

April 6, 2009
Date

Special
Kind of Meeting

Teachers' Center
Where Held

Mr. Chris Maddox, Vice-Chairman
Presiding Officer

Members Present:

Dr. Steve Stokes
Mr. Chris Maddox
Mr. Franklin Jones
Ms. Gayla White
Mrs. Brenda Guilford
Mr. Jimmy Addison

Members Absent:

Dr. Hays McKay

Dr. Steve Stokes, Chairman, called the meeting to order.

Mr. Chris Maddox led in prayer.

Dr. Steve Stokes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Brenda Guilford gave the School System News stating: Ms. Jerryneta Evans, Director/Principal, Pre-School/Head Start Center reports The Head Start Preschool Program observed Family Reading Night on Tuesday, March 10, 2009. The emphasis was on improving family literacy in the home and promoting reading with children on a daily basis. The teachers selected a story as a theme and prepared activities for the parents and students. Ms. Evans stated 262 parents and children attended the event and dinner was served. Teachers did an activity in the classroom with the parents and then the parents were given an activity to take home and do with the students.

Mrs. Brenda Guilford made a motion seconded by Ms. Gayla White to approve the Agenda as presented and as recommended by the Superintendent. The motion carried. Voting was as follows: "YEA" – Jones, Guilford, White, Maddox, Stokes, Addison. "NAY" – None. "ABSTAIN" - None.

Ms. Gayla White made a motion seconded by Mr. Chris Maddox to adjourn into a Work Session as recommended by the Superintendent. The motion carried. Voting was as follows: "YEA" – Jones, Guilford, White, Maddox, Stokes, Addison. "NAY" – None. "ABSTAIN" - None.

1. Dr. Sam Nichols introduced Mr. Morris Slingluff. Mr. Slingluff stated on behalf of over 800 citizens who attended meetings regarding our public education system thank you to the School Board and Dr. Nichols and his staff for their openness and willingness to partner with the citizens of Dothan and working on a way to improve the quality of education for the 9,000 children in the Dothan City school system and he further stated if Mobile can do it we can do it. To quote Mr. Bill Van Tassel, "If the citizens of Dothan are serious and will stay involved this will work." Thank you for willing to partner with us and improve not only the education for the children but improve the life for every citizen in Dothan. Dr. Nichols stated over my 30 years in Dothan I have never seen this kind of partnership between the citizens of Dothan and this school system. He further thanked Mr. Slingluff, parents, business people in the community, staff, teachers and Principals for their hard work in finishing Phase I of the Co-Owned Strategic Plan. I believe this is going to lead to a better school system in achieving those high goals that this Board and I, as Superintendent, have set for this school system and the Dothan community expects us to do for this school system. I am pleased to be able to bring to you tonight under the Consent Agenda and ask you to vote for and approve the Co-Owned Strategic Plan. Tonight staff that were co-chairing these five different areas will say a word about their section:
 - a. Mrs. Allyson Morgan reviewed Graduation for All: Ready for College, Work and Life.
 - b. Dr. Dell Goodwin reviewed Communication that Informs, Engages and Reconnects.
 - c. Ms. Susan Loftin reviewed High Expectations and Accountability for Home, School and Community.
 - d. Dr. Jimmy McCarty reviewed Parent Responsibility and Involvement.
 - e. Mr. Mike Manuel reviewed Funding Better Schools to Make a Better Dothan.

Dr. Sam Nichols stated we want transparency, an open working relationship between the Board and the Superintendent and the Community and the Superintendent, part of the plan will be a State of the School System Annual Report where the Superintendent will report out to the Board and the Community on how we are doing as a school system and the improvements we are making and the areas we need to be concerned about. Community commitment will yield good results over time. Discussion was held regarding tenured teachers that are unable or unwilling over a 2 to 3 year period to get their classroom where students are competitive on ACT scores and AP courses, professional development, proper documentation, create improvement plans, raising the expectations in all employees, reorganized lessons, mastering the courses, tracking ACT scores, and moving to ACT standards.

