

**CHARLESTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
October 30, 2017**

The Charleston Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, October 30, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Building. Members present were: Mr. Trey Gage, Mr. Jeff Hayes, Mr. Chad Keener, Mrs. Michele Schmitz, and Mr. Brian Verkamp. Also present were Mr. Jeff Stubblefield, Superintendent; Mr. Shane Storey, High School Principal; Mrs. Melissa Moore, Middle School Principal; Mr. Bruce Womack, Elementary School Principal; Mrs. Susan Brown, Federal Coordinator and Curriculum Specialist, and Mrs. Rita Gramlich, District Treasurer. Mr. Michael Johnson was also present.

Trey Gage called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m..

A motion was made by Mr. Chad Keener and seconded by Mrs. Michele Schmitz to approve the consent agenda as listed. Motion carried 5-0.

Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of the September 25, 2017 regular meeting minutes
- B. Approval of the 2018 Period 3 Financial Statements
- C. Approval to transfer Cassandrah Hanger, Haylie Hyatt, and Thomas Hyatt from Lavaca to Charleston

Mr. Jeff Stubblefield, Superintendent of Charleston Schools and Mrs. Susan Brown, Director of Curriculum and Federal Programs, presented the district's annual report at this time:

The district's enrollment on October 1, 2017 was 893 students, which is a decrease of 12 students from last year. There are 40 Pre-K students in our First Step program. Currently our largest class on campus is the fourth grade class with 89 students enrolled. The smallest class is Kindergarten with 59 students. Annual foundation funding per student is \$6,713 per student. Currently 50.5% of students enrolled are eligible for free or reduced lunches. Charleston graduated 59 students in 2017. According to the Arkansas State Department of Education, the Charleston School District is fully accredited with no probation or deficiencies cited.

The value of facilities is approximately \$42,000,000. The beginning teacher salary is \$37,500 with the average teacher salary among the top 20 districts in the state. There are presently 68 licensed and 44.5 non-licensed staff members. The district has an annual budget of approximately \$8,000,000. The district has an exclusive contract with Pepsi Bottling Company with funds between \$4,000—\$6,500 receipted to 3001 Building Fund.

All students in grades 1-12 have a Chromebook for school work, research, and testing. There are approximately 1000 Chromebooks utilized by the district.

2016-17 Test Scores

1st and 2nd grades take the Iowa Test of Basic Skills and grades 3-10 take the ACT Aspire Assessment.

<i>1st Grade:</i>	<i>LA: 43</i>	<i>Math: 47</i>	
<i>2nd Grade:</i>	<i>LA: 64</i>	<i>Math: 75</i>	
<i>3rd Grade:</i>	<i>ELA: 62%</i>	<i>Math: 80%</i>	<i>Science: 52%</i>
<i>4th Grade:</i>	<i>ELA: 54%</i>	<i>Math: 72%</i>	<i>Science: 49%</i>
<i>5th Grade:</i>	<i>ELA: 63%</i>	<i>Math: 59%</i>	<i>Science: 42%</i>
<i>6th Grade:</i>	<i>ELA: 69%</i>	<i>Math: 71%</i>	<i>Science: 57%</i>
<i>7th Grade:</i>	<i>ELA: 62%</i>	<i>Math: 51%</i>	<i>Science: 41%</i>
<i>8th Grade:</i>	<i>ELA: 63%</i>	<i>Math: 58%</i>	<i>Science: 43%</i>
<i>9th Grade:</i>	<i>ELA: 63%</i>	<i>Math: 50%</i>	<i>Science: 42%</i>
<i>10th Grade:</i>	<i>ELA: 53%</i>	<i>Math: 39%</i>	<i>Science: 43%</i>

Charleston Elementary is continuing with the Susan Barton Reading and Spelling program. The program helps students who are struggling in reading and spelling and is based on phonemic awareness. Kindergarten, first, and second grade students who are in the program spend twenty minutes a day with a one-on-one instructor. Third and fourth grade students who are in the program spend forty five minutes twice a week with a one-on-one instructor. The district has purchased the site license for the Barton System. The elementary school had a summer intervention program that severed approximately 45 students with the goal to increase their reading and writing skills as well as in spelling.

2017 summer projects included painting the elementary school, installation of new wireless access points, and the completion of the elementary remodel project. The district is also working to develop a 10 year facility plan.

We have achieved positive aspects of the School Based Health Clinic with several students getting medical treatment each day. We've also had students receive vision exams and get eyeglasses. As of September 30, 2017, 415 students have enrolled in the health clinic and approximately 12 students per day receive medical healthcare. The clinic also offers dental cleanings for children only, with a dental sealant available free of charge to students in grades 2 and 5. The dental sealant is made possible through grant funds.

The Charleston Middle School continues to expand technology bandwidth and wireless access points. All students in the middle school will be tested online this year under the ACT Aspire Assessment. All students in grades 5 through 8 have access to Chromebooks and are integrating technology in the classroom. The middle school had their annual STEM Day in May when every

student created a project to display at school. All 8th graders will incorporate math and science in a STEM classroom this year with Arkansas State Standards and Project Lead the Way curriculum. Charleston Middle School will continue integrating an Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning curriculum in the 5th grade. The curriculum is “the process of acquiring skills to recognize and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, appreciate the perspective of others, establish and maintain positive relationships, make responsible decisions, and handle interpersonal situations effectively.”

