

May 15, 2017

The Jasper City Board of Education met on May 15, 2017 at 7:30 a.m. in the boardroom at the Central Office. Members present were Willie Moore, Teresa Sherer, Walker Wilson, Scott Thornley, and Mary Beth Barber.

Chairperson Willie Moore called the meeting to order with the first item to be approved being the agenda. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Scott Thornley with a second by Teresa Sherer. The motion carried.

Superintendent Dr. Ann Jackson requested adoption of a motion to approve the request for the following overnight field trips/sporting events:

- Jasper/Walker High School JROTC Cadet training from May 29th to June 2nd, 2017 at Ft. McClellan AL.
- Jasper/Walker High School softball team to travel to Montgomery AL on Tuesday, May 16th and return on May 17th (with a possibility of returning May 18th depending on tournament results), to participate in the AHSAA State Softball Tournament.

A motion to approve the overnight trip requests was made by Teresa Sherer with a second by Mary Beth Barber. The motion was unanimously approved.

Chief School Finance Officer Monique Rector informed the Board on updates with the State Department regarding the reconfiguring of the Jasper City Schools. Mrs. Rector spoke with Ethan Taylor, Foundation Program Analyst with the Policy and Budget division of the ALSDE, and he informed her that the funding provided for such a move to combine the 7th and 8th grades with the 9th thru 12th grades at the new high school was based on enrollment, and number of faculty. To qualify for additional state funding, the 7th and 8th grades would need to have their own name and be a separate entity from the high school, although all grades would be combined in the same building.

A request was made to make an amendment to the agenda to include the approval to allow a vote to designate the 7th and 8th grades as Jasper Junior High School for accounting purposes. This designation and the cost benefits will be evaluated in the 2017-2018 school year to determine whether this should be a permanent designation/identification. A recommendation will be made at the end of the 2017-2018 school year. A motion to approve the amendment to the agenda was made by Scott Thornley and a second by Mary Beth Barber. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made to approve the designation of the 7th and 8th grades to be known as Jasper Junior High School, and to be a separate entity, although those grades would be located at the existing Jasper High School. Scott Thornley made a motion to approve this designation and a second was made by Mary Beth Barber. The motion carried.

Mrs. Rita Pilling, Director of Accountability Services, and Mr. Terry Smith, Interim Principal, presented the Board with scheduling options from the 4-block schedule to a 6 or 7-period schedule for the 7th and 8th grade students. This option would identify a reduction in force for 7th and 8th grades and would have a cost savings close to ¼ million dollars.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.