

Demopolis City Board of Education

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Superintendent

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MINUTES Regular Board Meeting January 22, 2018 @ 5:15 PM

The Demopolis City Board of Education met in a regular meeting on Monday, **January 22, 2018**, in the Central Office located at 609 South Cedar Street, Demopolis, Alabama, 36732.

Chairman Murdock called the meeting to order and established a quorum, with all but one Board member present, and that Board member being Mr. Kerby. Board member Stanford led the Pledge of Allegiance and voiced the Invocation.

A motion by Mr. Stanford brought a second from Mrs. Moore to approve the **agenda** as presented with the following amendments: Insert **Public Comment** as **Item 7** and move the **Personnel Report** to **Executive Session**. Motion carried.

A motion by Mr. Stanford brought a second from Mrs. Mayberry to approve the minutes from **December 15, 2017**. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Kallhoff recognized school principals as they made presentations to each of the Board members as part of January's **Board Appreciation Month**.

The mother of a 12th grade male student, also accompanied by his grandmother, appeared before the Board for two minutes. A motion by Mrs. Moore was seconded by Mr. Stanford and unanimously approved to continue the discussion in **Executive Session**.

A motion by Mrs. Moore brought a second from Mrs. Mayberry to approve the **Financial Report** for **December 2017** as presented by CSFO James, with all accounts being reconciled. Motion carried.

A motion by Mrs. Moore was seconded by Mr. Stanford and unanimously approved the services of **McKee and Associates Architecture and Interior Designs** for a **STEAM Project** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) at Demopolis Middle School and an Outdoor Classroom project at U.S. Jones Elementary School.

A motion by Mrs. Moore was seconded by Mrs. Mayberry to repurpose two **Certificates of Deposit** to fund a **STEAM Center** at Demopolis Middle School and an Outdoor Classroom at U.S. Jones Elementary School. Motion carried.

A motion by Mrs. Moore was seconded by Mr. Stanford and unanimously approved for **inventory dispositions** as presented by the superintendent.

A motion by Mrs. Moore was seconded by Mr. Stanford for the following **Consent Items**:

A. Out of State/Overnight Field Trips

1. 2 DHS Band Students – Tuscaloosa, February 1st through 4th
2. 1 DHS Band Student – Mobile, February 1st and 2nd
3. 3 DHS Band Students – Troy, February 1st and 3rd
4. 4 DHS Band Students – Auburn, February 8th through 10th
5. DHS DECA Club – Birmingham, Feb. 21st and 22nd
6. DHS HOSA Club – Montgomery, February 22nd and 23rd
7. DMS BETA Club – Birmingham, March 21st-23rd
8. DHS Track – Mobile, April 27th and 28th
9. DHS Track – Gulf Shores, May 2nd through 5th

Superintendent Kallhoff shared:

January is Board Member Appreciation Month

The most successful school systems in this state are backed with a great Board. How is a great Board defined? Child Centered, Consistent, Cohesive, and Humble.

The Demopolis School System and Community are fortunate to have an appointed five-member Board who fits the definition of a great school board. Tonight we would like to recognize our Board members with a token of appreciation from each school.

Conrad Murdock- Board Chair gift provided by me and the Central Office staff

Carolyn Moore- Board Vice Chair gift provided by Mr. Kiser and the Middle School staff

Jim Stanford- Board Member (most senior) gift provided by Mr. Clark and the U.S. Jones staff
Olen Kerby- Board Member gift provided by Mr. Hathcock and the High School staff
Floy Mayberry- Board Member gift provided by Ms. Jackson and the Westside Elementary staff

- It has been an awkward start to the second half of the school year. Between cold weather, the flu, and the stomach bug we have yet to get into a groove.
- I want to congratulate Mr. Clark, his staff, and the students at U.S. Jones. Jones was selected as a 2017 School of Distinction by the Council for Leaders in Alabama School. This award is based on the innovativeness that takes place daily in the area of coding, programming, and robotics. U. S. Jones will join the other 23 schools who received this honor will be recognized at a luncheon in Prattville in late February.
- I am very pleased with the direction in which we are moving in the area of STEM education in Demopolis. The U.S. Jones honor is just a fraction of the innovativeness that we have system-wide. It excites me that as a Board, we are moving closer to supporting our teachers and students with an environment to teach more creativity and problem solving with a Center for STEAM at DMS and an outdoor learning facility at U.S. Jones.
- I want to also recognize the work taking place at DHS in regards to ACT preparation. The teachers at DHS dedicate a brief period every day to focus on ACT readiness. This work is paying off based on the most recent ACT data....
- I read an article recently from Ed. Week on the 5 common traits of the top school systems in America.
 - Robust Economic Environments
 - High Test Scores and Graduation Rates
 - High Spending on Schools
 - Strong Foundations in Early Childhood
 - Widespread Postsecondary Participation

Only two of the five are within our control (Test Scores and Early Childhood) In terms of Early Childhood Education, we are doing a fantastic job. In the last 5 years, we have more than doubled the amount of pre-school children we serve. And the implementation of *Leader in Me* and the *Seven Habits of Happy Kids* is already making a cultural shift at Westside. Not only are the kids speaking the language of the 7 Habits (Be Proactive, Begin with the End in Mind, Put First Things First, Think Win-Win), they are starting to exhibit the habits in their behaviors and actions.

With this being said, the pre-registration window is open for our pre-K program at Westside. Pre-registration is open until March 15th. The random drawing will be held on March 21st at 10:00 AM in the board room.

- The 5th standard of our strategic plan is continuous improvement and monitoring. In March, I will conduct 5 community meetings to offer measurable updates on the progress of our five-year strategic plan after 1 and a half years of implementation. These meetings will be held at the central office, United Methodist Church, Christian Chapel Baptist Church, Rotary Club, and St. Paul Baptist Church.

A motion by Mr. Stanford brought a second from Mrs. Moore and unanimously approved to enter into **Executive Session** for the and student hearings at 5:45 p.m.

A motion by Mr. Stanford was seconded by Mrs. Moore and unanimously approved to reconvene to **Open Session** at 7:40 p.m., with the following actions being taken:

1. **Personnel Report** was approved as presented. (See “Exhibit A”)
2. A male DMS student, accompanied by his mother, was awarded re-admittance to Demopolis City Schools, after a due process hearing and arrangements for an attendance contract.
3. A male DMS student, accompanied by his mother, was denied re-admittance to Demopolis City Schools, after a due process hearing.

The next meeting of the Board will be a **work session** with band representatives on **February 20th** at 4:00 p.m. with a regular meeting taking place on **February 20, 2018, at 5:15 p.m.**

A motion by Mr. Stanford was seconded by Mrs. Moore and unanimously approved to adjourn.

**“EXHIBIT A”
PERSONNEL REPORT**

Transfers:

1. **William Jackson** from Custodian at Westside Elementary to Westside Elementary Lunchroom as CNP Worker.
2. **Mary Ellen McCrory** from Westside Elementary Lunchroom as CNP Worker to Custodian at Westside Elementary.

Substitutes:

1. **Jenna Morgan** as Certified Substitute
2. **Veronica Long** as Certified Substitute – Pending test results.

Miscellaneous:

1. **Whitney Mosley**, Teacher at U.S. Jones Elementary, requesting FMLA beginning February 19, 2018, with a return date of April 16, 2018 for maternity leave.
2. **Pam Morgan**, Aide at Demopolis High School, requesting LOA for medical reasons beginning January 16, 2018, for approximately 4-6 weeks.

Conrad Murdock, Chairman

Kyle Kallhoff, Secretary