

Regular School Board Meeting  
July 27, 2015  
5:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Dr. Deanie Mehl, president, called the meeting to order. Other Board members present were Dr. David Hunton, Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr., Esq., Dr. Deanie Mehl, Ms. Susan McFerran and Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin and Mr. Russell Owen. Dr. Benny Gooden, Superintendent, Dr. Gordon Floyd, Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Barry Owen, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services, Dr. Annette Henderson, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Support Services, Mr. Charles Warren, Director of Financial Services, Mr. Darian Layes, Director of Student Services, Ms. Zena Featherston Marshall, Director of Communication and Community Partnerships and Ms. Nadine Brooks, Secretary to the Superintendent, were also present.

The pledge of allegiance was recited and Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin gave the invocation.

The consent agenda included the June School Board minutes, and June Financial Report. Ms. Jeannie Cole made a motion, seconded by Ms. Yvonne Keaton Martin, to approve the consent agenda as presented. The vote for approval was 7/0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT:

Dr. Benny Gooden yielded to Dr. Gordon Floyd to review the professional staff recommendations.

**Resignations**

Mavity, Elaine  
Young, Kendra

**Retirements**

Norwood, Michael  
Testa, Marla

Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr., Esq. made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jeannie Cole, to approve the resignations and retirements. The vote for approval was 7/0.

**Recommendations for Employment**

Ashley, Nathan  
Bailes, Shayla  
Been, Laura  
Bishop, Susan  
Coats, April  
Condry, Melissa  
Daniel, Payton  
Faulkner, Brittany  
Howard, Amanda  
Howard, William  
Hudlow, Patience  
Ketchum, Paul

Kursh, Marian  
Lager, Stephanie  
Majors, Brittany  
Meador, Madilyn  
Mills, Karen  
Mixon, Laura  
Parnell, Tiffany  
Polinskey, Alisha  
Relland, Michael  
Wallace, Loretta

**DRAFT**

Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr., Esq. made a motion, seconded by Mr. Russell Owen, to approve the recommendations for employment. The vote for approval was 7/0.

**Leaves of Absence**

Beshears, Jennie  
Stanfill, Kimberly

Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Ms. Susan McFerran, to approve the leaves of absence. The vote for approval was 7/0.

**Election Resolution**

Dr. Benny Gooden presented the election resolution and notice of annual school election and polling sites scheduled for September 15, 2015.

Ms. Yvonne Keaton-Martin made a motion, seconded by Ms. Susan McFerran, to adopt the election resolution authorizing publication of the annual school election and polling sites for the September 15 election as required by law. The vote for approval was 7/0.

PROPERTIES  
COMMITTEE:

**Community Use of School Facilities Policy – Second Reading**

Ms. Jeannie Cole made a committee recommendation to approve changes to Policy KF - Community Use of School Facilities and Policy KFD - Guidelines Governing the Use of School Facilities for second and final reading. She summarized that these policies clarify the potential participation of students in activities of outside organizations using school facilities. The District assumes a viewpoint neutral position that while students may participate in partisan activities, they may not be required to participate as members of school organizations. Dr. Deanie Mehl objected to the policy advocating for more specific guidelines. The motion carried 5/2.

COMMITTEE OF THE  
WHOLE REPORT:

Dr. Deanie Mehl asked for a motion and vote from Board members to suspend Policy BEDH Public Participation at Board Meetings as the last agenda item and move it to give citizens an opportunity to speak about the Southside fight song and mascot, adopting new parameters for citizen participation for this meeting. Dr. Mehl proposed that the total time allotted be expanded from 15 minutes to two (2) hours, that each speaker be allotted a maximum of three (3) minutes; and that time be controlled to ensure fairness to all speakers. Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr., Esq. made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jeannie Cole, to suspend Policy BEDH as last agenda item and to adopt the new parameters for citizen participation as outlined. The motion was approved 7/0.

Ms. Susan McFerran made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr., Esq., that the District discontinue the use of Dixie as the Southside High School fight song immediately, and phase out the Rebel as the mascot over the next year completing the process before the 2016-2017 school year begins.

Dr. Deanie Mehl advised Mr. Joey McCutchen that since he had formally asked to speak, he could start the discussion. A total of thirty-nine speakers addressed the Board voicing support and opposition to the change. (A list of speakers is attached.) When all had been given an opportunity to speak, Dr. Deanie Mehl asked for a vote from the motion made by Ms. McFerran and seconded by Mr. Wyman R. Wade, Jr., Esq. The motion passed 7/0.

Dr. Deanie Mehl thanked all who attended for being respectful of each other and noted that she hoped the community will emerge unified. Ms. Jeannie Cole added that she appreciated the number of people who attended to show support.

BOARD MEMBERS  
FORUM:

No comments were made at Board Members Forum.

CITIZEN  
PARTICIPATION:

See Committee of the Whole Report.

ADJOURN:

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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Deanie Mehl, President

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Wyman R. Wade, Jr., Esq., Secretary

## SHS Citizen Participation Speakers, BOE MEETING, July 27, 2015

|  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Joey McCutchen                         | Sunny Rector                    |
| Kelcey Thompson                        | Leah Lane                       |
| Barbara Karber                         | Man who sang (didn't give name) |
| Michael Vann Sr.                       | Wade Gilkey,                    |
| Danielle Percilu (sp) Witt             | (First name?) Richardson        |
| Jessica Collins Zimble                 | Susan Scott                     |
| Robby Wilson                           |                                 |
| Marie Boyd                             |                                 |
| Christian Parker                       |                                 |
| Jackie Clayton                         |                                 |
| Louise Owens Finney                    |                                 |
| John Hucart                            |                                 |
| Richard Collett                        |                                 |
| Luke Pruitt                            |                                 |
| Ron Harrison                           |                                 |
| Melissa Woodhall                       |                                 |
| Johnny Cole                            |                                 |
| Patrick Lynch                          |                                 |
| Charles Fowler representing Zoe Morgan |                                 |
| Janetta Jones                          |                                 |
| Dalton Person                          |                                 |
| Misty Davis                            |                                 |
| Candy (didn't give last name)          |                                 |
| FS Police Officer (didn't get name)    |                                 |
| Eddie Walker                           |                                 |
| Meredith Bauer                         |                                 |
| William Buckley                        |                                 |
| Felix Curry                            |                                 |
| Corey Banardo                          |                                 |
| Chris Cloud                            |                                 |
| SHS Parent (didn't give name)          |                                 |
| Michael Hartley                        |                                 |
| Kobal Goodman                          |                                 |