

**BROOKWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT 167  
REGULAR MEETING - MAY 9, 2011  
BOARD ROOM - ADMINISTRATIVE & DIAGNOSTIC CENTER**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Brookwood School District 167 Board of Education was called to order by President Deborah Birmingham at 7:30 p.m.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was answered by: Dixon, Wheeler, Pettis, Plott, Birmingham, and Taylor

6 Present
1 Absent

Absent: S. Brunson

**II. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS**

Ms. Birmingham, as a citizen, stated that her friend and mentor, Mr. John Blakey, encouraged her to interview for an appointment to the school board. She asked Mr. Blakey what she should be doing. He responded that she should continue to read, study, research and ask questions. Ms. Birmingham stated that she will serve with honor, integrity, passion and humility as she carries out the duties and responsibilities of the school board president.

Mrs. Plott stated that Mr. Blakey valued respect among Board members with no divisiveness. He felt that decisions made by the Board should be supported and carried out by the Board.

Mr. Patterson thanked all of the Longwood parents and staff for their support.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The April 18, 2011 regular meeting minutes were approved. Wheeler/Plott

Regular Meeting  
Minutes  
Approved  
6-0

The April 18, 2011 closed session minutes number one were approved.  
Taylor/Plott

Closed Session  
Minutes Number One  
Approved  
6-0

The April 18, 2011 closed session minutes number two were approved to remain closed. Taylor/Plott

Closed Session  
Minutes Number Two  
to Remain Closed  
Approved  
5-0  
1 Abstain

The May 2, 2011 special meeting minutes were approved. Taylor/Dixon

Special Meeting  
Minutes  
Approved  
6-0

V. APPROVAL OF BILLS AND PAYROLL

Bills totaling \$175,754.83, the April actual payroll of \$877,640.54 and the May payroll as per agreements were approved. Dixon/Plott

Bills/  
Payroll  
Approved  
6-0

V. REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report--See attached.

B. President's Report

1. Ms. Birmingham congratulated Brookwood Junior High School graduate, Allison Pulliam, who is working for President Obama in the White House.
2. Ms. Birmingham congratulated all four schools on their participation and activities in the wonderful Fine Arts Fair.
3. Ms. Birmingham stated that research shows that schools are successful when stakeholders take ownership.
4. Ms. Birmingham announced her appointments to the Personnel Committee: John Dixon, Chair; Beth Lindsay, Michelle Snoddy, Lorrie Wheeler, and Rita Peterson. Mrs. Plott stated that there is a committee already in place. Ms. Birmingham stated that the Personnel Committee will review resumes and interview potential principal candidates. Mrs. Plott stated that the Superintendent is suppose to be doing that. Mrs. Plott made a motion to table the formation of a Personnel Committee. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 yes (Plott, Taylor, Pettis) 2 no (Dixon, Birmingham) and 1 abstain (Wheeler). Mrs. Pettis asked if the Board members could have a description of what each committee (Personnel, Policy, Finance, and Male Parent Advisory) would be responsible for. Mr. Dixon stated that the committees are not meant

to supercede any current committees in place. Dr. Hollich stated that Board committee meetings are official meetings governed by the open meetings act. They must be open to the public with minutes taken. She indicated they would have to move quickly in order to have a principal in place on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Birmingham stated she would bring the committee appointments back to the Board. Mr. Dixon recommended that we continue with the current process and move forward with the interview teams that are already set up. Dr. Hollich stated she would include Mr. Dixon in the stakeholders interview team. Mrs. Plott stated that it is important to make sure people understand what Board members can and can't do. The Personnel Committee will be an item under Advisory on the June 13<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

5. Ms. Birmingham announced her appointments to the Policy Committee: Lorrie Wheeler, chair; Bob Moehlig, Carl Smith, Carolyn Spencer, Catherine Paxton, and Cathy Marcinski. Moved by Arthur Taylor, seconded by Melinda Plott to table the formation of a Policy Committee. The motion passed 3 yes (Plott, Taylor, Pettis) 2 no (Dixon, Birmingham) and 1 abstain (Wheeler). This will also be an item under Advisory at the June 13<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. Mrs. Plott stated that typical board committees include facilities, education, administration, finance, and policy. Mrs. Plott also stated that meeting dates for these committee need to be set up and a decision on who will take the minutes.

C. Committee Reports

None

D. Board Member Comments

1. Mrs. Plott commended Ms. Birmingham for establishing committees. She stated that committees have been successful with the Village but she indicated that the committees have no authority over the Board and the Board has the final say so.
2. Ms. Birmingham thanked Mrs. Plott for her statement. These Committees will make recommendations to the Board and the Board will have the final authority.
3. Mrs. Wheeler stated she felt it is important for the Board to meet and review the goals for the 2011-2012 school year as well as introduce the Board to the budget. Mrs. Wheeler also stated she feels the Board is the pipeline of the community. She feels that everyone is

going to have to work together to make District 167 the greatest school district in the south suburbs.

- 4. Mrs. Plott concurred with Mrs. Wheeler that it would be good to work together.

