

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SOUTH TIPPAAH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Oscar Shannon Building
February 16, 2023
4:45 P.M.

Members Present: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & 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/Curriculum Director; & Justin Dial

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Cockrell and commenced as an open meeting. The Invocation was led by Price Elliott. Tony Elliott led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Tim Clark read the South Tippah School District Vision Statement and Mission Statement.

The February 16, 2023 South Tippah School District Meeting Agenda was approved on a motion by Arnold Witt, seconded by Kevin Barefield. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to approve the special recognitions. Mr. Elliott presented each board member with a certificate in honor of School Board Member Recognition Week (February 12-18, 2023). Tim Clark seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Kevin Barefield made the motion to approve the Ripley Middle School Improvement Plan Report. Arnold Witt seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

The January 17, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes and January 17, 2023 Executive Session of the Regular Meeting Minutes were approved on a motion by Tim Clark and seconded by Nicole Bullock. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Arnold Witt made the motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Disposal of Fixed Assets

Disposal Amount of \$5,591.74

Summary Statement of Fixed Assets

Additions of \$84,502.74

Donations

Pine Grove School

PTO, \$8,276.44 for camera door locks on entrances

South Tippah Cafeteria

Ripley Presbyterian Church, \$1,573.00 for charity fund donation

Fund Raisers

Blue Mountain School

Seniors, sell Valentine candy grams, February 14, 2023

Pine Grove School

Archery, raffle, February 2023

Ripley Elementary School

Silent Auction, March 2023

Ripley High School

Digital Journalism Class, sell Valentine candy grams, February 2023

Volleyball, Skills Clinic, April 15, 2023

FCS, t-shirt sale, February 2023

Choir, sell chocolate bars, February 2023

Ripley Middle School

Jr. Beta Club, sell Valentine candy grams, February 2023

Calendar Fundraiser, March 2023

Field Trips

Pine Grove School

Softball, Gulf Shores, AL/Softball Tournament, March 12-15, 2023
1st Grade, Buffalo Park/Tupelo, March 10, 2023
Seniors, ICC Campus/Tupelo, March 10, 2023
Seniors, Tupelo Furniture Market, February 24, 2023

Ripley Elementary School

3rd Grade, Chuck E Cheese/Tupelo, February 24, 2023

Ripley High School

TCTC Students, Toyota Experience Center/Blue Springs, February 15, 2023
Football, Donut Sale, May 2023
Football, Calendar Fundraiser, March 2023
Music Appreciation, Tupelo Civic Auditorium/Orchestra Performance, February 24, 2023
Choir, Pine Grove, March 3, 2023
Choir, Blue Mountain, March 24, 2023
Choir, Ripley Elementary, March 10, 2023

Ripley Middle School

Choir, Magnolia Nursing Home/New Albany, February 9, 2023

Administration of Medication to Students:

REM23-31 – REM23-34
BMM23-11 – BMM23-18
PGM23-24 – PGM23-28
RMM23-16

Additions to the Substitute List:

Amber Austin
Kathy Dixon
Elisa Dickerson
Kristen McVey
Victoria Kelly
Katherine Williams
Danielle McKinney

Additions to the After-School Tutoring Program Personnel:

Heather Ewing, ESSER Afterschool Tutor @ \$30/hour
Rhonda Jones, ESSER Afterschool Tutor @ \$30/hour

Kevin Barefield seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark,

Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Tim Clark made the motion to approve the Superintendent's Report as presented by Superintendent Tony Elliott. The motion was seconded by Nicole Bullock. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

The Claims Docket, claims #96571 - #96852, was approved on a motion by Arnold Witt and seconded by Kevin Barefield. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

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

Arnold Witt made the motion to accept the following resignations from licensed personnel: Bryana Hobson, Pine Grove School effective February 14, 2023; Donnita Ginn, Pine Grove School; & Molly Marino, Ripley Middle School. The motion was seconded by Tim Clark. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Tim Clark made the motion to employ the following licensed personnel for SY22-23:

Blue Mountain School

Jo Beth Akins, SPED Teacher

Pine Grove School

Brylea Bishop James, Teacher

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

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

Blue Mountain School

Kaitlin James, Teacher

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

Kevin Barefield made the motion to employ the following non-licensed personnel for SY22-23:

Pine Grove School

Wendy Lopez, Custodian (12 months)

Ripley Elementary School

Madyson Little, Teacher Assistant

South Tippah Pre-Kindergarten

Amber Austin, Teacher Assistant

Bus Drivers

Keith Fox, 2 Blue Mountain Vo tech Routes

Kathy Dixon, Substitute Bus Monitor

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

Nicole Bullock made the motion to employ Chris Killough as principal at Blue Mountain School for SY23-24. Kevin Barefield seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Arnold Witt made the motion to employ Tommy Ozbirn as principal at Pine Grove School for SY23-24. The motion was seconded by Tim Clark. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Kevin Barefield made the motion to employ Leigh Anne Sanderson as principal at Ripley Elementary School for SY23-24. Nicole Bullock seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Tim Clark made the motion to employ Buck Buchanan as principal at Ripley High School for SY23-24. The motion was seconded by Arnold Witt. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Kevin Barefield made the motion to employ Dr. Damon Ladner as principal at Ripley Middle School for SY23-24. Nicole Bullock seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Tim Clark made the motion to employ Kevin Williams as the Director at the Tippah Career & Technology Center for SY23-24. The motion was seconded by Arnold Witt. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to employ Ruby Bennett as the Director at the South Tippah Pre-Kindergarten, Assistant Superintendent, & Testing Coordinator for SY23-24. The motion was seconded by Kevin Barefield. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Arnold Witt made the motion to accept the sole bid for bank depository from The Peoples Bank for SY23-24. Nicole Bullock seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Tim Clark made the motion to grant approval for Shafer, Zahner, Zahner to complete design and advertise for bids on skylight repair/replacement on Ripley High School

Math/Science Complex. The motion was seconded by Kevin Barefield. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Arnold Witt made the motion to approve the South Tippah School District SY23-24 School Calendar. Nicole Bullock seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to approve the revision to the South Tippah District Maintenance Salary Schedule for FY22-23. Kevin Barefield seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Arnold Witt made the motion to approve the revisions to Board Policies: GABB & GABBA. The motion was seconded by Tim Clark. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Kevin Barefield made the motion to approve the Board Policy Review of Section G: Personnel (GAA-GBA-E). Tim Clark seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

There was no action required on Agenda Item 30: Deletions or Additions to Annual Agenda Calendar.

Kevin Barefield made the motion to consider the need for an Executive Session to discuss Agenda Item 31: Approve and Accept Superintendent's Evaluation. Arnold Witt seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Agenda Item 31: Approve and Accept Superintendent's Evaluation. The motion was seconded by Tim Clark.

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

Board Chairman Cockrell immediately closed the session and cleared the room to consider an Executive Session of the February 16, 2023 Regular Meeting of the South Tippah School District Board of Trustees.

Chairman Cockrell re-convened the open session and announced in the open meeting that the Board had discussed and approved the Superintendent's Evaluation.

There being no further action to come before the Board, Chairman Cockrell entertained a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Kevin Barefield, seconded by Arnold Witt, and unanimously approved by the affirmative vote of all Board Members present: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & 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 22nd day of March 2023, at the Oscar Shannon Building, at 410 Greenlee Street, Ripley, Mississippi.

ORDERED, ADOPTED, and RESOLVED, this the 16th day of February 2023.

Chairman, South Tippah School Board

Secretary, South Tippah School Board