

**GUTHRIE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 14, 2016**

MINUTES OF THE GUTHRIE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING HELD AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE OFFICE OF THE BOARD, 802 EAST VILAS, GUTHRIE, OKLAHOMA ON NOVEMBER 14, 2016

Board Members Present:

Jennifer Bennett-Johnson, Gail Davis, Terry Pennington, Janna Pierson, Travis Sallee, Tina Smedley and Sharon Watts

District Level School Officials Present:

**Dr. Mike Simpson, Superintendent
Dennis Schulz, Ass't Superintendent
Doug Ogle, Executive Director of
Personnel/Secondary Ed
Carmen Walters, Executive Director of
Federal Programs/Elementary Ed
Eldona Woodruff, Director of Special Education
Cody Thompson, Director of Operations
Dee Benson, Director of Technology
Jessica Callaway, Director of Child Nutrition
Jean Watts, Deputy Minutes Clerk**

- 1. The meeting was called to order by President Watts.**
- 2. Members Jennifer Bennett-Johnson, Gail Davis, Terry Pennington, Janna Pierson, Travis Sallee, Tina Smedley and Sharon Watts were present for roll call.**
- 3. A quorum was established.**
- 4. President Watts asked everyone present to stand and join her in the Pledge of Allegiance.**
- 5. President Watts asked everyone present to join her in a Moment of Silence.**
- 6. President Watts asked for the presentation of Certified and Support Employee of the Month.**

Mr. Doug Ogle, Executive Director of Personnel and Secondary Education, announced the award winners for October: Mr. Walter Chambers, head custodian at Cotteral Elementary, for support employee of the month and Ms. Tina Ogle, Science teacher at GJHS, as certified employee of the month. Nomination letters were submitted to the committee by: Ms. Allison Snow, kindergarten teacher at Cotteral, for Mr. Walter Chambers and Ms. Kathy Iee, Science teacher at GJHS, for Ms. Tina Ogle.

Mr. Ogle presented the award winners with a plaque.

- 7A. President Watts asked the Superintendent if there were any citizens registered to speak to the Board.**

Superintendent Simpson stated there were no citizens registered to speak to the Board.

- 7B. President Watts called for any comments to the Board by Board members.**

Mr. Pennington addressed the Board by stating he was disappointed that SQ 779 did not pass for our teachers. He also stated that he appreciated the things we do in our District, such as observing “Pink Week”, as that football game prompted his wife make an appointment for a mammogram the following Monday to which the outcome was a diagnosis of breast cancer. He thanked those students for bringing awareness to his family and our community regarding issues such as this.

- 8. President Watts called for the Superintendent’s Reports.**

Superintendent Simpson reported on the following:

Stated that regarding SQ 779 he hopes we can put the divisiveness behind us and can move forward to find a solution for educator funding. One thing we are thankful for here in Guthrie is the unprecedented cooperation we have with the City of Guthrie and with Logan County.

Reported that last Thursday a group of administrators gathered at Meridian Technology Center for a Thanksgiving luncheon prepared by the culinary students. It was great to walk through a packed room and see our students there with pride as we enjoyed the food they prepared.

The Guthrie Police Department has secured a grant to add an additional SRO for Guthrie Public Schools. The focus for this position will be increased support to improve attendance. He will meet with Chief Sweger to discuss the additional responsibilities for this officer in the near future.

Discussed the process of addressing the 77 recommendations from the Performance Review. He stated that each recommendation will be placed within a committee for discussion and review. We will be involving our staff as well as board members in coming up with possible solutions to the recommendations. We will begin prioritizing those recommendations very soon.

He has been informed by the County Assessor that DCP Midstream is protesting their locally assessed property. The protest was denied and DCP Midstream has filed suit against the County Assessor. Until settled, the taxes will be held in escrow and we will see a possible reduction in our 2016-2017 local collections. The challenge is to determine how much this will affect us. The location of the assets has not been revealed by DCP Midstream. We believe it will affect us significantly by possibly \$31,000. They have filed suit in 22 counties in Oklahoma.

Spoke about a recent situation at Cottoral Elementary regarding a family friend who came to pick up a student from school. The gentleman became unresponsive and two of our

teachers took action by performing CPR until emergency responders arrived. Those teachers were Brenda Brandon and Jamie Mungai. Although the gentleman did not survive, he was given a chance because of the quick action of these two staff members. They have Dr. Simpson's respect and admiration for doing what they have been trained to do in helping this gentleman in need.

