

Obion County Board of Education

Regular Board Meeting

October 3, 2011

The Obion County Board of Education met in regular session on October 3, 2011 at Lake Road Elementary School. Board Chairman, Brian Rainey, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Diane Sanderson led everyone in prayer.

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

STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITION

Prior to the regular business of the Board, a reception was held in the school cafeteria for new professional and support staff.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon the recommendation of Chairman Rainey, the Board unanimously approved the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING

Upon the recommendation of Chairman Rainey, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of September 6, 2011.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda consists of the monthly personnel report; the monthly financial reports/business activity; and the report of technology equipment declared surplus and disposed via most economical method. Mr. Lamb made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Fussell seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS

Consider/Approve Amendment to Board Policy #5.202 – Separation Practices for Non-Certified Employees – According to Mr. Huss, an amendment to policy has been recommended by the Tennessee School Boards Association (TSBA) to align the policy with a change in law regarding separation practices for non-certified employees. Upon his recommendation, a motion was made by Mr. Partin to approve the second and final reading of an amendment to Board Policy

#5.202 – Separation Practices for Non-Certified Employees. Mr. Lamb seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

NEW BUSINESS

Individual School Activity Fund Audit and Individual School Cafeteria Agreed Upon Procedures Report – Mr. David Hart – According to Mr. Huss, the System’s individual school activity funds and cafeterias are audited by an independent, certified public accountant on a yearly basis. The accounting firm of Alexander, Thompson, and Arnold PLLC conducted the individual school activity fund audit for the 2010 – 2011 fiscal year and presented their findings via Mr. David Hart. Emphasis was placed on the importance of complying with the *Tennessee Internal School Uniform Accounting Policy Manual* by all school principals and bookkeepers. Any areas of weakness were addressed and it was noted that activity funds were probably the riskiest of all audits to perform due to the volume of cash in the schools. Additionally, there were no exceptions in testing the individual school cafeteria agreed-upon procedures. The report from Mr. Hart was for informational purposes only and did not require any action from the Board.

Consider/Approve Report of Local Education Agency Compliance – Upon the recommendation of Mr. Huss, a motion was made by Mr. Fussell to certify to the State Department of Education that the School System and individual schools are in compliance with Tennessee statutes and the State Board of Education’s Rules, Regulations, and Minimum Standards. Ms. Sanderson seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Consider/Approve Appointment of Members to the Textbook Adoption Committee – Upon Mr. Huss’ recommendation, a motion was made by Mr. Fussell to approve the appointment of various grade level committees as presented for the 2011 – 2012 school year to recommend adoption of textbooks for the 2012 – 2013 school year. Mr. Easley seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Consider/Approve Request to Declare Property Surplus and Dispose Via Most Economical Method - The following items were presented for Board approval to declare surplus and dispose via the most economical method:

- Transportation Department – Four (4) 1996 International school buses due to age; dispose via sealed bids with advertising locally, statewide, and nationally.
- Lake Road Elementary School – Sale of old cheerleading and basketball uniforms with proceeds to be deposited into the school’s athletic fund for offsetting the cost of future purchases.
- Career Technology Facility – Old surplus property that is no longer of any use to the System as of October 31, 2011. Items to be sold to highest bidder with any remaining items disposed via recycling.
- Ridgemont Elementary School Nutrition Department – Old cafeteria trays to be disposed via most economical method with proceeds to be deposited into the Central Cafeteria School Fund.

Upon the recommendation of Mr. Huss, a motion was made by Mr. Lamb to approve the above noted items as surplus and dispose via the most economical method. Ms. Williams seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Consider/Approve Request from Hillcrest Elementary School to Attach Cabinets in School Classroom – According to Mr. Huss, Hillcrest Elementary has submitted a request to attach cabinets to a wall in a classroom. Since the request meets required rules, regulations, and policy, he recommended approval of the request. Mr. Fussell made a motion to approve. Mr. Easley seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Consider/Approve Surplus and Sale of Special Education Bus – Upon the recommendation of Mr. Huss, a motion was made by Mr. Lamb to declare surplus a 2002 model International special education bus and sell it to the highest bidder with the stipulation that any/all bids under \$15,000 would be rejected. Additionally, the proceeds from the sale would be designated for the future purchase of a special education bus when the need arises. Ms. Williams seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Consider/Approve Amendment to Board Policy #4.602 – Class Ranking – Mr. Huss recommended the following amendments for better clarification of Board Policy #4.602:

1. Line 7, strike “approved by the Board” (repetitive phrase);
2. Line 10, second sentence, do not capitalize the words “less” and “not”;
3. Line 14, second sentence, do not capitalize the words “less” and “not”;

4. Line 24, second sentence, strike the phrase “four (4) semesters” and replace with “for four (4) successive semesters immediately prior to graduation”;
5. Line 39, strike the phrase “maintain a B average” and replace with “be eligible for first or second honor roll eight (8) successive semesters.”

Additionally, if approved by the Board, this year’s policy would remain the same with amendment changes to become effective with the 2012 - 2013 Freshman class. Mr. Partin made a motion to approve the first reading of amendments to Board Policy #4.602 as recommended. Mr. Easley seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Consider/Approve Amendment to Board Policy #4.606 – Graduation Activities – Upon Mr. Huss’ recommendation, a motion was made by Mr. Easley to approve the first reading of the following amendment to Board Policy #4.606:

1. On line 27, before the word “distinction” add “honors and”;
2. Add as new the following beginning as a second sentence on line 27;
Honors and distinction are defined in accordance with the state’s High School Transition Policy as follows:
Students who score at or above all of the subject area readiness benchmarks on the ACT or equivalent score on the SAT will graduate with honors. Students will be recognized as graduating with distinction by attaining a B average and completing at least one of the following:
 1. Earn a nationally recognized industry certification;
 2. Participate in at least one of the Governor’s Schools;
 3. Participate in one of the state’s all State musical organizations;
 4. Be selected as a national Merit Finalist or Semi-Finalist;
 5. Attain a score of 31 or higher composite score on the ACT, or;
 6. Earn twelve (12) or more semester hours of transcribed postsecondary credit.

Students who graduate with honors and/or distinction will be recognized during the graduation ceremonies and a seal shall be placed upon their diplomas in recognition of the outstanding achievement.

Ms. Sanderson seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

- Obion County Central High School, Future Farmers of America (FFA), National Convention, October 19 – 22, 2011, Indianapolis, IN
- South Fulton High School, Future Farmers of America (FFA), National Convention, October 19 -22, 2011, Indianapolis, IN
- Ridgemont Elementary School, Beta Club, State Convention, November 20 – 22, 2011, Opryland Hotel, Nashville, TN
- Obion County Central High School, Band, All West Band Clinic, February 2 – 4, 2011, Canon Performing Arts Center, Memphis, TN

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

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

The Director's Update included the following item of interest:

- Special called meeting on October 12, 2011 to discuss bids for Ag meeting room;
- No November meeting unless something arises which would require Board attention;
- Enrollment down 2% from last year;

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.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