

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
ANNISTON CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Thursday, January 16, 2020
5:00 p.m.**

The Anniston City Board of Education met in Regular Session on Thursday 16, January 2020, in the Board Room of the Central Office, 4804 McClellan Boulevard. The members present included the following: Mr. Robert Houston, Dr. Mary Harrington, Mrs. Rebecca Brown, Mrs. Trudy Munford, and Mrs. Joan Frazier. President Houston called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Superintendent Dr. Hill led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Phillip Posey, Principal of Golden Springs Elementary School, led the group in prayer.

Superintendent Dr. Hill recognized and welcomed all guests.

Approval of Agenda

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended approval of the agenda as amended.

A motion was made by Mrs. Frazier and seconded by Mrs. Brown to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.

The motion was approved 5-0.

Special Presentations

The month of January was recognized as Board Member Appreciation month. Each principal from the different schools presented each board member with a gift of appreciation for their service.

Approval of Minutes

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended the approval of the corrected minutes for the Regular Session, January 16, 2020. A motion was made by Mrs. Frazier and seconded by Dr. Harrington to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.

The motion was approved 5-0.

Action Items

A. Personnel Recommendations Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended the approval of the personnel recommendations: Items 1 -3 E. A motion was made by Mrs. Brown and seconded by Dr. Harrington to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.

The motion was approved 4-1. Mr. Houston abstained

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended the approval of the personnel recommendation item #4. A motion was made by Mrs. Brown and second by Dr. Harrington to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.

The motion was approved 5-0.

B. Field Trip (s)

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended the approval of the field trip. A motion was made by Mrs. Brown and seconded by Mrs. Munford to approve the Superintendent's recommendation. The motion was approved 5-0.

The motion was approved 5-0.

Superintendent's Update

Dr. Hill:

- Superintendent Dr. Hill stated that he did not have many updates. Dr. Hill introduced the director of Curriculum, Mr. Anthony Bonds. He also stated that Mr. Bonds hit the ground running and thanked Mr. Bonds for joining the Anniston City Schools family.
- Dr. Hill stated he has assigned an individual to the Strategic Planning and he also stated that we are ready to start something in a couple weeks by visiting and speaking with the principals first; then the staff about the direction that the system wants to go and also talking about making changes.
- Dr. Hill stated that the strategic plan should be an actual document reflecting change and progress.
- Dr. Hill stated that the Acellous Program is in full swing. Mrs. Hurst was brought in because the team need technology assistance. He also stated that the students were very excited about the program.
- Dr. Hill stated that the principals will receive a training session in June on Acellous Robotics to ensure that they are fully abreast on how the program operates.
- Dr. Hill stated that the meeting he held with teachers was well attended. He also stated that some were happy and unhappy. He also stated that the air was cleared about some things and everyone is headed in a new direction.
- Dr. Hill stated that the policies and procedures for the system should be pretty much cleaned up. He also stated that the system is headed in the right direction. He also thanked the Board Members for their support and making sure that the students and teachers are getting what they need here at Anniston City Schools.

The Board Speaks

- Dr. Harrington thanked the teachers and administrators for the support that is given to her and other board members and also for the task they are doing for the students and the missed times to attend the board meeting.

- She also wished everyone a Happy New Year.
- Mrs. Frazier wished a Happy New Year to everyone.
- Mrs. Frazier stated good luck to the Boy's and Girls' basketball teams as they entered the Calhoun County Tournament. She also stated that she heard through the grapevine that a couple of students at Anniston High School are striving for a 30 on the ACT She also stated that the board wished everyone good luck and that they have the board's steadfast support.
- Mrs. Brown welcomed Mr. Anthony Bonds to the Anniston City Schools family. She also stated that it was great to start a New Year with new opportunities and to make changes and hold to the changes that work best.
- Mrs. Brown stated that she looked forward to the New Year and was very excited about the Acellous Robotics program. She also thanked Mrs. McCants for her hard work with this program.
- Mrs. Munford wished a Happy New Year to everyone and welcomed everyone back to the district. She also stated that she would do whatever she can do to help the superintendent, the staff; especially the teachers. She is willing to help
- Mrs. Munford stated that the district needs your help. She also asked the question, "How can you help?" Mrs. Munford stated that she will continue to echo that the "district needs your help; we are in a war and the way we win is to work together.
- Mrs. Munford asked how many read the Anniston Star, and stated that Senator Dell Marsh met at the Chamber and some of the things that he is bringing into the state of Alabama and that he will be replacing textbooks and leasing I pads with some similar technology in the Alabama school system. She also stated that this does not replace a teacher.
- Mrs. Munford stated that she hopes Senator Dell Marsh would come to Anniston City Schools and talk with principals, students, and the Superintendent and ask us what we are doing. Mrs. Munford also stated

that we are making remarkable progress in the Anniston City School system and to make no mistake about it.

- Mrs. Munford asked that everyone work with the Board in 2020 as a team to get things done. She stated that if we don't, we would not know what would happen. She also stated that she wanted everyone to be critical, transparent and open and work together to get things done
- Mr. Houston wished everyone a Happy New Year. He also stated that the adults are drivers; the administrators, teachers and principals are the drivers the student cannot do it without us.
- Mr. Houston stated that he has been using the word consistently for the last three or four board meetings. The word is "2020 the year of manifestation. Where we are making the invisible visible, bring into evidence."
- Mr. Houston stated that there are good things in our school system that we must talk about, market and tell our story. He also stated in every organization there are bad things going on that must be made visible and must eliminated and replaced.
- Mr. Houston stated that we will be hitting some real tough times. He also stated that the word war keeps being said and we are in a war. He also stated to please understand what is at stake is our school system and the livelihood of our children.
- Mr. Houston stated in the process of manifestation, we are making the invisible visible. He also stated that people are upset and hostile because things are visible and we are being asked to do something different. Mr. Houston stated that every day in your life, you are going to something different.
- Mr. Houston stated if the board doesn't get this right and there are people trying to get board members out of their positions and the superintendent out of his position. He also stated if the board and superintendent leaves, most likely the school system will leave. Mr. Houston stated you have to

know how to fight your battle. This battle is bigger than what we think. He also stated that undermined progress will come back to haunt us.

- Mr. Houston stated at the end of the day we will be where we are supposed be and doing what we are supposed be doing. He also stated know how to fight your battle.

Executive Session:

Superintendent Dr. Hill recommended that the board convene into executive session to discuss the good name and character of the individual. Action would be taken. A motion made by Mrs. Brown to approve the superintendent's recommendation and seconded by Ms. Munford. A roll call vote was rendered.

Mrs. Brown-Yes

Mrs. Munford –Yes

Mr. Houston –Yes

Mrs. Frazier – Yes

Dr. Harrington –Yes

The motion was approved 5-0.

The board convened into executive session at 5:31 p.m.

Dr. Hill recommended that the board reconvene into regular session at 5:41 p.m. A motion was made by Dr. Harrington to approve the superintendent's recommendation and seconded by Mrs. Frazier.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, on a motion made by Mrs. Brown and seconded by Mrs. Munford, the Board adjourned. The vote was unanimous to adjourn at 5:43 p.m. The motion was approved 5/0

Approved: February 25, 2020