

MINUTES OF THE THOMAS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION IN REGULAR SESSION,
TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2014

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Streets called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: David Dawson, Charles Evans, Derwood Hickey, Mark NeSmith, Scott Morgan, and Kay Streets. Nancy Hiers arrived at the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

2. DEVOTIONAL

Lauren Rich, student at Thomas County Central High School, gave the devotional.

3. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Morgan moved with a second by Mr. Dawson, to approve the consent agenda (attachment A) which included the agenda; February 11, 2014, and February 25, 2014, minutes; Bishop Hall minutes of January 23, 2014; meeting schedule, fundraising requests and out-of-district students. Mr. Dawson, Mr. Evans, Mr. Hickey, Mr. NeSmith and Mr. Morgan voted to approve the motion.

4. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- a. Recognition of outstanding students - Mr. Morgan made a motion, with a second by Mr. NeSmith, to approve resolutions for outstanding students (attachment B). The motion was unanimously approved.
- b. Board Member Appreciation Week: March 17-21 (luncheon at the PREP Academy on March 20 – Dr. Kornegay reminded board members of the luncheon at the PREP Academy on March 20 at 11:30.
- c. March workshop agenda items – Dr. Kornegay presented the draft agenda for the March 25 workshop.
- d. Present and discuss preliminary expenditures budget based on personnel costs - Dr. Kornegay said that preliminary allocations have been received from the state for next year and he was anticipating a 1% increase in the local tax digest. The majority of growth in the area of instruction is to support the proposed restoration of furlough days. Currently employees have five furlough days and the proposal is to restore two days this year and three next year. Dr. Kornegay said there was a possibility of adding a few elementary teaching positions to reduce class sizes at the elementary level and add additional counseling positions, especially for the middle school. He also said there would be a small salary increase of about 1% in the budget for bus drivers and other classified employees who have not had an increase in several years.
- e. Financial report – Dr. Kornegay explained the financial report (attachment C).

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Approval of new system strategic plan - Dr. Kornegay explained that the strategic plan could be amended once the athletic improvement plan is completed. Mr. NeSmith moved, with a second by Mr. Morgan, to approve the new system strategic plan (attachment D). The following members voted to approve the motion: Mr. Dawson, Mr. Evans, Mr. Hickey, Mr. NeSmith and Mr. Morgan. Ms. Nancy Hiers arrived at the meeting after the vote.
- b. Approval of legislative position – Mr. Morgan moved, with a second by Mr. NeSmith, to approve the legislative position (attachment E) regarding Teachers Retirement System to be submitted for approval by the Georgia School Boards Association Delegate Assembly. The board voted unanimous approval of the motion.

c. Approval of delegate and alternate for GSBA Delegate Assembly - Mr. NeSmith moved, with a second by Ms. Hiers, to appoint Mr. Evans to serve as delegate and Mr. NeSmith as alternate for the Georgia School Boards Delegate Assembly. The board voted unanimous approval of the motion.

d. Approval of class size resolution for 2014-2015 – Dr. Kornegay stated that this is the last year the class size waiver will be approved unless state guidelines are changed. He explained that the state is going to restore only 30% of the funds that were previously cut from the system and the class size requirement cannot be met with the current available funding. Mr. Evans moved to approve the class size waiver resolution (attachment F) for the 2014-2015 school year. The board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

e. Approval of “Weather and School Days Resolution” for January 29, 2014 – Mr. Evans moved, with a second by Mr. Hickey, to approve the resolution (attachment G) which allows students not to have to make up the inclement weather day on January 29 and teachers the opportunity to make it up or take personal leave. The board voted unanimous approval of the motion.

f. Executive session for personnel – Ms. Hiers moved to go into executive session (attachment H). Mr. NeSmith seconded the motion, with unanimous approval by the board.

After a discussion regarding personnel, Mr. NeSmith moved, with a second by Ms. Hiers, to end the executive session. The board voted unanimous approval of the motion.

g. Approval of certified renewals and new hires for 2014-2015 school year – Mr. Morgan moved to approve certified staff at all schools (attachment I) with the exception of board members’ relatives. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, with unanimous approval by the board.

Mr. Hickey moved, with a second by Mr. Evans, to approve the renewal of Charlotte McCann’s contract at Hand-In-Hand School for 2014-2015. The following members voted to approve the motion: Mr. Dawson, Mr. Evans, Mr. Hickey, Mr. Morgan and Mr. NeSmith. Ms. Hiers abstained.

Mr. Hickey moved, with a second by Mr. Hiers, to approve the renewal of Laurie Dawson’s contract at Cross Creek School for 2014-2015. The following members voted to approve the motion: Mr. Evans, Mr. Hickey, Ms. Hiers, Mr. Morgan and Mr. NeSmith. Mr. Dawson abstained.

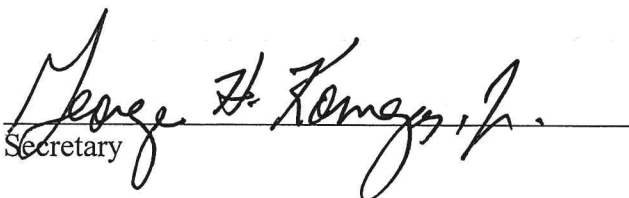
Mr. Hickey moved, with a second by Mr. Morgan, to approve the renewal of Charlene Jackson’s contract at Cross Creek School for 2014-2015. Mr. Dawson, Mr. Hickey, Ms. Hiers, Mr. Morgan and Mr. NeSmith voted to approve the motion. Mr. Evans abstained.

Ms. Hiers moved to approve the renewal of Allison NeSmith’s contract at Cross Creek School for 2014-2015. Mr. Evans seconded the motion and the following members voted for approval: Mr. Dawson, Mr. Evans, Mr. Hickey, Ms. Hiers, and Mr. Morgan. Mr. NeSmith abstained.

Mr. Morgan made a motion to renew Sharen Hickey’s contract at Thomas County Middle School for 2014-2015. Mr. Evans seconded the motion, with the following members voting for approval: Mr. Dawson, Mr. Evans, Ms. Hiers, Mr. Morgan and Mr. NeSmith. Mr. Hickey abstained.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Evans moved, with a second by Mr. Morgan, to adjourn. The board voted unanimous approval of the motion.


Secretary


Chairman