

MINUTES OF THE THOMAS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION IN REGULAR SESSION,
TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2013

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Morgan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: David Dawson, Derwood Hickey, Charles Evans, Nancy Hiers, Scott Morgan, Mark NeSmith, and Kay Streets.

2. DEVOTIONAL

Mr. Jamie Thompson, counselor at Thomas County Upper Elementary School, gave the devotional.

3. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Streets made a motion, with a second by Mr. Dawson, to approve the consent agenda (attachment A), which included agenda; minutes of May 2, 2013, May 14, 2013, and May 28, 2013; Bishop Hall board minutes of May 16, 2013; school nutrition and food service bids; out-of-district students, fund raising activities; and upcoming board meeting announcements. The board voted unanimous approval of the motion.

4. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

a. Recognition of outstanding retiring employees - The following retiring employees were recognized at the meeting for their years of service to Thomas County Schools: Ms. Deborah Fiveash, Ms. Betty Sanford and Ms. Alice Scoggins. Other retiring employees not present at the meeting were recognized: Ms. Linda Gillings, Ms. Laurie Gunter, Ms. Diane Kirkland and Ms. Vera Miller.

b. Strategic Planning update - Dr. Kornegay informed the board that two consultants from Georgia School Boards Association had met with staff to work on strategic planning. He stated that Mr. Evans and Mr. Hickey had also participated in the meeting. The group looked in detail at the current system, achievement data and perception data from the community forum and surveys. He said they had established five strategic goals and there would be a formal report for the board to review, discuss and have input on it. Board approval of the report would be requested at another meeting, possibly in October.

c. Report on DOE visit to Bishop Hall regarding charter renewal – Dr. Kornegay stated that he and the director of Bishop Hall had met with an attorney from the Charter School Division of the Georgia Department of Education regarding Bishop Hall's charter renewal, which expires at the end of next school year. He explained that Bishop Hall's original charter was an LEA Start Up that was started by the school district. Dr. Kornegay said they no longer have LEA Start Up Charters so the charter for Bishop Hall is being converted to one that will be chartered by the Bishop Hall board. Under the new charter, Bishop Hall will have a new board with seven members. That board will have the authority to make personnel decisions and to establish the budget, which will be allocated by the school board. The current Bishop Hall board will become an advisory board.

d. First Reading of policy revision IFBE (Internet Acceptable Use for Staff & Students) - Dr. Kornegay stated that an annual review of the internet policy is a requirement of E-Rate. He said this is the first reading and approval would be requested at the July meeting.

e. Facilities update – John Hebron, facilities director, reported on renovation projects at the schools.

f. Financial report – Joey Holland, finance director, explained the financial report (attachment B) for May.

g. Cell phone tower lease renewal update – Dr. Kornegay informed the board that the lease for the cell phone tower at the middle school would be up for renewal in 2014. Mr. Holland presented three offers

(attachment C) that had been received to purchase the lease. There was no action taken on the cell phone tower.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Final approval of FY2014 budget – Dr. Kornegay informed the board that the only increase in the FY2014 budget since tentative approval in May was a \$5,000 increase in fleet insurance by State Farm and recommended final approval. Mr. NeSmith moved, with a second by Ms. Streets, to approve the FY2014 budget (attachment D). The board voted unanimous approval of the motion.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Approval of amended SPLOST III allocations – Mr. NeSmith moved to approve the amended SPLOST III allocations (attachment E). Ms. Hiers seconded the motion, with unanimous approval by the board.

b. Approval of resolution to request GaDOE assistance in developing a new facilities plan - Ms. Hiers moved, with a second by Mr. Evans, to approve the resolution (attachment F) to request GaDOE assistance in developing a new facilities plan. The board voted unanimous approval of the motion.

c. Consideration of bid for renovations to gym on TCBOE campus - Dr. Kornegay recommended that the bid (attachment G) from PDC Construction, Inc. be accepted at a cost of \$1,647,230 to renovate the gym at the board office. Mr. Evans moved, with a second by Mr. Hickey, to approve the superintendent's recommendation. The board voted unanimous approval.

d. Approval of board governance annual training report – Ms. Streets moved to approve the 2012-2013 annual board governance training report (attachment H). Mr. Hickey seconded the motion, with unanimous approval by the board.

e. Declaration of surplus buses – Mr. Hickey moved, with a second by Mr. Dawson, to declare four buses surplus (attachment I). The board voted unanimous approval of the motion.

f. Approval of personnel report - Mr. Evans moved to approve the personnel report (attachment J). Mr. Hickey seconded the motion, with unanimous approval by the board.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION: STUDENT DISCIPLINE

Ms. Hiers moved, with a second by Mr. NeSmith, for the board to go into executive session (attachment K) for student discipline. The board voted unanimous approval of the motion.

Mr. Evans moved, with a second by Mr. Hickey, to end the executive session. The board voted unanimous approval of the motion.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Evans moved with a second by Mr. NeSmith, to adjourn. The board voted unanimous approval of the motion.

Chairman

Secretary