

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER ONE
OF TULSA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 6, 2023

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District Number One of Tulsa County, Oklahoma, was held on March 6, 2023, commencing at 6:31 p.m., in the Cheryl Selman room, ground floor, at the Charles C. Mason Education, 3027 S. New Haven Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma. Notice of the meeting was given by service of written notice of the meeting to the office of the County Clerk of Tulsa County, Oklahoma, as required by Title 25, O.S., § 311(A)(5) and (A)(8), and by posting the agenda and recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools in prominent public view in the enclosed glass display case at the main door of the Charles C. Mason Education Service Center and at tulsaschools.org on March 3, 2023, at 4:45 p.m., pursuant to the provisions of Title 25, O.S., § 311(A)(9).

PRESENT: E'Lena Ashley
John Croisant
Jerry Griffin
Susan Lamkin
Jennettie Marshall
Stacey Woolley

ABSENT: None

OPENING EXERCISES

Ms. Stacey Woolley, president of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order, roll called, and declared that a quorum of the board was present; therefore, the meeting was qualified to consider the agenda items. The Central High School JROTC led the flag salute and performed the posting of colors.

SUPERINTENDENT'S CORRECTION TO AGENDA

Superintendent Gist corrected the non-routine agenda items M.1 through M.6 to be changed to L.1, L.2, L.3, L.4, L.5, and L.6.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/AWARDS/RESOLUTIONS

District News Round-Up was presented by Emma Garret-Nelson, executive director of communications and strategy.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

There were no minutes submitted for board approval.

CONSENT AGENDA

A **motion** was made by Mr. John Croisant to approve the consent agenda, and the motion was **seconded** by Ms. Susan Lamkin. Superintendent Gist and district staff responded to questions from members of the board. President Woolley called for the vote, and the consent agenda **passed** by the following vote:

AYE: Jerry Griffin, E'Lena Ashley (with the exception of E.3), John Croisant, Susan Lamkin, Jennettie Marshall, and Stacey Woolley; NAY: E'Lena Ashley – E.3; ABSTAIN: None, ABSENT: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ACTION AGENDA

Speaker #1 of Tulsa District 2 – G.1

Speaker #2 of Tulsa District 2 – G.1

ACTION AGENDA

G.1 Recommendation: Motion, discussion and vote on any motion relating to the appointment of any applicant for the board of education to fill the board election district two vacancy until the next succeeding election in 2024, and/or the process related thereto.

Board President Woolley and Board Member Marshall recapped the process discussed by the board with regard to the nomination of a board member for District 2. Specifically, mentioning that the board would reopen the District 2 application process effective immediately following the board meeting and remain open until 12:00pm on March 8, 2023. Interviews for new applicants would be held on the evening of Thursday, March 9, 2023, with the option to nominate and vote on a District 2 candidate at the regular meeting of the board on March 20, 2023, in order to give the applicants and the public an opportunity to speak prior to the vote.

Dr. Jerry Griffin made a **motion** to table item G.1 and delay the vote until March 20, 2023. He also stated that the District 2 application process would be opened, effective March 6, 2023 until 12:00pm on March 8, 2023. The additional applicants would be interviewed on March 9, and the following candidates would be moved forward for consideration without additional need to interview:

1. Weslie Alexander
2. Paul Hall
3. Diamond Marshall
4. Kevin Pearson
5. Jasmine Stewart
6. KanDee Washington

The motion was **seconded** by Board Member Susan Lamkin. Board President Woolley recommended establishing an agreed upon process for nomination and vote for the board seat of District 2. The board discussed the option for each board member to vote on all candidates to include those moved forward in addition to new applicants. Each candidate's name would be called and each board member would place their vote on that candidate and this process would repeat until all candidates received a vote from each board member. The board members would have the option to vote aye on multiple candidates. The candidate with the greatest number of aye votes and a majority of the vote would win the nomination.

After discussion, Dr. Jerry Griffin **amended his motion** to the following:

Motion to delay the vote regarding a nomination of a candidate for Board District 2 until March 20, 2023. The District 2 board seat application window would be opened, effective March 6, 2023 until 12:00pm on March 8, 2023. The new applicants would be screened to ensure they live within the boundaries of District 2 and interviewed on March 9, 2023 at a time to be announced. The following candidates would move forward for consideration without additional interview and application: Weslie Alexander, Paul Hall, Diamond Marshall, Kevin Pearson, Jasmine Stewart, and KanDee Washington. During the vote on March 20, the board would consider all candidates (those candidates moved forward as listed and any new candidates) and each board member may vote aye or nay on more than one candidate. Mr. John Croisant **seconded** motion and it **passed** by the following vote:

Board President Woolley called for the vote: AYE: Jennettie Marshall, Susan Lamkin, John Croisant, E'Lena Ashley, Jerry Griffin, and Stacey Woolley; NAY: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.

Board Member Marshall asked about the process if there is information surfaced regarding an applicant's records that may bring their eligibility into question. Board President Woolley stated that the agenda will include an executive session to give the board the option for discussion in executive session in the event it is needed.

