

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
**SOUTH TIPPAAH SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
Oscar Shannon Building  
January 29, 2024  
5:15 P.M.

Members Present: Corey Hargett, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Tony Elliott, Superintendent; Price Elliott, Board Attorney; Ruby Bennett, Assistant Superintendent; Tonya Kuhl, Business Manager; Kelly Gates, Federal Programs Director & Guests

The meeting was called to order by Board Attorney Price Elliott and commenced as an open meeting. The Invocation was led by Arnold Witt. Tony Elliott led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Mrs. Ruby Bennett read the South Tippah School District Vision Statement and Mission Statement.

The January 29, 2024 South Tippah School District Meeting Agenda was approved on a motion by Nicole Bullock, seconded by Corey Hargett. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Arnold Witt made the motion to approve the Ripley Middle School Improvement Plan Report presented by Superintendent Elliott. The motion was seconded by Tim Clark. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Price Elliott called for nominations for Chairman of the South Tippah School Board of Trustees for Calendar Year 2024. Nicole Bullock made the motion to elect Arnold Witt to the position of South Tippah School Board of Trustees Chairman. The motion was seconded by Corey Hargett. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Price Elliott then turned the proceedings over to Chairman Witt.

Corey Hargett made the motion to elect Tim Clark to the position of South Tippah School Board of Trustees Vice-Chairman. Nicole Bullock seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to elect Kevin Barefield to the position of South Tippah School Board of Trustees Secretary. The motion was seconded by Tim Clark. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to elect Corey Hargett to the position of South Tippah School Board of Trustees MSBA Legislative Representative. Tim Clark seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Tim Clark made the position to continue the employment of Board Attorney Price Elliott. The motion was seconded by Nicole Bullock. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

The December 12, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes, December 12, 2023 Executive Session of the Regular Meeting Minutes, & the January 25, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes were approved on a motion by Corey Hargett and seconded by Nicole Bullock. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Disposal of Fixed Assets

Disposal Amount: of \$1,166.07

Summary Statement of Fixed Assets

Additions of \$187.38

Donations

Pine Grove School

The Peoples Bank, \$12,000 for Basketball

Fund Raisers

Pine Grove School

Volleyball, Calendar Donations, February 2024

Field Trips

Blue Mountain School

Juniors, tour Toyota Plant, February 6, 2024

Juniors, tour Blue Mountain Christian University, February 23, 2024

Pine Grove School

Seniors, tour Blue Mountain Christian University, January 19, 2024

Ripley High School

Seniors, tour Blue Mountain Christian University, February 24, 2024

Seniors, tour Northwest MS Community College, January 9, 2024

Band, Collierville High School/Band Competition, February 17, 2024

Administration of Medication to Students

RMM24-8

Additions to the Substitute List:

Tyler Meeks

Connor Godwin

Rebecca Cottrell

Request for Transfer:

Zakonya McGee      Union County

Tim Clark seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Tim Clark made the motion to approve the Superintendent's Report as presented by Superintendent Tony Elliott. The motion was seconded by Corey Hargett. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion:

None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

The Financial Statements were approved on a motion by Nicole Bullock and seconded by Corey Hargett. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to employ Lee Holt as principal at Blue Mountain School for SY24-25. The motion was seconded by Tim Clark. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Tim Clark made the motion to employ Tommy Ozbirn as principal at Pine Grove School for SY24-25. Corey Hargett seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to employ Leigh Anne Sanderson as principal at Ripley Elementary School for SY24-25. The motion was seconded by Corey Hargett. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Corey Hargett made the motion to employ George Buchanan as principal at Ripley High School for SY24-25. The motion was seconded by Tim Clark. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to employ Dr. Damon Ladner as principal at Ripley Middle School for SY24-25. The motion was seconded by Corey Hargett. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Tim Clark made the motion to employ Kevin Williams as Director of the Tippah Career & Technology Center for SY24-25. Nicole Bullock seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion:

None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Tim Clark made the motion to employ Ruby Bennett as STSD Pre-K Director & Assistant Superintendent for SY24-25. Corey Hargett seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Corey Hargett made the motion to accept the following resignations from licensed personnel: Rony Rodgers, Pine Grove School; Richie Hatcher, Ripley High School; & Julie Hatcher, STSD Pre-K. The motion was seconded by Nicole Bullock. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to employ the following non-licensed personnel for SY23-24:

Ripley Middle School

Belinda Williams, Teacher Assistant (beginning 1/3/24)

STSD Pre-K

Katherine Rutherford, Teacher Assistant (beginning 1/8/24)

The motion was seconded by Corey Hargett. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Kevin Barefield arrived at meeting.

Tim Clark made the motion to grant paid administrative leave days to all certified and non-certified staff for January 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, & 24 due to extreme weather conditions. The motion was seconded by Nicole Bullock. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Corey Hargett made the motion to approve of the hire of an architect to design and give cost estimate services for the Tippah Career and Technology Center. Kevin Barefield seconded

the motion. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to approve the Board Policy Review of Section C: General School Administration. Tim Clark seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Corey Hargett, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

There was no action required on Agenda Item 28: Annual Agenda Calendar

There being no further action to come before the Board, Chairman Witt entertained a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Corey Hargett, seconded by Kevin Barefield, and unanimously approved by the affirmative vote of all Board Members present: Corey Hargett, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock, the Board adjourned until the next regular meeting of the South Tippah School District Board to be held at 5:15 o'clock p.m., on the 21st day of February 2024, at the Oscar Shannon Building, at 410 Greenlee Street, Ripley, Mississippi.

ORDERED, ADOPTED, and RESOLVED, this the 29th day of January 2024.

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Chairman, South Tippah School Board

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Secretary, South Tippah School Board