Announced that Dusty Throckmorton, Assistant Principal at GHS, was selected as Assistant Principal of the Year by CCOSA. This is a big deal as it is a selection by his peers and he has been recognized as someone that represents our district with distinction. The award is nice but Dr. Simpson is even more proud of the work he does with our student body every day.

9. President Watts called for the presentation of 2015-2016 A-F District Report Card and District Annual Dropout Report for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 by Ms. Carmen Walters, Executive Director of Federal Programs and Elementary Education and Mr. Doug Ogle, Executive Director of Personnel and Secondary Education.

Ms. Walters and Mr. Ogle presented and explained the District Report Card for the respective grade levels. They gave comparisons of schools close in size to our district. The overall elementary grade is a 77 or "C+", GJHS is an 85 or "B" and GHS is a 66 or "D".

Dr. Simpson announced there will be a new formula with new computations for this report card beginning next year.

10. President Watts called for presentation of Guthrie Public Schools ACE Remediation Plans for Guthrie High School and Guthrie Jr. High School for 2015-2016 by Mr. Chris LeGrande, Guthrie High School Principal, and Mr. Robbie Rainwater, Guthrie Jr. High School Principal.

Mr. LeGrande announced that there is a lot we do in advance of academics that are not on our report card. The State has done away with the requirements of EOI's so we do not have to remediate students and test in December and then again during the summer months. We will only be testing once this year and that will be in the spring. Students at the high school who failed their 8th grade Reading test are enrolled in ACE, a reading remediation class, for the first semester of their freshman year. At the end of the semester they will again retest to see if they then pass the reading test. This test is a requirement to have the opportunity to take the driver's test as well. This year the bottom 25% of the students are being taken on as a school wide effort as far as what we can do as a school to help these students even into their elective and extra-curricular classes. GHS also has pull out classes for Reading and Algebra to help them prepare for the sophomore Math test and the English II test this spring. Second semester the ACE Reading class will continue to be a remediation class for the bottom 25% for extra help for the English test in the Spring. A couple of GHS Math teachers have offered to give up their planning periods to help students with their Math skills. The staff realize what we need to do to help our students. We do more with less and will continue to do so.

Mr. Rainwater reported that they are readjusting at GJHS due to budget cuts and staff reductions. They are still keeping in place what they have found to be successful. They still have FLEX time during the first 20 minutes of class every day. This is remediation time

where teachers can pull students in for extra instruction and help. They are holding students accountable for the time they are at school in the instance there is not help at home. They prioritize the subjects by “high stakes, low stakes, no stakes” as far as which teachers have first pics of calling students in for help. They’ve also made it intentional for all students to be in a classroom with a highly qualified teacher in all subject areas. They’ve grouped the students by strengths and weaknesses and put them with the teachers of those strengths as well. As far as changes for next year we will not have test scores until October. We are trying to place students in appropriate classes with the help of recommendations from this year’s information. We have teachers that are adamant about students being in co-taught classes for more than one semester if that is helping them so they do not fall back into the bottom quartile. Those students are also in co-taught classes for 6 hours per day. 87% of 8th grade students passed the reading test last year which tells you that we have proficiency in the bottom quartile. If they need support we are going to continue to give that to them.

11. **President Watts called for an Architectural Update on Construction and Planning by The Stacy Group.**

Mike Stacy from The Stacy Group announced that they have met with teachers and directors to get the details of the new school worked out. He presented the floor plans as they stand after meeting with those groups. He addressed that the building will have a stage and a storm shelter. There are still a few details he is waiting on but he hopes to be able to advertise for bids in January, open bids in February and be able to come to the Board Meeting in February with a recommendation.

12. **President Watts called for action on the Consent Agenda.**

A motion was made by Pierson and seconded by Smedley to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

The motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays.

- 13A. **President Watts called for discussion, consideration and action to adopt calendar of regularly scheduled School Board meetings for 2017.**

A motion was made by Smedley and seconded by Davis to adopt the calendar of regularly scheduled School Board meetings for 2017.

The motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays.

