

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

**MINUTES  
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
May 10, 2007**

The Board of Directors of the Little Rock School District held a special meeting immediately preceding the scheduled agenda meeting on Thursday, May 10, 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  
Daugherty  
Baker Kurrus

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**ALSO PRESENT:**

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

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

Dr. Mitchell called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. Six members of the Board were present at roll call; Ms. Curry arrived at 5:10.

**PURPOSE OF THE MEETING**

Dr. Mitchell stated the purpose of the meeting: to discuss personnel items relative to the superintendent's employment and litigation. There was no published agenda for the special meeting.

Dr. Mitchell read a prepared statement, noting that a termination hearing was scheduled on May 30, 2007. The statement noted that the attorneys needed time to prepare for the termination hearing and that she would not vote to proceed with the suspension of Dr. Brooks prior to that time. A copy of Dr. Mitchell's statement is attached to these minutes.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Dr. Mitchell requested a motion to go into executive session at 5:10 p.m. Mr. Armstrong so moved; Dr. Daugherty seconded the motion, and the board moved into closed session. When questioned by a member of the audience, Dr. Mitchell stated that the executive session was called for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter and litigation. Ms. Curry arrived at the time the executive session was convened.

The board returned from executive session at 5:50 p.m. and reported no action was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The special meeting adjourned at 5:51 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Kurrus, seconded by Ms. Curry.

The board immediately convened the regularly scheduled agenda session.

APPROVED: 05-24-07

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

K Mitchell's  
Statement  
5-10-07

HAD COURT RULINGS AND WE'VE RECEIVED ORAL SUGGESTIONS AND OBSERVATIONS FROM JUDGE EISELE.

WHILE I DON'T AGREE WITH ALL THE JUDGE'S STATEMENTS AND HIS CONCLUSIONS MADE BEFORE MR. DAUGHERTY AND I WERE ALLOWED TO PRESENT ANY EVIDENCE, IT IS NOW AND WILL ALWAYS BE MY INTENT TO FOLLOW THE LAW WITH REFERENCE TO NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD. THIS IS TRUE NOT ONLY IN A MATTER INVOLVING OUR SUPERINTENDANT BUT ALL EMPLOYEE MATTERS IN THE FUTURE.

I DO WANT TO SAY SOMETHING ABOUT A LETTER I WROTE: WHEN QUESTIONS WERE RAISED CONCERNING IT, I DIRECTED OUR NEW LAWYER, MR WELCH, TO SEND NOTICE OUT TO ALL THE EMPLOYEES WHO RECEIVED THAT LETTER. I INSTRUCTED HIM TO SAY THAT NO ONE SHOULD BE CONCERNED ABOUT BEING RETALIATED AGAINST. THAT LETTER WENT OUT TO THE EMPLOYEES AND TO THE PRESS ON MAY 2<sup>ND</sup>.

HAD MY PART OF THE CASE GONE FORWARD BEFORE THE RULING, I WOULD HAVE PRESENTED THAT AND OTHER EVIDENCE CONCERNING THE LETTER AND THAT INTIMIDATION WAS NEVER MY INTENT BUT QUITE THE OPPOSITE.

BUT THE COURT HAS RULED BEFORE MY CASE WAS PUT ON. I AM GRATEFUL JUDGE EISELE RECOGNIZED THAT THE FEDERAL COURT SHOULD NOT REMOVE SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS WHO MIGHT VOTE FOR OR AGAINST AN EMPLOYEE. I AM HOPEFUL HE DID NOT INTEND TO PRE-JUDGE OTHER POTENTIAL ISSUES CONCERNING THE MATTER.

NO ONE HAS COMPLAINED, HOWEVER, THE *TERMINATION NOTICE*, PREPARED BY BOARD COUNSEL AFTER REVIEWING EVIDENCE, WAS NOT GIVEN IN A TIMELY MANNER OR THAT DR. BROOKS HAS NOT HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW IT. THE TERMINATION HEARING IS SET MAY 30<sup>TH</sup>.

I INTEND TO BE PRESENT AND TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY VOTE CONCERNING WHETHER DR BROOKS SHOULD BE TERMINATED. I WILL MAKE MY FINAL DETERMINATION AT THAT TIME AND VOTE MY CONSCIENCE.

BUT I DO THINK WE NEED TIME—TIME FOR OUR COUNSEL TO PREPARE FOR THAT TERMINATION HEARING--AND TIME FOR ALL OF US TO BREATHE.

THEREFORE, I WILL NOT VOTE TO SUSPEND DR BROOKS PRIOR TO THE TERMINATION HEARING.

THANK YOU

{MOVE TO GO INTO EXEC SESSION}