

LITTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT 810 WEST MARKHAM STREET LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201

MINUTES SPECIAL BOARD MEETING December 13, 2012

The Board of Directors of the Little Rock School District held a special meeting on Thursday, December 13, 2012, in the boardroom of the administration building, 810 West Markham Street, Little Rock, Arkansas. President Dianne Curry presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dianne Curry Norma Johnson Tommy Branch Jody Carreiro Leslie Fisken Michael Nellums

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Greg Adams

ALSO PRESENT:

Morris Holmes, Superintendent of Schools Beverly Griffin, Recorder of Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Ms. Curry called the meeting to order at 8:07 p.m. Six members of the board were present at roll call. Mr. Adams was absent.

II. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

The agenda for the special meeting included:

- A. Presentation McPherson & Jacobsen
- B. Employee Hearing

III. ACTION AGENDA

A. Proposal from McPherson & Jacobsen

Loe Dunn, consultant from McPherson & Jacobsen, reviewed information from the previous superintendent search in 2011. Board members had an opportunity to provide input on updating the criteria and qualifications for the applicants. An advisory committee will be formed, and forums will be held to include parents, teachers, classified employees, administrators and principals.

Ms. Fisken and Dr. Nellums left the meeting prior to the hearing.

B. Employee Hearing

<Employee>, secretary at McClellan High School, was recommended for termination based on information from interim principal Clausey Myton. Mr. Myton provided information to the superintendent based on <employee's> forgery of his signature on a letter sent to parents of students at McClellan regarding the tutoring program.

The district was represented by Attorney Khayyam Eddings. <Employee> was represented by Michael Coleman from the LREA. Each provided an opening statement and review of the information.

Carol Overton, a teacher at McClellan, responded to questions from the attorneys. She supported the administration's contention that Mr. Myton had informed the staff there would be no additional program for remediation at McClellan. The letter which was sent over the forged signature was informing parents of the remediation program, causing some confusion for those who received the letters.

Nathaniel Broadway, teacher in NovaNet at McClellan, also testified in support of the administration's position. He had been informed by Mr. Myton the NovaNet program was not going to be expanded at that time and that there would not be an extension of days for offering NovaNet to students.

Dr. Letha Walker-Richardson, teacher at McClellan, taught Algebra II and coordinated the credit recovery program. Credit recovery was offered before, after, and during school hours. There were also Saturday hours during the second semester, but no Sunday hours. She supported the administration's contention that Mr. Myton had directed the staff not to expand the NovaNet schedule to include Sunday hours.

Donna Duerr, assistant principal at McClellan, responded to questions regarding <employee's> daughter being in the office at McClellan. There was an accusation reported to Mr. Myton that she had been called a racist by <employee> over the incident.

Clausey Myton reviewed the letter <employee> sent to parents which was sent with his forged signature. He stated he had been clear with <employee> and with all staff that there would be no additional credit recovery program at McClellan.

<Employee> reported she had been at McClellan for 7 years. She responded to questions regarding her responsibilities as support staff for the NovaNet program. She

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stated that her decision to sign the letter to parents was just her way of taking the initiative to ensure students were given the appropriate amount of support in gaining their credits.

The board convened a closed session at 12:05 a.m. for deliberations. They returned at 12:40 a.m., and reported they were not prepared to make a decision at this time. They referred to State law 6-17-1703 which states the board has 10 days to make a decision. They reported a decision and would be made at the next board meeting on December 20.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the board, meeting adjourned at 12:39 a.m.

APPROVED: <u>01-24-13</u> Originals Signed by: Dianne Curry, President

Norma J. Johnson, Secretary