

Obion County Board of Education

Regular Board Meeting

January 14, 2011

The Obion County Board of Education met in regular session on January 14, 2011 at the Board of Education Office. Board Chairman, Brian Rainey, called the meeting to order at 7:34 a.m. Mr. Fritz Fussell led everyone in prayer.

Mr. Huss called the roll. Mr. Brian Rainey, Mr. Fritz Fussell, Mr. Willis Easley, Mr. David Lamb, Mr. Tim Partin, Ms. Diane Sanderson and Ms. Susan Williams were present. Seven members were present. There was a quorum.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Huss requested that the following two items be added to the agenda for Board approval: (1) Overnight student trips for Black Oak, Hillcrest, Lake Road, and Ridgemont Elementary students to attend a band competition at the Canon Center in Memphis on February 3 – 5, 2011; (2) discussion of the State Report Card. Mr. Lamb made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of the two above noted items. Mr. Fussell seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING

Upon the recommendation of Chairman Rainey, the Board unanimously approved minutes from the Board meeting of November 1, 2010.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda consists of the monthly personnel report; the monthly financial reports/business activity; report of substitute teachers; and a report of surplus technology equipment that has been disposed via most economical method. Upon the recommendation of Chairman Rainey, the Board unanimously approved the consent agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

Consider/Approve Amendment to Board Policy #4.700 – Testing Programs – Upon the recommendation of Mr. Huss, a motion was made by Mr. Lamb to approve an amendment to Board Policy #4.700 that will phase in the percentage of students' TCAP grades used to calculate the final grades for the

spring semester on the second and final reading. Mr. Easley seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

NEW BUSINESS

Coordinated School Health Update – Chastity Homra – Coordinated School Health Director, Chastity Homra presented the following points of interest in regard to Coordinated School Health activities:

- A total of 1,883 elementary student health screenings were done with a referral of 559 students for weight, vision, scoliosis, blood pressure, or hearing.
- South Fulton Middle School won a grant for \$900 (nine hundred dollars) with the proceeds to be used for the purchase of a food cart with healthy choice options for the last period of student breaks.
- All elementary schools are joining the Healthier U.S. School Challenge.
- The kick-off for the first ever Walk Across Tennessee Program will be held at the Obion County Public Library on January 22, 2011. The program will run through March 4, 2011.

Consider/Approve Central Cafeteria Food and Non-Food Item Bids – Upon the recommendation of Mr. Huss, Central Cafeteria Supervisor, Ms. Judy Denman, and the Reelfoot Area Consortium, a motion was made by Mr. Partin to approve the bid from Hardin's Sysco for food and non-food items. Mr. Lamb seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Consider/Approve Amendment to Board Policy #2.403 – Personal Property Sales – Upon Mr. Huss' recommendation, a motion was made by Mr. Easley to approve, on first reading, an amendment to Board Policy #2.403, whereas Technology Coordinator, Jason Kendall is granted permission to dispose of surplus technology equipment via the most economical method without further Board approval. Additionally, Mr. Kendall will generate a report of surplus technology items that have been disposed for each monthly Board meeting. Mr. Lamb seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Discuss Proposed School Calendar for the 2011 – 2012 School Year – According to Mr. Huss, the school calendar committee met several times to discuss a proposed school calendar for the 2011 – 2012 school year. Parameters were established and challenges for consideration were the following:

- a preference for starting school as late as possible v. keeping a somewhat traditional week of fall break;
- continuation of the tradition of dismissing students for Fair Day;
- at least 150 days of instruction prior to TCAP testing;
- as close as possible to 75 days of instruction prior to AYP/EOC exams for high school students;
- establishing a calendar that is most beneficial to teaching and learning.

Presentation of the proposed calendar was for informational purposes only and will not require action by the Board until the February meeting.

Consider/Approve Pre-K Playground Equipment Bid – The following bids were received for Pre-K Playground Equipment:

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|--------------------------|-------------|
| • Kidz Zone Play Systems | \$21,391.53 |
| • Playworld Preferred | \$17,933.00 |

Since Playworld Preferred was a first time bidder, System employees traveled to Decatur County to inspect playground equipment installed by Playworld Preferred. The equipment appeared to meet minimum specifications, but it did not appear to be of the same quality as Kidz Zone Play Systems. Additionally, Playworld Preferred failed to provide an Originating Agency Identifier (ORI#) or other verification that the company is in compliance with Tennessee's background check laws. Therefore, Mr. Huss recommended the higher bid of \$21,391.93 (twenty one thousand, three hundred ninety-one dollars and fifty-three cents) from Kidz Zone Play Systems. Mr. Lamb made a motion to approve. Ms. Williams seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Consider/Discuss Agriculture Enhancement Grant Greenhouse Bid – According to Mr. Huss, only one bid was received for the purchase of a greenhouse for the Obion County Central Agriculture Enhancement Grant. The bid was submitted by Universal Contractors, LLC of Union City in the amount of \$110,130 (one hundred ten thousand, one hundred thirty dollars). Due to the bid coming in at more than \$30,000 (thirty thousand dollars) over the approved budget, Mr. Huss recommended that the Board reject the bid, review specifications, and start the bid process over. Mr. Partin made a motion to approve. Mr. Easley seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Consider/Approve Request from Transportation Department to Declare Surplus and Dispose Via Sealed Bids – According to Mr. Huss, the

Transportation Department has requested the Board to declare surplus a 1988 GMC pickup and a 1976 Ford 1½ ton box truck that are in need of repair. Upon his recommendation, a motion was made by Mr. Fussell to declare surplus the above noted trucks and approve the disposition via sealed bids or the most economical method. Ms. Sanderson seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Consider/Approve Overnight Student Trip(s) – The following overnight student trips were submitted for Board approval:

- Obion County Central High School, Beta Club, State Convention, February 14 – 16, 2011, Opryland Hotel, Nashville, TN
- Obion County Central High School, Band, All W. TN Honor Band, February 3 – 5, 2011, Canon Center, Memphis, TN
- Obion County Central High School, Art Club, Senior Art Club Trip, March 10 – 14, 2011, Louisville, KY
- Black Oak, Hillcrest, Lake Road, and Ridgemont Elementary Schools, Bands, Band Competition, February 3 – 5, 2011, Canon Center, Memphis, TN

Upon the recommendation of Mr. Huss, a motion was made by Mr. Lamb to approve the above noted overnight student trips. Mr. Easley seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Discussion of State Report Card – Mr. Huss, Ms. Nancy Hamilton, and Mr. James Faulkner presented the following Report Card Data information to the Board:

- Standards are tougher and tests are at a higher level with a 75% decrease in scores across the state.
- Obion County student scores are above state averages.
- Problem areas are being addressed.
- The graduation rate of 88.6% is an improvement with a goal of reaching state rate of 90%.
- Elementary instructors are collaborating every three weeks with increment goals and adjustments to instruction as needed.
- Writing scores are excellent. However, value added needs some work.
- In a comparison of other school systems, student achievement scores are excellent.
- All schools are SACS accredited.
- Per pupil expenditures are below state level.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Points of interest in the Director's update are the following:

- The Board Retreat is tentatively scheduled for Friday, April 1, 2011 at the Obion County Public Library;
- Day on the Hill in Nashville is scheduled for February 22, 2011;

- A discussion of Board tours to all schools with Board members suggesting the dates of January 26 and February 9 to visit the schools.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:18 a.m.

The entire meeting was recorded and stored as an electronic copy.

The minutes were taken and typed by Diane Terry.

Brian Rainey, Chairman

David W. Huss, Director of Schools