

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
OKAW VALLEY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT # 302
December 13, 2007**

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Board of Education of Okaw Valley Community Unit School District #302 was called to order at 7:07 P.M. by President Sean Creviston with the following Board members and administrators present: Sean Creviston, Michelle McClain, Tim Rothrock, John Vander Burgh, Kari Younger, Paula Duis, Joel Hackney, Nick Kearfott, and Marilyn Bayley. Doug Miller and Bev Watson were absent.

VISITORS COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

President Creviston called for visitor comments and communications. There were no comments.

Thank you notes expressing appreciation for expressions of sympathy extended by the district from the family of Sandra Inman and from Jerry Clark were read.

CONSENT AGENDA

Recommendation to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held November 13, 2007 and the special meeting held December 4, 2007.

Recommendation to approve the FFA field trip to Collinsville, Illinois on January 18-19, 2008 to participate in the Made for Excellence Conference sponsored by the National FFA Organization.

It was moved by Michelle McClain and seconded by John Vanderburgh that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Roll call vote: Creviston, yea; McClain, yea; Rothrock, yea; Vander Burgh, yea; Younger, yea. Yeas, 5; Nay, 0; Absent, 2; Abstention, 0. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT, BILLS, PAYROLL

The monthly financial report, bills, and payroll were presented for Board approval. The Superintendent recommended that bills and payroll for the school district be approved as follows:

- Bills for the month of December, 2007 - Education, \$45,423.09; O & M, \$33,018.13; Transportation, \$7,745.95; Life/Safety, \$0.
- Payroll for the month of November, 2007 - Education, \$273,346.07; O & M, \$16,330.07; Transportation, \$24,320.02; IMRF, \$13,591.60.

It was moved by Tim Rothrock and seconded by Michelle McClain that the payroll for the month of November, 2007, and that the bills for the month of December, 2007, be approved as presented. Roll call vote: Creviston, yea; McClain, yea; Rothrock, yea; Vander Burgh, yea; Younger, yea. Yeas, 5; Nay, 0; Absent, 2; Abstention, 0. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION

Principals' Reports: The principals submitted written reports (attached), provided brief comments, and answered questions. Ms. Duis indicated that the OVES Reading Night was a great success and that additional events for parents were planned for the future; that she had attended the annual STI Conference and found the sessions beneficial to her; that OVES had received positive feedback during an on-site visit following the School Meals Initiative Review. Mr. Hackney reported that the Fall Athletic Banquet was well attended; that the OVMS Winter Concert sounded great; that four students from each grade participated in the Team Quest competition in Mattoon; and that an Internet Safety assembly had been presented by representatives of the Macon County State's Attorney Office. Mr. Kearfott reported that Misi Jones' SIU team jersey (#3) was retired on Saturday, December 1st; that the OVHS Girls' Basketball season was underway; that the OVHS Boys' Basketball team began their season by participating in the Edinburg Tournament and would participate in the St. Teresa Holiday Tournament over winter break; that semester exams would be held December 17 and 19, 2007; that the HS Winter Concert was great and complimented Mr. Dempsey and Mrs. Doty; and that the PLAN test had been given to all sophomores on December 5th.

Superintendent's Report: Ms. Bayley reported as follows: the district NCLB Plan and related Board policies will need to be updated and the plan filed as an E-Plan on the IIRC website; the unit office renovation is underway and the bookkeeping department has already been relocated; a former student was featured in a New Progress article; and the Transportation and Facilities Committees would need to meet soon.

School Improvement Update:

- OVHS: Mr. Kearfott reported that STI Assessments had been halted due to a password problem and that testing would resume after the first of the year; that the School Improvement team had discussed survey results, found that bullying was an issue of concern, and were working on a plan to address it; and that the two foreign exchange students had been chosen as co-students of the month.
- OVMS: STI Local Assessments in Math, Science & Reading have been completed and will be scored over break; the Leader of the Pack program is going well, with double-digit recognition each week; looking for guest speakers to address character traits; the School Improvement Team has reviewed student survey results and has met with students for improvement

ideas - the students responded well to this activity.

- OVES/OVIS: The teachers are gathering data on School Improvement Goals, establishing reading benchmarks, evaluating Science textbooks, attending writing workshops - the Academic Foundation has purchased trade books to exemplify six traits through literature.

Other: The need to repair the light for the OVMS flag and to take the flag down in the evening pending completion of repairs was noted. Atchison Electric has been contacted to provide a repair estimate and to consult/provide an estimate regarding installing additional lighting on the south side of the building to illuminate the walk for those using the east parking lot when attending evening functions.

2007 TAX LEVY

Superintendent Bayley reported that no additional information was available regarding EAV for the district. She recommended that the Board approve the tax levy amounts as presented and authorize filing of the levy.

