

SALEM SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
SALEM SCHOOL DISTRICT
April 20, 2009

The Board of Education of the Salem School District #30, state of Arkansas, met in regular session on Monday, April 20, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the boardroom on the high school campus. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Koelling.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Falco, Abney, Coffman, and Koelling
Absent: Yarnell

The Chairman declared a quorum present and opened the meeting for business.

The minutes from the March 16, 2009 regular meeting were reviewed. Abney made the motion, second by Falco, to approve the minutes as written. Passed.

Superintendent Ken Rich updated board members on legislation dealing with education.

Yarnell joined the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Superintendent Rich informed the board on the new Federal Stimulus Package relating to education with funds for Title I, IDEA Special Education, and Fiscal Stabilization that will soon be distributed to districts. Possible project areas for these funds were discussed.

Superintendent Rich presented a proposed calendar for the 2009/2010 school year (attached) and recommended tentative approval. It will be brought before the Personnel Policy committee for adoption and then brought back to the next month's meeting for final adoption. Yarnell made a motion to tentatively adopt the 2009/2010 calendar, second by Coffman. Passed.

Superintendent Rich presented a proposal to switch companies for yearbook publication to Life Touch for the 2009/2010 school year noting increases to services with a substantial decrease in cost.

Elementary principal David Turnbough announced that the elementary school was nationally recognized by Just For The Kids organization as a high performing school based on Math scores over the previous three years. He noted that they were one of sixty elementary schools recognized in Arkansas.

Superintendent Ken Rich announced recent high school accomplishments. FBLA students competed at state level and five students qualified for the national competition to be held in Anaheim, CA this summer. He stated that the recent Ready/Set/Graduate program for juniors and seniors was very successful noting positive comments from students. He expressed gratitude to all the community leaders and sponsors involved in the presentation. Rich also announced winning teams from the state FFA judging competition. He read a letter received from a Jonesboro resident praising the Salem Band and director Mike Cole for their performance at a recent contest in Jonesboro.

The board went into executive session at 7:50 p.m. to consider classified contracts.

The board returned to open session at 8:40 p.m. As a result of the executive session, Superintendent Rich read a letter of resignation from Mary Smith effective at the end of the 08/09 school year and gave a recommendation for acceptance. Coffman made the motion, second by Abney to accept the resignation letter (attached) as recommended. Passed.

To fill the vacated position of Mary Smith, Superintendent Rich recommended to move Gaye Passmore. Yarnell made the motion, second by Falco to move Gaye Passmore to fill the position vacated by Mary Smith for the 2009/2010 year. Passed.

Superintendent Rich read a letter of resignation from Rick Hurst effective April 1, 2009 and gave a recommendation for acceptance. Abney made the motion, second by Coffman to accept the letter of resignation (attached) as recommended. Passed.

Next, Superintendent Rich read a letter of intention to retire effective June 30, 2009 from high school custodian Betty Graves and recommended acceptance. Yarnell made the motion, second by Abney to accept the letter from Betty Graves (attached) as recommended. Passed.

To fill the position vacated by Betty Graves, Superintendent Ken Rich recommended to hire Gail Travelstead for the 2009/2010 school year as high school head custodian. Coffman made the motion, second by Falco to employ Gail Travelstead as recommended. Passed.

Superintendent Rich recommended to extend contracts to all current classified personnel who wish to return for the 2009/2010 (attached). Abney made the motion, second by Yarnell to employ all current classified employees as recommended. Passed.

The financial reports were reviewed.

High school principal Wayne Guiltner reported that 160 TI-84 Plus model calculators had been purchased and that 60 more would be bought to have enough for students in grade 9 – 12. These calculators will be checked out for students for take-home use as well as at school. He also noted that the old TI-83 models on hand would be passed on to seventh and eighth graders.

Coffman made the motion to adjourn with a second by Falco. Passed.

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.