MEETING OF THE BENTON COUNTY

BOARD OF EDUCATION

BENTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

November 11, 2018

BE IT REMEMBERED that on this the 11th day of November, the Board of Education, Benton County, met at the Office of the Superintendent with the following members present:

Betty Page President

Gary Elliott Vice-President

Katrina McGregor Secretary

Brian Gresham Member

Erma Poplar Member (via phone)

The following persons were present:

Lori Whaley Shaw LaKimberly Hobson Pamela Gray

Rutha Martin Ayesha Brooks Sharon Albert

Merri Gadd Amanda Ford Jane Hubbard

WHEREUPON, the following business was transacted:

Candace Sanders recorded the minutes of this meeting.

President Page called the meeting to order at 5:30 P. M.

Member Gresham opened the meeting with prayer.

Vice-President Elliott made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 15th meeting. Member Gresham seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Vice-President Elliott made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 22nd special called meeting. Member Gresham seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Vice-President Elliott noted that “approval of the agenda” had been omitted. This was added as Item 4, and all other items were renumbered accordingly. Member Gresham made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Vice-President Elliott seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Superintendent Bostick presented an amended list of allocations for Ashland High School’s state funded school recognition supplement. Ayesha Brooks was present, as a representative of the teachers’ committee responsible for determining the disbursements. After a brief discussion, Vice-President Elliott made a motion to approve the allocations. Member Gresham seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Superintendent Bostick presented a letter of resignation from Rosie Ladd (AHS Principal) to be effective on February 1, 2019. Member Gresham made a motion to accept the resignation. Secretary McGregor seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Superintendent Bostick presented a recommendation from Anola Stricklin (Food Service Director) to hire Yasmine Walker to fill the position left by the retirement of Annie Hodges. Ms. Walker has already been working on a substitute basis. Secretary McGregor made a motion to approve the recommendation. Member Gresham seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Superintendent Bostick presented a discipline ladder designed by Jane Hubbard (HFAC Principal.) It is the superintendent’s recommendation that Hickory Flat Attendance Center be allowed to pilot this structure for the remainder of the school year. The other district administrators have reviewed the discipline ladder and been given the opportunity to express any concerns. If successful, the discipline ladder could be developed for use district wide during the 2019-2020 school year. Member Poplar expressed concern about using different rules for each school within the district. Vice-President Elliott and President Page were both of the opinion that, if approved, the discipline ladder would need to be distributed to the affected families and made accessible to parents and students via the district website. Secretary McGregor made a motion to approve the discipline ladder for use at Hickory Flat Attendance Center. Vice-President Elliott seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Page Oppose

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Oppose

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

The board had the second reading of the MSBA 2018 Policy Revisions. President Page asked that the record reflect that any policies regarding booster clubs, extracurricular activities and the like, must be forwarded to all school administrators by the board clerk/central office. Vice-President Elliott made a motion to adopt the policy revisions. Secretary McGregor seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Vice-President Elliott made a motion to approve Claims Docket #060675-060812. Secretary McGregor seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Superintendent Bostick presented the consent agenda. Vice-President Elliott made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Secretary McGregor seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

Superintendent Bostick presented the fixed asset disposals. Secretary McGregor made a motion to approve the fixed asset disposals. Member Gresham seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

At this time, the board addressed a letter from a parent regarding the gate admission for sporting events. These rates are established by MHSAA, and cannot be adjusted by the district. The parent has been contacted by school administration, and this was explained.

The contract for lawn maintenance was discussed, as the current contract will be expiring. It is the district’s intent to have a draft of the revised bid packet prepared for review at the December meeting. All school administrators have been advised to submit any specific landscaping needs for their campuses, for inclusion in the bid requirements.

President Page gave the floor to Dr. Sharon Albert for the Ashland Elementary School monthly update. At this time, 6th grade seems to be the greatest concern. Teachers have created action plans and met with students to discuss needed improvements.

Mrs. Jane Hubbard and Mrs. Amanda Ford were recognized by the board, to present the Hickory Flat Attendance Center monthly update. They have been making weekly classroom visits, checking lesson plans, and focusing on growth for the “bottom 25”. All teachers have been given a resource binder to assist with performance and goal setting, including worksheets to assist each student with their personal goals. Teachers are also participating in professional learning committees, and 5th-8th grade ELA classes are working with a consultant to develop thematic learning strategies.

President Page gave the floor to Dr. Merri Gadd for the Career Technical Center monthly update. Dr. Gadd explained that, unlike traditional education, vocational-technical students are not tested monthly. Students are allowed one practice test for their subject area, taken in December, which prepares them for their CPAS exam in March. They have begun utilizing the Renaissance learning program to increase students’ literacy levels in order to achieve greater test performance.

Dr. Rosie Ladd was not present to represent Ashland Middle-High School and discuss their monthly testing data. Therefore, President Page gave the floor to Dr. LaKimberly Hobson, the district Curriculum Coordinator and District Testing Coordinator. According to the data which Dr. Hobson received, scores show a decrease in students’ knowledge in both reading and math.

At this time, Vice-President Elliott made a motion to enter executive session with Dr. Hobson present, in order to discuss a personnel matter. Secretary McGregor seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed, and the board entered executive session at 6:40 P. M. Subsequently, Secretary McGregor made a motion to exit executive session. Member Gresham seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed, and the board exited executive session at 6:57 P. M.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for December 10, 2018 at 5:30 P. M.

Vice-President Elliott made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Secretary McGregor seconded the motion. Members voted as follows:

Elliott Aye

McGregor Aye

Poplar Aye

Gresham Aye

The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:09 P. M.

Attest:

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Betty Page, President

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Gary Elliott, Vice-President

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Katrina McGregor, Secretary

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Erma Poplar, Member

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Brian Gresham, Member