

**CHARLESTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
October 26, 2015**

The Charleston Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, October 26, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Building. Members present were: Mr. Trey Gage, Mr. Jeff Hayes, Mr. Joel McDonald, 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. Beardsley Public Finance representative Marshall Hughes was also present.

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

Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of the September 28, 2015 regular meeting minutes
- B. Approval of the October 7, 2015 special meeting minutes
- C. Approval of the Period 3 2016 Fiscal Year Financial Statements

Mr. Jeff Stubblefield and Mrs. Susan Brown presented the annual report. The district's enrollment on October 1, 2015 was 882 students. The largest class on campus is 1<sup>st</sup> Grade with 82 students enrolled. The smallest class is Kindergarten with 62 students. The district had an increase of 6.15% of low socio-economic students from last year. 50.1% of students currently enrolled are eligible for free or reduced lunches. Charleston graduated 77 students in 2015.

According to the Arkansas State Department of Education, the Charleston School District is fully accredited. Both the Charleston Elementary School and Charleston High School received a "B" rating on the latest school report cards. Both schools were also recognized as being among the top 20% achieving schools in the state; this recognition provided reward funding in the amount of \$20,596.14 for the elementary and \$18,362.99 for the high school. Reward funds were used to purchase technology.

The elementary has implemented the Barton Reading program this year. The program targets students who need extra help with reading and spelling based on phonemic awareness. Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade students who are in the program spend twenty minutes per day with a one-on-one instructor. 3rd Grade and 4th Grade students who are in the program spend forty-five minutes two times per week with a one-on-one instructor. The administration also noted that 150 Chromebooks were recently purchased for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students.

The Charleston Middle School also continues to expand technology. All students in the Middle School will be tested online this year under the ACT Aspire Assessment. The Charleston Middle School has formed a four person team of 7<sup>th</sup> Grade and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade teachers involved in Literacy

Design Collaborative. Teachers collaborate and create modules that address the content standards in a research proven format. The school has also taken a proactive stance concerning student online safety.

2015 test scores received to date are as follows: Percentiles for 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Language Arts were 67 and Math 65. Percentiles for 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Language Arts were 61 and Math 60. 67% of 5th Grade Science students were advanced or proficient compared to 60% for the state. 58% of 7th Grade Science students were advanced or proficient compared to 35% for the state. 59% of Biology students were advanced or proficient compared to 47% for the state.

The Class of 2015 scored above the state and national average in all areas of the ACT. 77% of the Class of 2015 took the ACT. The current composite average ACT score for Charleston students is 22.7, which is an increase of 1.5 from the previous year.

Under the ESEA Accountability System, 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 in “needs improvement” for Math and Literacy.

The Charleston School District also receives federal funds through the Title I program. The district spends these funds on the following: Title I Reading Teacher/Reading Recovery Teacher, 1.33 FTE Teachers, .20 FTE Federal Coordinator, professional development, technology supplies, after-school tutoring, and welfare students. Title II funds will also be transferred to the Title I program this year. Title VI funds are used for technology.

Mr. Stubblefield concluded the annual report by providing information regarding Pepsi’s funding of \$6,521(Fund 3001), starting teacher salary of \$36,650, and millage rate of 37.5 mills. He also provided information regarding Common Core, PARCC Testing, employee health insurance, and Maggie House.

A motion was made by Mr. Brian Verkamp and seconded by Mr. Joel McDonald to approve the Resolution designating Michele Schmitz as Primary Disbursing Officer in accordance with Act 671 of 2003. A copy of the Resolution is attached to the original board minutes. Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Mr. Jeff Hayes and seconded by Mr. Joel McDonald to refer the Catastrophic Leave Bank and Sick Leave policies to the respective personnel policy committees. Motion carried 5-0.

Marshall Hughes with Beardsley Public Finance reported information regarding the recent bond sale to Raymond James and Associates. A motion was made by Mrs. Michele Schmitz and seconded by Mr. Joel McDonald to adopt the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Delivery of the \$9,175,000, Charleston School District No. 9 of Franklin County, Arkansas, Refunding and Construction Bonds dated November 1, 2015 and other documents pertaining thereto as prepared by the Friday, Eldredge & Clark Law Firm. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Stubblefield reported the district's Master Plan regarding facilities will be requested during the November meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Brian Verkamp and seconded by Mrs. Michele Schmitz to retain Ann Sneed as a professional consultant at a billable rate of \$50 per hour for the School Based Health Clinic. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Stubblefield reported information regarding the elementary remodel project, middle school fall festival, basketball black and white games, Steve Cox NFL Dedication, Veterans Day Parade, State ASBA Meeting, and Stephens Tax Settlement.

A motion was made by Mr. Joel McDonald and seconded by Mr. Jeff Hayes to employ personnel as listed. Motion carried 5-0.

- A. Re-assign Genia Hamby (from Elementary Aide to School Based Health Coordinator) with a salary of \$20,000 based on 191 days worked during the 2015-16 school year
- B. Employ Melissa Sutter, Elementary Aide, retro-effective October 12, 2015 for the sum of \$72.68 per day worked

A motion was made by Mr. Brian Verkamp and seconded by Mrs. Michele Schmitz to adjourn at 7:10 p.m.. Motion carried 5-0.

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President

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Secretary

