

Hoxie Public School  
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT  
P.O. Box 240  
HOXIE, ARKANSAS 72433

FEBRUARY 2016 BOARD MINUTES

The Hoxie School Board met for its regularly scheduled meeting on February 8, 2016, at 7 o'clock with all five members present. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Romine, seconded by Mr. Kopp, with a unanimous decision.

Superintendent Baker presented the financial report. After discussion and explanations by Mr. Baker, a motion was made by Mr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Romine, and accepted with a unanimous decision.

A motion was made by Mr. Kopp to accept a bid for a 2017 Bluebird ,71-passenger, Type D snub nose bus from Central States Bus Sales for \$108,635, and to authorize Superintendent Baker to get the best possible interest rate to finance it. Motion was seconded by Mr. Romine. Motion carried 5-0. [The motion was made and passed pending Mr. Baker's authorization to check on the price of a conventional bus to see if its price would be as much as \$20,000 less than the type. If the cost is \$20,000 less, the Superintendent will call a special meeting to discuss options. The Board discussed the continuation of purchasing buses to replace older buses that could be obsolete in near future and the pro's and con's of financing them.]

Administration reports:

Elementary: Principal Gates informed the Board of several events that Hoxie School staff and students participated in, including a) Teachers visiting the Health & Wellness Magnet in Jonesboro and a program where students will have the opportunity to learn and interact in Spring planting of 10 beds, b) A Teacher "Souper" Bowl time when teachers were provided with several types of soup and desserts as a Winter Teacher Appreciation treat, c) Several students participated in the Fine Arts Festival at the local NE AR Cooperative, d) Hoxie School hosted the Lawrence County Spelling Bee with 2 of our own students placing in the Top Ten Overall, , Jakob Barnhill receiving 2<sup>nd</sup> place in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and Cade Forrester receiving 3<sup>rd</sup> place in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, e) Three students placed after participating in the Lawrence County Chess Tournament, Jace Benesh with 1<sup>st</sup> Place Overall, Cannon Dail and Cade Forrester received trophies for winning 4 out of 5 games, f) Elementary students Austin Stowers, Hannah Huff, and Cailin Jones wrote stories that were selected to be acted out in The Story Store by WBC students, and g) Hoxie elementary 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls and 6<sup>th</sup> grade boys were named Champions, with elementary 6<sup>th</sup> grade girls named Runners-up in the Lawrence County Basketball Tournament.

High School.

a) A big congratulations to the Hoxie Sr. High Girls Basketball Team who earned the title of Lawrence County Tournament Champions b) Hoxie High is interim testing to prepare students for the new ACT Aspire Testing Program and on February 10<sup>th</sup>, a mock ACT will be administered to help prepare students taking the test for the 1<sup>st</sup> time (on March 1<sup>st</sup>) and will use the data for interventions before the actual testing c) A Financial Aid Planning Meeting for seniors will be held on Feb.10<sup>th</sup> on campus from 5–6:30 pm to inform parents about PELL Grants and FASFA d) In March, there will be a College & Career Planning Party for 11<sup>th</sup> grade students and their parents.

A motion was made by Mr. Romine and seconded by Mr. Dobbs to accept the recommendation of Mr. Baker to renew the following administration contracts: 1) Elementary Principal Tracy Gates 2) High School Principal Kelly Gillham, 3) Elementary Dean of Students Jeffery Blake, 4) Secondary Dean of Students/Athletic & Transportation Director Tom Sears, and 5) Curriculum Director Jennifer Huff, all for the 2016–17 school year. He also recommended renewing the contract of Darrell Parks as Technology Director for the 2016–17 school year. Motion passed 4–0. (Board member Wes Gates excused himself from the room during this agenda item, thus abstaining from voting due to conflict of interest.)

New Business.

--A motion was made by Mr. Romine, seconded by Mr. Gates, and passed unanimously to adopt a new Workout Facility Policy, effective immediately. The revised policy was re-written to allow staff to bring two guests who are 13 years or older into the workout facility. Copies of the revised policy were shared with the Board.

--Superintendent Baker stated there may be a need for a possible school calendar revision in a future board meeting due to days missed for inclement weather.

--Board Member David Dobbs addressed Mr. Baker and attending administration, stating he would like to see the possibility of our school starting a Junior ROTC Program. Superintendent Baker stated he would love the idea but responded he had checked into it in the past and found there usually were never enough funds to sustain the program. Mr. Dobbs also stated he would like to see the possibility of an Agri-based Vocational/Tech school with elective classes based on learning various skills. Mr. Baker mentioned that the Weiner School District had a similar program. All agreed both ideas would certainly be something that could enhance our school district and programs they would like to check into.

--Mr. Kopp mentioned that the school's website needed to be brought up-to-date, specifically with the current year's budget and board minutes, as well as any other state-mandated information.

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--Mr. Gates asked about the completion of wiring repairs needed to restore technology back to the fieldhouse which was due to the downed lines from an incident on campus. Mr Baker said the school had been waiting on funds which had now been received, and so the repairs could proceed soon.

A motion was made by Mr. Kopp, seconded by Mr. Romine, and unanimously passed to dismiss the meeting @ 8:06 pm.



Board President



Board Secretary



Date Approved