- 13B. **President Watts called for recommendation, consideration and action to call for Board Member Election to be held on February 14, 2017 and a Runoff Election, if needed, on April 4, 2017 for Board Position #2 and #6, which have 4-year terms of office.**

A motion was made by Pierson and seconded by Smedley to approve a Board Member Election to be held on February 14, 2017 and a Runoff Election, if needed, on April 4, 2017 for Board Position #2 and #6, which have 4 year terms of office.

The motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays.

- 13C. President Watts called for recommendation, consideration and action upon renewal agreement with Northwest Evaluation Association.**

A motion was made by Smedley and seconded by Davis to approve renewal agreement with Northwest Evaluation Association.

The motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays.

- 13D. President Watts called for recommendation, consideration and action upon Memorandum of Understanding between University of Oklahoma's K20 Center and Guthrie Public Schools for a collaborative partnership with intent to apply for a federal grant through the US Department of Education GEAR UP program.**

Mr. Wilson from Oklahoma's K20 Center explained the purpose of the K20 Center and how they will be able to possibly aid us in helping our students become college-ready.

Discussion followed.

A motion was made by Smedley and seconded by Pierson to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between University of Oklahoma's K20 Center and Guthrie Public Schools for a collaborative partnership with intent to apply for a federal grant through the US Department of Education GEAR UP program.

Discussion followed.

The motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays.

- 14. President Watts called for proposed executive session for the purpose of discussing employment of personnel, FMLA requests, resignation/separation from employment and transfer of position requests all as set out on the Personnel Reports, discussion of extra-duty assignments as listed for 2016-2017 and periodic annual evaluation and terms of employment of Dr. Michael Simpson, Superintendent of Schools, disclosure of which information would violate the confidentiality requirements of state and/or federal law all pursuant to 25 OKLA. STAT. Section 307 (B) 1 and 7.**

- 14A. A motion was made by Sallee and seconded by Bennett-Johnson to go into executive session.**

The motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays. Executive session began at 8:31 p.m.

- 14B. President Watts acknowledged the Board's return to open session at 9:20 p.m.**

- 14C. President Watts stated that in executive session only those items listed in Agenda Item 14 were discussed and no votes were taken.**

- 15. President Watts called for a vote on action as set out on the Personnel Reports.**

A motion was made by Pierson and seconded by Davis to approve action as set out on the Personnel Reports.

The motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays.

- 16. President Watts called for action upon recommendation of extra-duty assignments as listed for 2016-2017.**

A motion was made by Davis and seconded by Smedley to approve the extra-duty assignments for 2016-2017.

The motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays.

- 17. President Watts called for recommendation, consideration and action to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for a two hundred dollar stipend for all certified personnel and a one hundred dollar stipend for all support personnel.**

Dr. Simpson made the following recommendation:

Madam President and members of the board, I am recommending that the Board of Education authorize a one-time stipend of \$200 to all certified staff and \$100 to all support staff to be paid in December 2016 to those currently employed with the district since the beginning of classes on August 19, 2016. This recommendation specifically excludes district level administrators.

Prior to receiving their stipend each qualified staff member must complete a one-time staff development targeted to educate the staff about bullying.

A motion was made by Smedley and seconded by Bennett-Johnson to approve the Superintendent's recommendation authorizing a one-time stipend of \$200 to all certified staff and \$100 to all support staff to be paid in December 2016 to those currently employed with the district since the beginning of classes on August 19, 2016. The recommendation specifically excludes district level administrators.

Prior to receiving their stipend each qualified staff member must complete a one-time staff development targeted to educate the staff about bullying.

The motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays.

- 18. President Watts called for recommendation, consideration and action to accept any resignations offered since the posting of the agenda.**

Ms. Gail Davis, Deputy Board Clerk of the Board of Education, read her resignation letter which will be effective immediately.

A motion was made by Smedley and seconded by Bennett-Johnson to accept the resignation of Ms. Gail Davis.

The motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays.

- 19. President Watts called for discussion and possible action on new business not known about or could not have been reasonably foreseen at the time of the agenda posting.**

Superintendent Simpson stated there was no new business.

20. A motion was made by Smedley and seconded by Davis to adjourn the meeting.

The motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays.

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.



Jana Frey, Minutes Clerk



E. Sharon Watts, Board President

APPROVED

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BOARD OF EDUCATION
GUTHRIE, OK