

**GUTHRIE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
JANUARY 18, 2016**

MINUTES OF THE GUTHRIE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING HELD AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE OFFICE OF THE BOARD, 802 EAST VILAS, GUTHRIE, OKLAHOMA ON JANUARY 18, 2016

Board Members Present:

Jennifer Bennett-Johnson, Gail Davis, Tina Smedley, Terry Pennington, Janna Pierson, Travis Sallee 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
Dee Benson, Director of Technology
Jerry Gammill, Director of Facilities
Jessica Callaway, Director of Child Nutrition
Steve Cordell, Director of Transportation
John Moyer, District Legal Counsel**

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

Due to one of the recipients arriving late, Dr. Simpson asked that the Board move the Employee of the Month presentation to later in the agenda.

- 6A. President Pennington 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.

6B. President Pennington called for any comments to the Board by Board members.

Ms. Pierson complemented the staff for attaining a speaker from CRASE, regarding safety in our schools, for Professional Development Training.

President Pennington wished everyone a happy Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and insisted we should all be honored to be gathered together on that day.

7. President Pennington called for the Superintendent's Reports.

Superintendent Simpson reported on the following:

Wished everyone a happy Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Guthrie Public Schools will return to regular classes tomorrow morning.

Reported on Professional Development Training on January 4th. A representative from an organization called CRASE, Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events, gave a presentation suggesting ways to protect yourself using practical methods that may already be in a classroom instead of lethal methods. All sessions were full. Mr. Ogle and Mr. David Ball, Logan County Emergency Manager, organized the discussion. The staff were highly engaged as were the community members that attended one of the sessions. Thanked Ms. Pierson for attending the session on behalf of the Board Members.

Last month, he reported that Delta Dental had offered to come to our sites and place sealants on some of our elementary students' teeth. They have begun the process and are having to extend the days they will be in our schools because of such high participation.

Stated we are in the midst of a School Performance Review which we have requested by the State of Oklahoma and is of no cost to the District. Part of the process is receiving input from the public. He encouraged the public to go to the District Website to complete the survey or hard copies are also available at all sites.

Discussed the current state of the budget. He was fearful that we would receive cuts before the end of the school year and that has become true. We have made incremental cuts over the last two years and have saved approximately \$576,000 in certified teaching salaries with those cuts. A reminder that prior to the 2014-2015 school year we made cuts to account for the \$300,000 loss in ad-velorum collections due to the lowering of the assessment ratio for the property of Logan County. In December, we were told of a revenue failure by the State of Oklahoma and to expect budget cuts during this year. In January, we received a mid-term adjustment reduction of state aid in the amount of \$237,657 due to the increase in the number of new students in the state with no increase in funds. This was unrelated to the revenue failure. Shortly after midterm adjustment numbers we received confirmation of our cuts in State Aid due to the revenue failure. Total revenue failure cuts to this day are \$187,615.91. The total amount of cuts up to January total just over \$425,000 for this fiscal year. We have been advised to expect more cuts this year.

Cautioned everyone with regard to the projected shortfall for next year. The amount of shortfall from the State Board of Equalization stands at \$900 million. The amount given in December 2014 was projected to be \$300 million and that amount doubled at the February

meeting. It is impossible to project the cuts for the 2016-2017 school year. The discussion will take place with the Administrative Council regarding the harsh realities in front of us and where cuts could be made. We will ask staff to participate in this planning.

Mr. Schulz added that our initial allocation this year was \$820,000 less than what we collected last year which is before any cuts were made this year. The total loss of State Aid from what we collected last year is well over \$1 million.

Dr. Simpson finished by reminding everyone the last time our District went through this situation, we received stimulus funds which will not be available this time as this is a state emergency not a national emergency.

8. **President Pennington called for presentation of Certified and Support Employee of the Month.**

Mr. Doug Ogle, Executive Director of Personnel and Secondary Education, announced the award winners for December: Ms. Kathryn Rosenbach, 3rd Grade Teacher, as certified employee of the month and Ms. Kendra James, Pre-K Paraprofessional, as support employee of the month. Nomination letters were read by the staff member who submitted the nominations: Ms. Marsha Todd, Principal at Fogarty Elementary, read the nomination letter submitted by Ms. Casey Anderson, Secretary at Fogarty Elementary, for Ms. Rosenbach and Ms. Shana Downs, Pre-K Teacher, for Ms. James.

Mr. Ogle presented the award winners a plaque and a \$25.00 Sonic Gift Card donated by the Guthrie Lions Club.

9. **President Pennington called for item 8A to be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion.**

A motion was made by Pierson and seconded by Bennett-Johnson to approve the Consent Agenda excluding Item 8A.

The motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays.

President Pennington called for a motion to approve Item 8A, Minutes of regular meeting held on December 14, 2015.

A motion was made by Pierson and seconded by Sallee to approve Item 8A, Minutes of regular meeting held on December 14, 2015.

The motion carried with 6 ayes and 1 abstention-President Pennington abstaining.

- 10A. **President Pennington called for recommendation, consideration and action upon survey request for student dissertation.**

Discussion followed.

A motion was made by Watts and seconded by Smedley to approve the survey request for student dissertation.

The motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays.

- 11. President Pennington 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 for 2015-2016; discussing and compiling the employment evaluation of Dr. Michael Simpson, Superintendent of Schools; and, discussing and assessing the vulnerability of GPS facilities to acts of terrorism and discussing plans for deterrence or prevention of or protection from an act(s) of terrorism, 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, 7 and 9.**

- 11A. A motion was made by Davis and seconded by Sallee to go into executive session.**

The motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays. Executive session began at 7:19 p.m. District Legal Counsel, Mr. John Moyer, also participated in Executive Session.

- 11B. President Pennington acknowledged the Board's return to open session at 9:14 p.m.**

- 11C. President Pennington stated that in executive session only those items listed in Agenda Item 10 were discussed and no votes were taken.**

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

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

The motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays.

- 13. President Pennington called for action upon recommendation of extra-duty assignments for 2015-2016.**

Discussion followed.

Dr. Simpson stated the 2015-2016 HS Athletic Duty Assignments should state Anthony Bowie as a Basketball Asst Coach Boys HS instead of Basketball Asst Coach Girls HS.

A motion was made by Watts and seconded by Smedley to approve the extra-duty assignments with the correction of Anthony Bowie as Basketball Asst Coach Boys HS.

The motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays.

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

Superintendent Simpson stated there were no resignations offered since the posting of the agenda.

15. A motion was made by Sallee and seconded by Watts to adjourn the meeting.

The motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.



Jana Frey, Minutes Clerk



Terry Pennington, Board President

APPROVED

FEB 08 2016 

BOARD OF EDUCATION
GUTHRIE, OK