

HOLMES COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD  
REGULAR SESSION  
MAY 5, 2015

The Holmes County School Board met in Regular Session Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room at 701 East Pennsylvania Avenue in Bonifay. Board Members present: Rusty Williams –Chair, Sid Johnson – Vice-Chair, Debbie Kolmetz, Alan Justice and Shirley Owens. Also present: Superintendent Eddie Dixon, Board Attorney Luke Taylor, Administrators Jim Goodman, Donnita Butorac and Larry Zorn, Director Christy English and Resource Officer Greg Johnson.

Chair Rusty Williams called the regular scheduled meeting to order and the adoption of the agenda. Alan Justice moved to approve the agenda, second by Sid Johnson. Debbie Kolmetz amended the motion to keep the agenda format on Hearing the Public as is, second by Sid Johnson which passed and the original motion as amended then passed.

PRESENTATIONS/HEARING THE PUBLIC

The L. W. Cooper Educational Foundation presented Holmes County School District as the recipient of a Technology Grant in the amount of \$45,000. The funds will be used to purchase classroom response systems and archiving/storage infrastructure equipment. Shirley Owens moved to accept the grant, second by Debbie Kolmetz which passed unanimously.

The following addressed the Board:

Abigail Watford, student at BHS, requesting additional Beta Club funding for Nationals.

Tamra Kriser, parent at BHS, requesting additional Beta Club funding for Nationals.

Karen Simmons, resident of Geneva, AL, on her grandchild at BHS.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRAMS –

- A. AMEND 2014-2015 CALENDAR - to include BHS school closure – Sid Johnson moved to approve, second by Shirley Owens which passed unanimously. S. min. p. \_\_\_\_
- B. AMEND 2015-2016 CALENDAR – change the beginning date of school – Sid Johnson moved to approve, second by Alan Justice. Debbie Kolmetz requested Veterans Day be taken off and moved to have Veterans Day off then moved to table the calendar. The motion died from lack of a second. Mrs. Kolmetz asked to go on record of wanting to take Veterans Day off as a Holiday. The motion to amend the calendar passed 4-1 with Debbie Kolmetz voting against. S. min. p. \_\_\_\_
- C. 2014-2015 THROUGH 2016-2017 ESE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES – Sid Johnson moved to approve, second by Alan Justice which passed 3-2 with Alan Justice and Debbie Kolmetz voting against. S. min. p. \_\_\_\_
- D. OUT OF COUNTY/STATE STUDENTS – Debbie Kolmetz moved to approve, second by Sid Johnson which passed unanimously. S min. p. \_\_\_\_
- E. OVERNIGHT/OUT OF STATE TRIPS - HCHS Teen Read 9-12 to Dothan, AL; PS Jr. Beta Club to Nashville, TN; BHS FBLA to Chicago, IL; BHS FFA to Orlando; PDLH FCCLA to Washington, DC- Shirley Owens moved to approve, second by Alan Justice which passed unanimously. S. min. p. \_\_\_\_

The Consent Agenda was unanimously approved on a motion by Sid Johnson and second by Shirley Owens as follows: Invoices, Warrant List, P.O.'s over \$3000, Budget Amendment (None), 04/21/15 Workshop and Regular Session Minutes and the Monthly Financial Report.

PERSONNEL – Superintendent Dixon made the following recommendations:

ACCEPT the Resignation from Employment on the following:

Brenda Meadows, Teacher at PS, effective 05/29/15 at 3:00 p.m. (For retirement)

Cheryl Harrison, Teacher at BMS, effective 06/30/15 at 3:00 p.m. (For retirement)

AMEND the effective Retirement date on Anthony Howell from 06/10/15 to 07/31/15.

APPROVE a Medical Leave of Absence on Jeanette Bailes, Aide at BHS, beginning 04/21/15 at 7:30 a.m. and ending 06/05/15 at 3:00 p.m.

Alan Justice moved to approve, second by Sid Johnson which passed unanimously.

#### FEDERAL, STATE PROGRAMS OR PROJECTS

A. 2014-2015 SUMMER VPK PROVIDER CONTRACT – with the Early Learning Coalition of Northwest Florida, Inc. – Alan Justice moved to approve, second by Shirley Owens which passed unanimously. S. min. p. \_\_\_\_

#### COMMENTS

Superintendent Dixon announced the Ground Breaking Ceremony for the New K-8 Bonifay School would be held on May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

Debbie Kolmetz spoke on the need for differentiated pay for the Culinary Arts teachers. She stated for the record “In order to make this fair and across the board I propose that we discuss this and any culinary teacher will be eligible to receive the differentiated pay if they meet the required number of events that will be determined by us the school board and would like this addressed at our next workshop and come to an agreement and present to the union for negotiations.”

Mrs. Kolmetz then addressed the building at PDLH that currently is covered with tarp being held down with concrete pavers. She moved to have the pavers removed by 1:00 p.m. today and the tarp secured in a way to meet Florida building code until the final repairs can be made and a board member be assigned to oversee these repairs and the superintendent report back to the board, second by Alan Justice which passed unanimously.

Mrs. Kolmetz also said for the record, “I’m sure there are many parents and teachers who are not aware of the policy passed last month regarding having student cell phones turned on during class. I was the only board member that voted against having cell phones on during the school day. Only two weeks passed since we adopted that policy and there was an incident that occurred at HCHS regarding texting. Do all of you as board members not see the possibilities and the problems that can be caused with children, they are children, and they do not realize the consequences of their actions and the social media and the pressure. We’re saying these are for education but they’re students, they’re children, they’re gonna act like children, they’re gonna do things like this and it could be worse next time. And I ask everyone on this board to seriously think about this decision long and hard because we need to work on this together to correct this problem before something worse happens. And it will happen, we just opened up a keg of worms, a can of worms, to let students have their phones on all day. And I talk to people every day and they say they didn’t know that. And I want to go on the record to let people know this is happening in Holmes County.

There being no further business Alan Justice moved to adjourn, second by Sid Johnson which passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

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Rusty Williams, Chairman

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Eddie Dixon, Superintendent