



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

**MINUTES
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
November 14, 2013**

The Board of Directors of the Little Rock School District held a special board meeting on Thursday, November 14, 2013, in the boardroom of the administration building, 810 West Markham Street, Little Rock, Arkansas. President Greg Adams presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Greg Adams
Dianne Curry
Leslie Fisker
C. E. McAdoo
Tara Shephard

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jody Carreiro
Norma Johnson

ALSO PRESENT:

Dexter Suggs, Superintendent of Schools
Beverly Griffin, Recorder of Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Mr. Adams called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Five members of the board were present at roll call; Mr. Carreiro and Ms. Johnson were absent.

II. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

The agenda for the special meeting included two items:

- A. Legal Update / Settlement Agreement**
- B. Employee Hearings**

III. ACTION AGENDA

A. Legal Update / Settlement Agreement

Chris Heller addressed the board regarding a settlement agreement for the 1989 desegregation lawsuit. He reported Dr. Suggs had approached the Arkansas Attorney General to determine if an agreement could be reached, and discussions had been on-going for several months. Board members had been provided a tentative agreement for review which would resolve all of the remaining issues from the 1989 settlement. In order for the agreement to be recognized by the courts, however, all three Pulaski

County school districts, and the Joshua Interveners would have to agree to accept the settlement.

Mr. Heller reviewed the pertinent sections of the agreement and responded to questions from the board. The agreement had been approved by the Pulaski County and North Little Rock school districts, and it will go to the Arkansas Legislative Committee tomorrow morning.

Dr. Suggs recommended the board agree to support the settlement agreement as presented.

Ms. Curry made a motion to accept the recommendation of the superintendent based on the information presented by the attorneys. Mr. McAdoo seconded the motion, and it **carried unanimously**.

Ms. Curry thanked Dr. Suggs and Mr. Heller for their work in developing the agreement, and was pleased the district would now be able to move forward and focus on the education of our children.

Mr. Heller then asked the board to specify by a second vote that they would be willing to enter into the agreement even if the Joshua Interveners choose not to enter into the agreement. The other two districts had included in their resolution approval of their resolutions with or without the approval of Joshua.

Dr. Suggs recommended approving the settlement with or without the Joshua interveners as a party to the settlement agreement. Ms. Fisker moved to approve the recommendation. The motion died for lack of second.

The board took a brief recess and returned at 8:30 p.m. to convene an employee hearing.

B. Employee Hearings

The hearing was requested by employee AB to be open. He was represented by Attorney Greg Alagood. <Employee> was accused of taking gasoline from a maintenance shed at Mabelvale Middle School.

Rhonda Hall, principal of Mabelvale, was asked to introduce herself. She reported being a 25 year employee of the LRSD, with 17 of those years as a building administrator. She also reportedly viewed the theft of gasoline on the school security cameras, and made the recommendation for termination based solely on that incident.

<Employee> asked for the board to consider his work history and to allow him to keep his job with the LRSD. He assured the board he had planned to make restitution to the school for the gasoline, and said he only took it in order to have enough gas to get home. He has been working at Mabelvale as an assistant head custodian.

The board convened for deliberations at 9:23 p.m. They returned at 9:55 p.m. and reported no action had been taken.

Ms. Fisken made a motion to uphold the recommendation to terminate <employee's> employment. Mr. McAdoo seconded the motion, and it **carried unanimously**.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 9:56 p.m.

APPROVED: 11-21-13

Originals Signed by:
Greg Adams, President
C. E. McAdoo, Secretary