Mr. Kurrus seconded the motion.

Dr. Daugherty asked for assurance that the person appointed for the remainder of this term would be the individual who would permanently fill the position for the upcoming school year. He preferred not to appoint someone in an interim position.

Dr. Mitchell spoke in opposition, stating that she was not in favor of hiring a coach to work as a teacher, but that the district should hire qualified teachers who are also qualified to coach. She stated with emphasis that she is not opposed to athletics, only to setting a precedent in hiring a coach and then assigning them to a classroom position.

Ms. Fox stated that students involved in athletics also have better academic and discipline records and that she would support the administration's request. Mr. Carreiro noted that other districts within the 6A and 7A classifications have had to fill positions similarly and that he wasn't concerned that this would set a precedent.

In supporting the motion, Mr. Kurrus also spoke in support of the district's athletic programs. He stated that it was important to step up and build the program at Central and that the parents have supported the baseball and football programs for a number of years. Mr. Armstrong agreed and stated that it was important to the students to have teachers and coaches who are also "great motivators" who will make a difference in the lives of the students by teaching leadership abilities.

The board requested a roll call vote, and the **motion carried 6-1**, with Dr. Mitchell casting the no vote.

There being no further business before the board, Mr. Kurrus moved for adjournment at 6:25 p.m.

APPROVED: 12-17-09

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