



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

**MINUTES  
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
Thursday, May 15, 2014**

The Board of Directors of the Little Rock School District held a Special Board Meeting on Thursday, May 15, 2014, immediately following the regular agenda meeting, in the Boardroom of the Administration Building, 810 West Markham Street, Little Rock, Arkansas. President Greg Adams presided.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Greg Adams  
Norma Johnson  
C. E. McAdoo  
Jody Carreiro  
Dianne Curry  
Leslie Fisker  
Tara Shephard

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**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 7:07 p.m. All members of the Board were present at roll call.

**II. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING**

The agenda for the meeting included the following action items:

- A. PN Agreement for Custodial Educational Support Professionals 2013-2016
- B. Appointment of Administrators – Forest Heights STEM Academy
- C. Resolution Authorizing Execution of Documents – Pankey Property
- D. Discussion: Schools Designated as in Academic Distress

**III. ACTION AGENDA**

Ms. Curry made a motion to suspend the rules to reorder the agenda to move the Resolution Authorizing the Execution of Documents on the Pankey Property to first on the agenda. Mr. McAdoo seconded the motion. Action took place at this time, but will be recorded as printed in the agenda.

## **A. PN Agreement for Custodial Educational Support Professionals**

There had been a great deal of discussion regarding the PN Agreement for the District's Custodial employees, and the Superintendent recommended the Board direct the administration and the negotiating team to return to the table. His recommendation was based upon discussion with and the advice of our attorneys. There remain legal concerns with the ESP agreement as presented.

Mr. Heller was present to provide his opinion on the agreement and to highlight the issues of concern to the administration. He noted specific items within the agreement that were in direct conflict with the public employee laws of the State of Arkansas.

Dr. Suggs was asked to identify team members from the administration to return to the table to renegotiate the agreement. Ms. Curry suggested a board member be appointed to sit in on the negotiations discussions if they are reopened. Several board members apologized to the custodial group for the "messiness" of this situation.

Ms Fisken moved to approve the superintendent's recommendation to return to the negotiations table, if necessary, to clear up any existing questions and concerns as advised by the attorneys. Mr. Carreiro seconded the motion.

After a brief discussion, Ms. Fisken amended the motion to include a "reasonable amount of time" for the contract to be returned to the Board. Mr. Carreiro seconded the motion as amended.

Mr. Heller offered to provide a status report at the agenda meeting in June with an anticipated agreement ready for approval at the June board meeting.

The vote was unanimous.

*Ms. Shephard exited the meeting at 9:00 p.m.*

## **B. Appointment of Administrators – Forest Heights STEM Academy**

Dr. Suggs presented his recommendation for the appointment of the interim principal and two assistant principals for the administration at the new Forest Heights STEM Academy.

Information was provided to the Board on the recommendations of Dr. Maurecia Robinson as the Interim Principal, and Amy Cooper and Pamela Dial as Assistant Principals.

Ms. Fisken made a motion to approve the personnel appointments, as recommended.

Mr. McAdoo seconded the motion and it **carried 5-1** with Ms. Johnson abstaining.

### **C. Resolution Authorizing Execution of Documents – Pankey Property**

Action on this item was taken earlier in the meeting after a motion to reorder the agenda.

Ms. Curry stated it was her concern that the Board was not fully informed of the issues surrounding the transfer of property in the Pankey Community to the City of LR. The Board was unaware of a pending lawsuit among members of the Pankey Community at the time action was taken. Concerns have been expressed by members of the Pankey community that things had not been handled properly. Ms. Curry asked if there was a way to ensure the educational component remains as part of the agreement when the property is transferred to the City of Little Rock.

Attorney Eddings was present and responded to questions regarding the property transfer in Pankey. The property was deeded to the City in February after the board's vote. He explained the vote tonight was merely for the purpose of authorizing the District's agent for signing the required documents. The administration recommended Kelsey Bailey as the authorized agent for signing the documents presented.

Dr. Suggs recommended approval of the Resolution. Mr. Carreiro made a motion to approve the Resolution Authorizing the District's CFO to sign the documents on behalf of the LRSD. Ms. Fisker seconded the motion, and it **carried 4-1-1**, with Mr. McAdoo voting "no," and Ms. Johnson abstaining. Ms. Curry was not present at the time of the vote.

### **D. Discussion: Schools Designated as in Academic Distress**

Dr. Suggs introduced Mr. Glasgow to discuss the designation of schools in "academic distress" by the state of Arkansas. Those schools were listed as Baseline, Cloverdale, Henderson, Fair, Hall, and McClellan. The ACC and Hamilton were also on the list, but should be removed because they are not "schools," and are instead "programs" within the District to instruct students outside of the traditional school configurations. .

Mr. Glasgow went through a brief PowerPoint presentation which included a review of the steps that may be implemented by the state in districts under academic distress. The presentation was to be forwarded to the Board on the following day.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:54 p.m.

APPROVED: 05-29-14

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