2. Mr. Mike Manuel reviewed the Declaration of Emergency Situation for Cafeteria at Dothan High School. Discussion was held regarding bond and capital outlay money, using the normal bid process would mean a second contractor, using another contractor in close proximity could create a hazardous condition, the SDE stated we could do a change order on an existing contract, limited on 10% of the contract, or because of disruption of the instructional program and serving area and the possible creation of hazard condition the

Board could declare this an emergency situation to allow us to negotiate a contract with Lewis Construction, the Board could approve it, and the Building Commission would have to approve the plan expediting the process and we feel more confident that we will be able to get the addition to the cafeteria done by the beginning of this next school year and funding.

3. Dr. Dell Goodwin introduced the Employee Dress Code Policy committee: Peggy Maddox, Patsy Slaughter, Matt Humphrey, Amy Faulk, Jenell Neal, Sharon Cole, Margie Clark, Debra Armstrong, Beverly Thornton, Teresa Addison, Debra Moss, Angie Maddox, Charles Pierce and the Board Policy Committee: Leslie Gilley, Charm Russler, Amy Faulk, Jane Brantley, Ron Snell, Tonya Grier, Sue Clark, Greg Yance, Libby Krietemeyer, Jenell Neal and Hayden Creel. Dr. Goodwin stated the committee reviewed policies from across Alabama and different states, website research, many discussions were held, no blue jeans, no tennis shoes or flip flops. Dr. Goodwin reviewed the Employee Dress Code Policy. Dr. Stokes and Dr. Nichols thanked the committee for their hard work.
4. Dr. Sam Nichols reviewed the proposed Agenda for the April 20th Board meeting.

Mrs. Brenda Guilford made a motion seconded by Ms. Gayla White to reconvene into Regular Session as recommended by the Superintendent. The motion carried. Voting was as follows: "YEA" – Jones, Guilford, White, Maddox, Stokes, Addison. "NAY" – None. "ABSTAIN" - None.

Ms. Gayla White made a motion seconded by Mrs. Brenda Guilford to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and as recommended by the Superintendent. The motion carried. Voting was as follows: "YEA" – Jones, Guilford, White, Maddox, Stokes, Addison. "NAY" – None. "ABSTAIN" - None.

Co-Owned Strategic Plan with YES WE CAN – Phase I (See Attachment "A")
Minutes of Board Meeting(s): March 16, 2009–Regular Board Meeting and April 2, 2009–Special Called Board Meeting
2009-2010 Textbook Adoptions for Language Arts, Spelling, Bible as Literature and Writing
New Textbook Committee Members
Declaration of Emergency Situation for Cafeteria at Dothan High School
Easement to the City of Dothan at Highlands Elementary School

Dr. Dell Goodwin presented the Personnel Agenda deleting Item 4.2.62 on page 56.

Ms. Gayla White made a motion seconded by Mrs. Brenda Guilford to approve the Personnel Agenda with modifications (deleting Item 4.2.62) and as recommended by the Superintendent. The motion carried. Voting was as follows: "YEA" – Jones, Guilford, White, Maddox, Stokes, Addison. "NAY" – None. "ABSTAIN" - None. (See Attachment "B")

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Gayla White asked when the Board is going to have SREB training. Mrs. Allyson Morgan stated she had not heard back from them yet but would let the Board know when.

Dr. Steve Stokes requested a 9th grade update at the next Board meeting.

Dr. Sam Nichols and Dr. Steve Stokes acknowledged the YES WE CAN group and thanked everyone for their hard work on the plan.

Discussion was held between Mr. Maddox, Dr. Nichols and Ms. White regarding SAT testing, State Department determines the dates, graduation exams and the time change and testing.

Dr. Steve Stokes announced the Board would meet again on Monday, April 20th, Monday, May 4th and Monday, May 18th.

Mr. Chris Maddox made a motion seconded by Mr. Franklin Jones to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. Voting was as follows: "YEA" – Jones, Guilford, White, Maddox, Stokes, Addison. "NAY" – None. "ABSTAIN" - None.

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Approved: April 20, 2009

Dr. Steve Stokes, Chairman

Sam Nichols, Superintendent, Secretary