

VAN BUREN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 42, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting

Date: December 10, 2024

Place: District Office

Jacob Howell called the regular meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Director Howell welcomed all that were in attendance.

**Regular Meeting
Called to Order**

The following members were present:

Roll Call

Jacob Howell, President
Christy Mayo, Vice President
Carman Young, Secretary
Kevin Bell
Theresa Bell
Lance Lanier

Members Present

The following administrators were present:

**Administrators
Present**

Dr. Harold Jeffcoat, Superintendent
Brian Summerhill, Deputy Superintendent
Karen Allen, Assistant Superintendent

Mrs. Sonia Guerrero reported that district 5th graders visited the Fort Smith Symphony EarQuake. Attending the meeting as guests of Mrs. Guerrero were King Elementary Asst. Principal Crystal Reeves and students who shared their experiences. They said they have been inspired to choose fine arts and music as part of their education as they move on to middle school.

**Reports and
Recognitions**

Mr. Myron Heckman presented attendance data with the Board from the 2023-24 school year. He compared this data with current available data up to the end of November of this school year. This data shows that the work Mr. Jamie Hammond is doing as the District Attendance and Engagement Coordinator is increasing the percentage of students attending school this year in secondary schools.

Director K Bell made a motion with a second by Director T Bell to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried 6-0.

**Approve Consent
Agenda**

- D.1.1.** The minutes of the November 12, 2024, Regular Meeting, of the Board of Directors
- D.1.2.** Student Transfer Report
- D.1.3.** Student Discipline

Director Young made a motion with a second by Director Lanier to approve the meeting agenda. The motion carried 6-0.

**Approve Meeting
Agenda**

District Operations –

Director K Bell and Director Lanier recused themselves from discussion and voting on Agenda Items E.1., E.2., and E.3. due to a conflict of interest. A quorum still exists after the recusal.

- E.1.** Director Young made a motion with a second by Director Mayo to approve the contract disclosures as presented. The motion carried 4-0.
- E.2.** Director Mayo made a motion with a second by Director Young to approve the resolutions as presented. The motion carried 4-0.
- E.3.** Director T Bell made a motion with a second by Director Young to approve the property purchase as presented. The motion carried 4-0.

Director K Bell and Director Lanier returned to the room and resumed discussion and voting.

- E.4.** Director Lanier made a motion with a second by Director Mayo to approve the financial statement for the month of November, 2024. The motion carried 6-0.
- E.5.** Director K Bell made a motion with a second by Director Young to approve the student transfer as presented. The motion carried 6-0.

- 1. ASBA Annual Conference – Dec. 11-13 in Little Rock
- 2. Enrollment – 5567 This number is down from last year by about 150 likely due to the Tyson closure.
- 3. January 13, 2025 – Legislative Session begins. Bill filing period has already opened. More updates to come.

**Superintendent
Report**

Human Resources –

- H.1.** The Board did not go into closed session.
- H.2.** Director Mayo made a motion with a second by Director Lanier to approve the personnel report as submitted. The motion carried 6-0.

Director Freeman submitted his resignation from the Board effective November 30, 2024.

H.3. The Board went into closed session at 6:01 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the appointment of a new board member.
The Board returned to open session at 6:14 p.m.

Director K Bell made a motion with a second by Director Lanier to appoint Kyle Putman to fill the vacant At-Large Board of Education Director's seat. The motion carried 6-0.

Adjournment -

Director Young made a motion with a second by Director T Bell to adjourn at 6:20 p.m. The motion carried 6-0.

Approved by:

Jacob Howell, President of the Board

Dr. Harold Jeffcoat, Ex-Officio Secretary

Reported by Shari L. Ross, Administrative Assistant to Superintendent/School Board