The Charleston High School has several digital learning classes this year. According to High School Principal, Shane Storey, “These courses help students to be organized and more responsible in knowing what and when things need to be done. It gives them more flexibility.” The Class of 2017 scored above the state and national average in all areas of the American College Test (ACT) , which is an entrance exam for college and universities. The composite average score for our students was 20.3. For the past six summers, the district has provided an ACT Prep class at the end of the school year for students taking the ACT exam. This class has helped increase student test scores.

According to the College Board, AP exams with a score of three, four, or five qualify for college credit for the course completed successfully. This year 30% of the students who took AP Exams scored a three or better. We currently have 61 students who are taking concurrent college courses on campus. Each student has the opportunity to graduate high school with 18 hours of college credit. We currently have a total of 266 college hours being earned on the high school campus. A new program that is being offered this year at the high school is the Certified Nursing Assistant in collaboration with Arkansas Tech University at Ozark and Greenhurst Nursing Center.

Under the ESEA Accountability System, the schools’ status is based on the 2014 school year. The Charleston Elementary School is “achieving” in percent tested and “needs improvement” for math and literacy. The Charleston High School is “achieving” in percent tested, graduation rate and “needs improvement” for math and literacy. The Every Child Succeeds Act will start a new accountability process in the 2017-18 school year.

The Senior High Tiger Marching Band has received superior ratings for twelve straight years.

The Charleston School District receives federal funds through the Title I, Title II, Title IV, and Title V programs. These funds are used in the following manner: Title I Reading Teacher/Reading Recovery Teacher, .20 FTE federal coordinator, 2.0 FTE para-professionals, professional development, elementary summer program, materials and supplies for classrooms, computer software programs for math and reading, after school tutoring grades 5-8, and welfare students. Title II funds are used for a classroom reduction teacher in 3rd Grade. Title V funds are used for technology purchases in the district. Title IV funds will be transferred into the Title V program. The Charleston School District also receives Special Needs Funding: NSL funds are used to pay for salaries of: 3.1427 FTE teacher’s aides, .5 FTE of a counselor, and .6424 FTE of a curriculum specialist. It is also used to purchase technology, books for classroom libraries, purchase of IXL

software and accelerated reader program, educational supplies for the new STEM classroom, ACT prep tutoring, credit recovery, parent involvement activities and materials.

Professional development funds are used to send staff to workshops and conferences to review the latest teaching strategies. Some of the funds are transferred to NSL. ALE funds are used to fund the Charleston Tiger Success Center.

Mr. Stubblefield concluded his annual report statements by recognizing the Charleston Board of Education for setting high standards. He also complimented the high quality and work of the faculty and staff members who strive to make our schools great!

At the conclusion of the Annual Report to the Public, the following action was taken:

Michael Johnson, Architecture Plus, was present to provide some information as guidance to help the district establish future facility goals. The administration recommended the selection of a teacher, retired teacher, PTO member, and a college student to also serve as members of a facility committee. The committee will hold its first meeting prior to the board meeting on November 27th. The facility committee will meet at 5:30 p.m. with the board meeting to follow at 6:30 p.m..

Board members also agreed to schedule the December meeting on the 18th day of the month at 6:00 p.m..

In accordance with Act 910 of 2017, a motion was made by Mr. Brian Verkamp and seconded by Mr. Jeff Hayes to approve Policy 1.21 Date of Annual School Board Election as presented. Motion carried 5-0. A copy of this policy is attached to the original board minutes.

Mr. Stubblefield reported that an ADE waiver, if approved by the board and ADE, would allow the school district to set the district's first day of class to be no earlier than Monday, August 13. He also said the proposed ADE waiver was recently accepted by the Certified Personnel Policy Committee. A motion was made by Mr. Brian Verkamp and seconded by Mrs. Michele Schmitz to approve the ADE waiver as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Stubblefield reported the softball team has requested permission to participate in an out-of-state tournament. A motion was made by Mr. Brian Verkamp and seconded by Mr. Chad Keener to approve the trip as outlined. Motion carried 5-0. A copy of the itinerary is attached to the original board minutes.

A motion was made by Mrs. Michele Schmitz and seconded by Mr. Jeff Hayes to approve the quote from American Bus for the purchase of a used 2015 Thomas School Bus as listed for the sum of \$68,300. Motion carried 5-0. A copy of the quote is attached to the original board minutes.

During the superintendent's report, Mr. Stubblefield discussed the Wellness Committee's recommendation to implement food service improvements, student enrollment, Bureau of Legislative Research, November 2nd Black & White Basketball, November 13th through 18th JR

Basketball Tournament, November 10th Veterans Day Parade at 2:30 p.m., and the December 6th ASBA State Meeting.

Mr. Stubblefield also reported the district's 2016-17 fiscal audit is currently being executed by Arkansas Legislative Auditors.

A motion was made by Mr. Brian Verkamp and seconded by Mrs. Michele Schmitz to employ Melissa Sutter at the same daily rate of compensation paid to other 178 day contracted classroom paraprofessionals. Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Mrs. Michele Schmitz and seconded by Mr. Chad Keener to adjourn at 7:32 p.m.. Motion carried 5-0.

President

Secretary