

MINUTES
CALICO ROCK BOARD OF EDUCATION
November 21, 2019

The regular meeting of the Calico Rock Board of Education was called to order by Rex Whitfield at 5:30 P.M., Thursday, November 21, 2019 in the Superintendent's Office. Board members present: Chris Brandon, Jay Knight, Patty Conyers, and Rex Whitfield. Jerry Skidmore, Superintendent, was also present. Jennifer Brickell arrived at 5:42 P.M.

OPENING PRAYER – Mr. Jerry Skidmore

U.S. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MISSION STATEMENT- Rex Whitfield

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Rex Whitfield moved to adopt the agenda as amended by adding 13e – Hire part-time aide at the high school and 13f – Reassign computer lab tech as school nurse. Motion seconded by Jay Knight. The motion carried.

VISITORS TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Rex Whitfield welcomed all visitors. Visitors present: Jessica Moser, Anita Nordrum, Rich Fischer, Chelsie Moss, Mindy Woods, and Kim Thomas.

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Patty Conyers moved to approve the minutes of the October regular meeting as presented. Chris Brandon seconded the motion. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER BILLS

Rex Whitfield moved to approve the October bills. Patty Conyers seconded the motion. The motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Patty Conyers moved to accept the treasurer's report. Jay Knight seconded the motion. The motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Skidmore mentioned to the board the one thousand dollar raise to teachers was to help close the gap between districts to keep salary schedules closer for all schools. The gap is still the same. A statewide average millage rate was discussed at the Rural Education Conference to close the gap.

Mr. Skidmore informed the board that AETN Network gives administrators access to view teachers accomplishments, and teachers can earn a Master's degree through AETN.

Mr. Skidmore mentioned the director of ASBA stated safety, mental health, is a big issue in schools. Hopefully more funding will allow schools to help counsel students.

Mr. Skidmore mentioned the preschools in Arkansas need more funding. Hopefully this will be discussed in the next legislative session.

Mr. Skidmore mentioned the “Dark Store Theory”. A strategy being used by larger retail stores to lower their property tax.

Mr. Skidmore mentioned medical marijuana may become an issue, if jobs are a safety sensitive position.

Mr. Skidmore informed the board that Stephens Inc. stated that it would not be beneficial to refinance our debt service loan.

Mr. Skidmore presented the ACT scores.

Mr. Skidmore mentioned that Ms. Jessica Moser applied for a grant and the elementary received the grant to replace the refrigerator in the elementary cafeteria. This saved the district approximately \$5,000.

Mr. Skidmore mentioned the National Assessment of Educational Progress, NAEP, test. This test is given to 4th and 8th grade students. In the last decade there has been no improvement and grades decreasing on the test. However, Calico Rock students went up in their scores.

Mr. Skidmore mentioned that Calico Rock received several awards from the Office for Educational Policy (OEP) at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. Awards are based on the 2019 ACT ASPIRE test content growth score calculated by the Arkansas Department of Education. The high school received a letter grade A in the Public School Rating Score. The elementary received a letter grade B in the Public School Rating Score.

OLD BUSINESS

12a. Mr. Skidmore made a recommendation for the board to adopt the certified and classified PPC stipends, as presented last month, as policy. A vote of the classified staff and faculty will determine if they will be implemented the current 2019-2020 school year. Rex Whitfield made a motion to accept Mr. Skidmore’s recommendation. Chris Brandon seconded the motion. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

13a. Mr. Skidmore made a recommendation to give a Christmas bonus of \$500 to all employees. Jay Knight Made a motion to accept Mr. Skidmore’s recommendation. Patty Conyers seconded the motion. The motion carried.

13b. Mr. Skidmore made a recommendation to approve the Proposed Budget for 2021-2022. The budget must be published by January 3, 2020. Patty Conyers made a motion to accept the recommendation. Chris Brandon seconded the motion. The motion carried.

13c. Mr. Skidmore made a recommendation to be appointed as a member of the PPC. Jay Knight made a motion to accept the recommendation. Rex Whitfield seconded the motion. The motion carried.

13d. Mr. Skidmore made a recommendation to accept resignations from Lisa Fountain as of November 25, 2019 and Kay Arnold with regrets. Patty Conyers made a motion to accept Mr. Skidmore’s recommendation. Chris Brandon seconded the motion. The motion passed.

13e. Mr. Skidmore made a recommendation to hire Misty Speirs for a part-time aide position at the high school. Rex Whitfield made a motion to accept Mr. Skidmore’s recommendation. Jennifer Brickell seconded the motion. The motion carried.

13f. Mr. Skidmore made a recommendation to reassign Emily Stanley, LPN, from the computer lab aide position to full time nurse to replace Kay Arnold. Chris Brandon made a motion to accept Mr. Skidmore’s recommendation. Jennifer Brickell seconded the motion. The motion carried.

SET DATE FOR NEXT REGULAR MEETING

The next regular meeting was scheduled for Thursday, December 19, 2019 beginning at 5:30 in the Superintendent’s office.

ADJOURNMENT

Jay Knight made the motion to adjourn at 6:40 P.M. Jennifer Brickell seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Approved: _____ (Date)

President

Secretary