VI. READING OF COMMUNICATIONS

None

VII. CLOSED SESSION

The Board went into closed session at 8:17 p.m. to discuss litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting and to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. Dixon/Taylor

Into Closed Session  
Approved  
6-0

The Board returned from closed session at 10:21 p.m. Taylor/Plott

Return From Closed Session  
Approved  
6-0

VIII. RECOMMENDED ACTION

A1. Mr. Reginald Patterson was offered a contract for the 2011-2012 school year as Principal of Longwood School with scheduled salary and benefits. Dixon/Wheeler

R. Patterson Contract  
Approved  
5-1

Comment: Mrs. Pettis asked if this is a one-year contract. The response was yes.

B. The Board approved the hiring of a person to be in charge of the breakfast and snack distribution for the 2011 summer school at a cost of \$11.68 per hour for two hours per day for 20 days. Taylor/Plott

Summer Breakfast Help  
Approved  
6-0

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| C. The <b>revised</b> 2011-2012 school calendar was approved with a starting date of August 17, 2011 and a closing date of June 4, 2012, providing for 185 days of which 180 will be scheduled pupil attendance days, three institute days, and two all-day Parent/Teacher Conference days. The November 11, 2011 half-day school improvement day was moved to November 22, 2011. Dixon/Taylor | Revised 2011-2012 School Calendar Approved<br>6-0                 |
| D. Approval was given to go to bid for a new transportation contract for the 2011-2012 school year. Taylor/Plott   | Approval to Go to Bid for Transportation Contract Approved<br>6-0 |
| E. The Board approved the food service contract for the 2011-2012 school year with Preferred Meal Systems, Inc. at a price of \$1.4536 per meal for grades K-4 and \$1.5144 for grades 5-8 for lunch, \$1.0119 per meal for grades K-8 for breakfast and \$0.6736 for after-school snack. Dixon/Taylor   | 2011-2012 Food Service Contract Approved<br>6-0                   |
| F. The Board tabled the purchase of microphones for the Board room. Dixon/Taylor   | Microphone Purchase Tabled Approved<br>6-0                        |

Comment: Mr. Taylor felt appropriate microphones for the Board room will cost more than \$4,000. Mr. Dixon asked if the podium could be moved to the front of the room. Dr. Hollich responded that the podium is stationary and can't be moved. Mrs. Pettis asked about using the Red Cat microphones. Dr. Hollich responded that there are only two channels and only two microphones and they would have to be passed back and forth among board members and the audience. Mrs. Plott asked if we really need microphones. Ms. Birmingham felt that microphones are needed.

## IX. ADVISORY

### Discussion:

1. Triple I Conference—Historically, the Board has gone to the Triple I Conference in Chicago. This year the conference is November 18-20, 2011. Housing opens June 6<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Hollich asked for direction. Mrs. Plott stated that the IASB recommends that all school board members attend. Dr. Hollich felt the conference is a good source of information for Board members. Ms. Young will gather information as to who would like to attend this conference.

2. Life Safety—Dr. Hollich called the Board's attention to the life safety packet on the Board table. The packet shows the cost of the life safety work for all the A, B, and C items for Longwood School, Hickory Bend School, and Brookwood Junior High School and the A items for Brookwood Middle School and the Administrative Center. The District could issue life safety bonds to pay for this work or use existing fund balances. Dr. Hollich is in favor of issuing life safety bonds in the amount of 2.4 million dollars which the district would pay off in two to three years. The process for issuing life safety bonds is as follows: 1) a public hearing is held to explain the process to the public and allow for public comment at one meeting; 2) the actual approval of the sale of bonds is done at a second meeting. Life safety bonds are restricted to the items on the report. For example, these funds can not be used for the lockers at Hickory Bend. Ms. Birmingham stated that a special meeting would need to be scheduled to get the bonds approved at the June meeting.

Dr. Hollich explained that the architect goes out to bid for a general contractor and the general contractor will hire the sub-contractors. The architect will notify the Black and Hispanic Contractors' Associations. Mr. Dixon stated he will give Dr. Hollich the number of the South Suburban Business Association. Ms. Birmingham stated that a special meeting will be held May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. for the bond hearing with the sale of the bonds an agenda item at the June 13<sup>th</sup> regular board meeting.

3. Dr. Hollich stated she has not heard about our Pre-K grant for next year and probably won't hear anything until the state budget is approved. Four sections were requested in the grant but because of the number of students with IEP's, five sections will be needed. This year, the grant is competitive so it will be all or nothing.
4. Dr. Hollich stated she would send an update to the Board regarding the remaining advisory items: District Facebook Page, Foreign Language, Education City, Waiver of Book Fees for 2011-2012, and School Picture Contract.

