

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

**MINUTES
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
July 31, 2006**

The Board of Directors of the Little Rock School District held a special meeting on Monday, July 31, 2006, in the Boardroom of the Administration Building, 810 West Markham Street, Little Rock, Arkansas. President Robert M. Daugherty presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Robert M. Daugherty
Baker Kurrus
Bryan Day
Larry Berkley
Tom Brock
Katherine Mitchell
Tony Rose

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

ALSO PRESENT:

Roy G. Brooks, Superintendent of Schools
Beverly Griffin, Recorder of Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Mr. Kurrus called the meeting to order at 5:08 p.m. Six members of the board were present at roll call; Dr. Daugherty arrived at 5:10 p.m.

II. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

The meeting was called to consider ratification of the negotiated contract between the LRSD and the Classroom Teachers Association. In addition, the board requested an executive session for the purpose of approving the superintendent's contract extension.

III. **ACTION AGENDA**

A. Agreement Between LRSD and LR CTA

David Hartz presented a PowerPoint summary regarding the proposed agreement between the district and the Classroom Teachers' Association.

Mr. Hartz responded to questions from the board, including concerns regarding the elimination of the attendance incentive pay plan. Mr. Berkley and Mr. Rose suggested that compensation for those who are in the classroom every day was a warranted incentive.

Mr. Kurrus moved to approve the contract presented; Mr. Rose seconded the motion.

Prior to the vote, Board members repeated previous concerns regarding the length of the contract (90+ pages) and components of the contract that are contained in state law. They asked that the next three years be used to review the contract and to remove the redundancies. Mr. Brock suggested that a subcommittee begin working immediately to simplify the contract to make it pertinent to current school operational processes.

Mr. Kurrus asked that steps be taken to reduce the level of mistrust which exists between the union membership and the district's administration. He stated that he was voting for the contract, but that it was wrong to continue to operate under an agreement that puts teachers and board members or teachers and school administrators on opposing sides. He noted that all parties should be putting the best interest of the students at the center of every discussion and every agreement.

Dr. Mitchell stated that she understood the teachers' viewpoint and that she agreed with the importance of all employees having a level of protection to guarantee due process. She stated that the teachers were entitled to representation, and that the contract provides guidelines for grievances and for dealing with disputes.

Mr. Berkley asked for the Superintendent's assurance that the contract would not continue to provide a barrier between teachers and building principals or district administrators. He noted that the board's expectation was that a vote in favor of the contract would allow for operations that would "do what is right for children."

The motion was **unanimously approved**.

B. Executive Session – Approval of Superintendent's Contract Extension

Mr. Kurrus moved to convene an executive session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter. Mr. Brock seconded the motion and it **carried unanimously**.

The board returned from executive session at 6:14 p.m. and reported that no action was taken.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Rose and seconded by Mr. Berkley.

APPROVED: 08-24-06

Originals Signed by:
Robert M. Daugherty, President
Bryan Day, Secretary