VAN BUREN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 42, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes of Special Meeting
Date: January 30, 2017
Place: District Office

Special Meeting Called to Order

Christy Mayo called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. Director Mayo welcomed all that were in attendance.

Roll Call

The following members were present:

Members Present

Christy Mayo, President
Candice Settle-Beshears, Vice President
Theresa Bell, Secretary
Kevin Bell
Jamie Hammond
J.R. McPhate

Members Absent

The following members were absent:

Carman Young

Administrators Present

The following administrators were present:

Dr. Harold Jeffcoat, Superintendent
Brian Summerhill, Assistant Superintendent

Student Discipline

Dr. Jeffcoat began by stating that student CR's parent had been made aware that it was her right to have either a public or private meeting and had chosen a private meeting and at this time anyone who was not with the student's family or a school administrator should please step out of the room.

Dr. Jeffcoat reviewed the details of the incident and stated Arkansas Law regarding punishment for this type of incident. Dr. Jeffcoat gave the Board the Administrations' recommendation: expulsion for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year.

Dr. Jeffcoat then asked Mr. Heckman, VBHS Asst. Principal, to give a summary of his account of what took place on January 13, 2017.

Next, Dr. Jeffcoat asked Mr. Tipton for his comments regarding the incident.

Director K Bell asked Mr. Heckman if the items in the picture that was in their packet were the items he removed from CR's backpack? Mr. Heckman said that they were.

Director K Bell also asked Dr. Jeffcoat why he was recommending the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year if state law allowed 365 day? Dr. Jeffcoat said that he felt that the remainder of the school year was severe enough but yet allowed the student, if the student worked to earn the credits, to graduate with their class.

Dr. Jeffcoat then allowed the following to speak on behalf of student CR:

- Maria Villela, mother
- Perry Mooneyham, family friend
- Sharon Garcia, family friend

Closed Session –

G.1. The Board went into closed session at 5:26 p.m. to discuss student discipline.

The Board returned to open session at 5:40 p.m.

G.2. Director Settle-Beshears made a motion with a second by Director Hammond to approve the recommendation of expulsion for student CR for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year. The motion carried 6-0.

Superintendent Report

1. Transportation Plan - The Board recently approved the purchase of three (3) new buses. The district has contacted Midwest Bus Sales for information on a lease agreement. The current proposal from Midwest would be a lease of six (6) buses at a cost to the district of $129,000.00 per year for three (3) years. The district is still working with Midwest but plans to bring a proposal to next month's meeting.

2. Freshman Academy Drainage Easement - St. Michaels Catholic Church has given the district a statement saying that they "will assist the school on having corrosion correction maintenance in the future if needed with regards to the drainage project regarding the Drainage Easement date 1/11/17."

3. Salary Schedules - PPC will meet this week to approve a salary schedule. This will allow certified employees to vote next week or the following week.

4. Father Daughter Dance - The Father Daughter Dance is Monday, February 6th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the VBHS Commons.

5. Education Foundation - When the Education Foundation was originally created it was created with the notion that it would become self-sustaining. We have now come up with a 5-year transition plan to achieve that. Each year the district's contribution will drop 20% until the Foundation is self-sustaining.

6. Property Purchase - The district is looking at possibly purchasing property near King Elementary. The district already owns the property on the north side of this property. This property is the only property between King and the property already owned by the district.

7. Building Removal @ Blakemore Field - The district has begun removal of the old cinder block locker room at Blakemore Field. The removal is being done in-house so the cost is much lower than if we had to hire it out.

8. 7th and 8th Grade Athletics - The district is considering combining 7th and 8th grade athletic programs. We met with coaching staff and they were very supportive of this proposal.

9. Spelling Bee - The Crawford County Spelling Bee was held on Saturday, January 28th. The winner was Rena 5th grader, Christian Woodward. Christian will move on to the State Spelling Bee in Conway on March 4th.

Adjournment -

Director T Bell made a motion with a second by Director Settle-Beshears to adjourn at 6:05 p.m. The motion carried 5-0. Director McPhate had to leave before the updates were finished therefore did not vote at adjournment.

Approved by:

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Christy Mayo, President of the Board Dr. Harold Jeffcoat, Ex-Officio Secretary

Reported by Shari L. Ross, Administrative Assistant to Superintendent/School Board