It was moved by Michelle McClain and seconded by Kari Younger that the Board approve the tax levy resolution and the certificate of tax levy for the year 2007 in the amount of \$2,696,460.00 and authorize filing the levy with the County Clerks of Moultrie, Macon, and Shelby Counties. Roll call vote: Creviston, yea; McClain, yea; Rothrock, yea; Vander Burgh, yea; Younger, yea. Yeas, 5; Nay, 0; Absent, 2; Abstention, 0. Motion carried.

CO-OPERATIVE AGREEMENT - TRACK

Based on continuing low participation levels in the high school track program, the Board asked that additional information be provided regarding the formation of a track cooperative - cost of track program, student interest information, options for co-operative agreement. Mr. Kearfott presented updated information for Board consideration and recommended forming a cooperative with Sullivan.

It was moved by Tim Rothrock and seconded by Michelle McClain to enter a cooperative agreement for high school track with Sullivan. Roll call vote: Creviston, yea; McClain, yea; Rothrock, yea; Vander Burgh, yea; Younger, yea. Yeas, 5; Nay, 0; Absent, 2; Abstention, 0. Motion carried.

BOARD POLICIES

Superintendent Bayley reported that following a state review of district NCLB programs, it would be necessary to add a policy and update another to be current with requirements. Ms. Bayley recommended that the Board approve on first reading new Policy 6:160, *English Language Learners* and revised Policy 6:15, *School Accountability*. These changes simply incorporate state and federal requirements into district policy.

It was moved by Michelle McClain and seconded by John Vander Burgh that the Board approve on first reading Policy 6:160, English Language Learners and revised Policy 6:15, School Accountability as presented. Roll call vote: Creviston, yea; McClain, yea; Rothrock, yea; Vander Burgh, yea; Younger, yea. Yeas, 5; Nay, 0; Absent, 2; Abstention, 0. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by John Vander Burgh and seconded by Michelle McClain that the Board enter closed session at 8:30 P. M. as provided in 5 ILCS 120/2, subsection (c) for the purpose of discussing matters related to employment, performance, and compensation of employees. Roll call vote: Creviston, yea; McClain, yea; Rothrock, yea; Vander Burgh, yea; Younger, yea. Yeas, 5; Nay, 0; Absent, 2; Abstention, 0. Motion carried.

It was moved by Michelle McClain and seconded by John Vander Burgh that the Board of Education return to open session at 10:11 P. M. Voice Vote: All voted aye. Motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT/ASSIGNMENT OF PERSONNEL

Mr. Kearfott recommended the assignment and employment of extracurricular sponsors/coaches for 2007-2008.

It was moved by Michelle McClain and seconded by Kari Younger that the Board approve the assignment of Jennifer Coleman as 6th Grade Cheerleading sponsor for 2007-2008. Roll call vote: Creviston, yea; McClain, yea; Rothrock, yea; Vander Burgh, yea; Younger, yea. Yeas, 5; Nay, 0; Absent, 2; Abstention, 0. Motion carried.

It was moved by John Vander Burgh and seconded by Tim Rothrock that the Board employ Mike Tipsword as 5th/6th Grade Boys Basketball coach for 2007-2008. Roll call vote: Creviston, yea; McClain, yea; Rothrock, yea; Vander Burgh, yea; Younger, yea. Yeas, 5; Nay, 0; Absent, 2; Abstention, 0. Motion carried.

Ms. Bayley recommended employment of non-certified staff - Bobbi Fritz as part-time cook.

It was moved by Sean Creviston and seconded by Kari Younger that the Board employ Bobbi Fritz as part-time cook with assignment to the OVIS breakfast program. Roll call vote: Creviston, yea; McClain, yea; Rothrock, yea; Vander Burgh, yea; Younger, yea. Yeas, 5; Nay, 0; Absent, 2; Abstention, 0. Motion carried.

APPROVE REQUEST FOR LEAVE

Superintendent Bayley recommended that the Board approve the request of Misi Jones for a leave of absence in January and February following the birth of her baby; the leave will be taken in conjunction with available sick and personal leave.

It was moved by John Vander Burgh and seconded by Michelle McClain that the Board approve Misi Jones' request for leave of absence in January/February, 2008 as presented. vote: Creviston, yea; McClain, yea; Rothrock, yea; Vander Burgh, yea; Younger, yea. Yeas, 5; Nay, 0; Absent, 2; Abstention, 0. Motion carried.

SPECIAL MEETING

Superintendent Bayley recommended that the Board schedule a special meeting prior to January 11, 2008 to hold a public hearing and consider an application for waiver of the school code mandate which limits administrative costs. It was the consensus of the board that the meeting be held Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at 6:00 p.m in the OVHS Computer Lab.

OLD BUSINESS/OTHER

Tim Rothrock noted the presence of protruding nails in the OVMS gym floor and questioned whether repairs had been undertaken prior to or during summer floor maintenance following a previous report. He agreed to indicate the location of the nails with tape to facilitate identification/repair of the problem.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Michelle McClain and seconded by Sean Creviston that the Board of Education adjourn at 10:25 P. M. Voice vote: All voted aye. The motion carried.

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education