Dr. Griffin read the following statement, "Democracy is a form of government in which the people can choose their leaders and make decisions about their lives. It is based upon the principle of one person, one vote, and it is characterized by a commitment to the rule of law, individual rights, and civil liberties. In a democracy citizens can participate in the decision-making process through voting and their voices are heard and respected. There is a long history

in our country from the **Federalist Papers in 1787 when Federalist No.52 Madison** wrote that the right to vote should be extended to all citizens regardless of their wealth or social status; to Bloody Sunday in Selma, AL on March 7, 1965, where Martin Luther King, John Lewis, and others marched to protest the denial of voting rights to African Americans. Now this board is tasked with assuming the tremendous responsibility of substituting our judgement for thousands of voters. In doing so, we have proceeded at a pace that allows for reasoned judgement and because of that slow pace we have tripled the candidate list. We have perhaps saved the district millions of dollars that a hasty decision might have caused, and we have discovered the need to develop a written policy to guide this process for future boards. Therefore, on March 20, 2023 as a board we will consider the needs of the district or the rights of the individual voters in making a possible selection. God Bless America, the citizens of the school district, and every member of this board."

STAFF REPORT

Chief Jorge Robles presented an overview of the proposed 2023-2024 school calendar.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Dr. Jennettie Marshall shared she was privileged to attend the Black History Celebration at TRAICE Academy, a shoebox lunch and free hair cut event at the Parent Resource Center, as well as the funeral service for Ms. Ernestine Dillard.

Ms. Susan Lamkin reported on the Charger Pride Scholarship Foundation that was formed by the Class of 1973 at Memorial High School. She announced they have a goal of increasing their financial support to Memorial students to \$50,000 this year. The public can support their efforts at a fundraising game night event on Monday March 13 at the Shuffles Café.

John Croisant highlighted the three Tulsa Public Schools Academic All-state students, and two students for making it to the National Speech and Debate Association competition in Phoenix, AZ representing Tulsa Public Schools and Oklahoma.

Ms. Stacey Woolley shared that there is an estimate of 352 education bills presented at the legislative session, and she called upon all the Tulsa community to be aware of those bills, and to make sure their voices are heard by legislators. She went on to share that Oklahomans have the opportunity to hear their voices heard beyond casting their vote on election day by reaching out and sharing their views with their legislators.

Ms. E'Lena Ashley also shared that the public has an opportunity to vote on March 8, 2023, to protect students in the vote on SQ 820.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Speaker #1 of District 2 – Board votes

Speaker #2 of District 5 – Celebrating Women's History Month

Speaker #3 of Tulsa – School vouchers

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Gist highlights National School Social Work Week, International Women's Day and Women History Month.

OTHER NONROUTINE ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

L.1 **Motion, discussion and vote** on motion to go into executive session to conduct confidential communications between the Board of Education and its attorneys concerning pending claims in connection with ongoing mass tort litigation against certain social media companies, the board having been advised by its attorneys that disclosure will seriously impair the ability of the board to process the claim or conduct the litigation in the public interest pursuant to Title 25, Section 307 (B)(4) of the Oklahoma Statutes.

L.2 Executive Session

Mr. John Croisant made a motion to go into executive session, and Dr. Jerry Griffin **seconded** the motion. The motion **passed** with the following vote: AYE: Jennettie Marshall, Susan Lamkin, John Croisant, E'Lena Ashley, Jerry Griffin, and Stacey Woolley; NAY: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.

The board went into executive session at 8:20pm.

L.3 Motion and vote on motion to acknowledge return to open session from executive session. The board returned to open session at 8:37pm.

Board Member Croisant made the motion to return to open session, and Dr. Griffin **seconded** the motion. The motion **passed** by the following vote: AYE: Jerry Griffin, E'Lena Ashley, John Croisant, Susa Lamkin, Jennettie Marshall, and Stacey Woolley; NAY: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.

L.4. Board President Woolley shared the minutes of the executive session stating: "The board and its attorneys discussed pending claims in connection with ongoing mass tort litigation against certain social media companies, the board having been advised by its attorneys that disclosure will seriously impair the ability of the board to process the claim or conduct the litigation in the public interest, pursuant to Title 25, Section 307(B)(4) of the Oklahoma Statutes."

L.5 RECOMMENDATION: Motion, discussion, and vote to engage the legal services of Frantz Law Group, PLC, and enter into a contingency fee agreement with the firm, for the purposes of joining in the mass action litigation against certain social media companies.

Mr. Croisant made a motion to approve agenda item L.5, and Dr. Griffin seconded the motion that passed by the following vote:

AYE: Jennettie Marshall, Susan Lamkin, John Croisant, E'Lena Ashley, Jerry Griffin, and Stacey Woolley; NAY: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

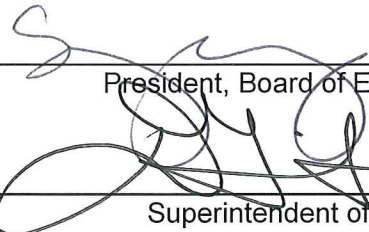
President Woolley announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education would be held on Monday, March 20, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. Board President Woolley also announced for the public to watch for a posting of notice of meeting on March 9, 2023.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

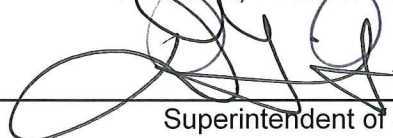
Let the record show the meeting was digitally recorded. The recording is on file as a matter of record.



Attorney for the School District



President, Board of Education



Superintendent of Schools



Clerk, Board of Education