

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

**MINUTES  
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
January 8, 2007**

The Board of Directors of the Little Rock School District held a special meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, January 08, 2007, in the Boardroom of the Administration Building, 810 West Markham Street, Little Rock, Arkansas. President Katherine Mitchell presided.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Katherine Mitchell  
Charles Armstrong  
Melanie Fox  
Larry Berkley  
Dianne Curry  
Robert M. Daugherty  
Baker Kurrus

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Roy G. Brooks, Superintendent of Schools  
Beverly Griffin, Recorder of Minutes  
Leon Johnson, Attorney for the LRSD Administration  
John Burnette, Attorney for Karen DeJarnette  
Stephanie Branton, Court Reporter

**I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**

Dr. Mitchell called the meeting to order at 5:25 p.m. All members of the board were present at roll call.

**II. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING**

The meeting was called for the purpose of conducting an employee hearing for an employee who was recommended for termination by the administration. The employee requested that the hearing be closed.

The board contracted with attorney Leon Johnson to represent the administration; John Burnett represented the employee.

Witnesses called by Mr. Johnson in support of the administration's recommendation for termination included:

- Roy Brooks, Superintendent
- Hugh Hattabaugh, Deputy Superintendent
- Olivine Roberts, Associate Superintendent
- Ed Williams, Interim Director of PRE

The board recessed at 6:30 p.m. and returned at 6:50 p.m. After the break, Mr. Hattabaugh was recalled by Attorney Johnson.

Mr. Burnett called Employee.

Mr. Johnson called an additional witness, Attorney Chris Heller, and recalled Hugh Hattabaugh.

### **III. ACTION**

The board convened an executive session for deliberations at 10:00 p.m. They returned from executive session at 10:20 p.m. and reported that no action was taken.

Mr. Armstrong made a motion to reinstate the employee with attorney's fees. Ms. Curry seconded the motion. No vote was taken on the motion; the motion was not withdrawn.

A second motion was placed on the floor: Dr. Daugherty stated that it was found that the facts were inconsistent with the testimony. He moved that the finding of fact was not discovered. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion **carried 4-3**, with Mr. Kurrus, Ms. Fox and Mr. Berkley voting "no."

Mr. Armstrong moved to pay the employee's attorney's fees and reinstate her to her position. Dr. Daugherty seconded the motion. There was no vote on the motion as stated and the motion was not withdrawn, but was restated as a new motion.

Mr. Kurrus made a motion to separate the two actions; Mr. Berkley seconded the motion and it **carried 5-2** with Dr. Daugherty and Mr. Armstrong voting "no."

Mr. Armstrong made a motion to reinstate the employee to her position; Ms. Curry seconded the motion. It **carried 4-3** with Mr. Kurrus, Ms. Fox, and Mr. Berkley voting "no."

Mr. Armstrong moved that the district pay the employee's attorney's fees. Ms. Curry seconded the motion. Dr. Daugherty asked for an amendment to the motion to include the payment of "reasonable" attorney's fees. He suggested that the attorneys meet to determine an amount that is considered "reasonable."

Mr. Armstrong moved to include an amendment to his previous motion to allow the attorneys to negotiate "reasonable" attorney's fees. Ms. Curry seconded the amended motion, and it **carried 5-2**, with Mr. Berkley and Ms. Fox voting "no."

**III. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the board, Ms. Fox moved to adjourn at 10:24 p.m. Mr. Kurrus seconded the motion and it **carried unanimously**.

Court reporter Stephanie Branton recorded the full hearing and a complete transcript will be made part of the official record.

APPROVED: 01-25-07

Originals Signed by:  
Katherine P. Mitchell, President  
Melanie Fox, Secretary