Wednesday, May 11, 2011	--	Community Safety Fair
Thursday, May 12, 2011	--	Longwood Spring Musical 1:30 & 7:00 p.m.
Friday, May 13, 2011	--	Hickory Bend Spelling Bee Middle School Career Day
Tuesday, May 17, 2011	--	Middle School 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Science Fair Bilingual PAC Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Junior High
Wednesday, May 18, 2011	--	Middle School 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Invention Convention
Thursday, May 19, 2011	--	Hickory Bend Sensational Singers Concert, 1:30 p.m.
Friday, May 20, 2011	--	Annie Jr. Play at BMS, 1:00 & 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 24, 2011	--	PTA Volunteer Recognition Middle School, 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 25, 2011	--	2:00 p.m. District Dismissal Junior High Awards Ceremony 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 26, 2011	--	Junior High Band Concert 6:30 p.m. Middle School Band Recruitment
Friday, May 27, 2011	--	Hickory Bend Talent Show, 1:30 p.m.
Monday, May 30, 2011	--	Memorial Day Observance/ No School
Wednesday, June 1, 2011	--	Pre-Kindergarten Family Picnic Middle School Talent Show, 1:30 p.m.
Thursday, June 2, 2011	--	BMS Awards 10:00 a.m.
Friday, June 3, 2011	--	2:00 p.m. District Dismissal Junior High Graduation, 6:30 p.m.
Monday, June 6, 2011	--	Full Day of School
Tuesday, June 7, 2011	--	9:30 a.m. Dismissal on the Last Day of School

#### X. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Mr. Truitt stated he was encouraged by the great attendance at the Board meeting. He asked if it is possible to move the closed sessions to the end of the meetings. Ms. Birmingham stated that sometimes this can be done if no action will be taken after the closed session but there are times when the closed session must come before the action items.

Mr. Truitt stated he can offer suggestions on the sound system for the board room.

Mrs. Darring asked if she heard correctly that Mr. Patterson will be retained for the 2011-2012 school year. The response was yes.

Mrs. Jones congratulated the new Board members and welcomed President Birmingham. She stated that she felt welcomed at this meeting and congratulated Mr. Patterson.

Mr. Lechowicz, a graduate of Brookwood Junior High School, stated his class was having a reunion and they wanted permission to tour Brookwood Junior High School on Sunday, May 22, 2011. He stated he would accept cash donations from his classmates and donate the money to the Junior High. Ms. Birmingham stated there wasn't enough time for the new Board members to look over the information. Dr. Hollich indicated that the group would need proof of two million dollars of insurance and a facility request form. She also stated that the principal of the Junior High offered the group a tour at a different time. Mr. Lechowicz stated they could provide proof of insurance. Dr. Hollich stated that according to district policy, one-half of the members of the group must be residents of Glenwood. Ms. Birmingham stated she was concerned about the timeline and that the attorney needs to look at the request. She suggested that all the information be sent to Dr. Hollich and the entire Board.

Mrs. Winston asked how a community member would get on a Board committee. Ms. Birmingham stated that once the committees are established, community members can contact her. Ms. Birmingham thanked Mrs. Winston for her interest.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:16 p.m.  
Taylor/Plott

Meeting  
Adjourned  
All AYE

Deborah M. Young  
Recording Clerk

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Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
President



Present: J. Charleston, R. Patterson, O. Nowels, S. Bragg,  
B. Lindsay, J. Larson, S. Miller, R. Moehlig, E.  
Chilczenkowski, N. Betts, D. Franklin, S. Newsom,  
Y. Jones, N. Garza, S. Mangan, M. Myers, W. Linden,  
L. Melendez, L. Thomas, R. Seals, J. Washington,  
A. Pennington, E. Avant, E. Geron, A. Mix, J. Zaragoza,  
C. Zaragoza, B. Whalen, C. Spencer, P. Czapbovicz,  
J. Summers, C. Paxton, R. Darring, P. Darring,  
L. Clemon, A. Saunty, D. Morgan, B. Ratliff,  
J. Henry, and B. Lechowicz.

**BROOKWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT 167**

**Superintendent's Report**

**May, 2011**

1. Dr. Hollich announced that she attended a Unity Breakfast recently where Thaddeus Jones spoke. He talked about the suggested mandate for a year round school if districts didn't make AYP. He stated that the bill is not going forward at this time but there may be some type of bill for consolidation. Dr. Hollich will share minutes of this meeting with the Board.
2. Dr. Hollich reported that the Village of Glenwood Joint Review Board meeting will held at 10:00 a.m. on May 12, 2011 at the Village Hall. The subject of the meeting will be the creation of a TIF for the Glenwood Town Center plaza. Dr. Hollich and Jeff Charleston will attend the meeting and will vote in support of this project. Mrs. Plott stated that it is pertinent to rebuild this area. Mr. Dixon stated that right now this plaza is a safety hazard and he would support the TIF.
3. Dr. Hollich reported on a meeting she had with George Baum & Associates regarding the referendum planning process. Their company's mission statement is to respect the tax payers. One of the things they would do is survey the voters to see what the community would support. They will do a presentation at the June 13<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. Mrs. Pettis asked if after they talk to the Board, would they hold a town hall meeting. Dr. Hollich responded yes, but also do a survey of the community. Mrs. Plott stated it is important to know how much Board members can be involved in the referendum.