

MAGNOLIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MAGNOLIA BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Magnolia School District Number 14 was held in the board room of the Administration Building September 14, 2015. Board members present were Mr. Mike Waters, president; Mr. Steven Souter, secretary; Mr. William Watson, vice-president and Mr. Robert McDonald. Dr. Paul Babbitt was absent. Mr. John D. Ward, superintendent, was present. The President of the Board called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. The following business was transacted:

- The Board approved the August 10, 2015, Board Minutes.
- Carol Longino, Business Manager, reviewed the August 2015 Financial Report.
- The Board approved the proposed 2015-16 Budget including Special Education, as presented by Carol Longino, Business Manager. The Budget is required to be submitted to the Arkansas Department of Education by September 15, 2015.
- The Board approved the appointment of Carol Longino as District Treasurer
- The Board approved the purchase of 175 Lenovo Laptops with New batteries and 7 mobile/lab carts from K12 Solutions. These laptops will be purchased with funds from Title I, 1003A carryover from last year.
- Roger Loper, Magnolia High School Principal, reported a great start to the year with a bunch of “happy students”. A community pep rally was held on the square, a Sadie Hawkins dance was held after the first home football game. There are about 450 students involved in various activities which gives the students an ownership in the school. A club fair was held during the noon hour to give all students, especially sophomore students, an opportunity to join the many organizations on campus. The spirit committee has started working on planning numerous activities for the year. Magnolia High School reported an enrollment of 667 students. New personnel at the high school: Evelyn Caldwell, reading; Marissa Castillo, Spanish; Sam Cowling, social studies; Megan Jackson, business; Vicki Jean, special education; Pam Kessell, oral communication/drama; John Lee, mathematics; Kaci Meyer, science; Angela Peeks, science; Jodi Waters, mathematics. Several curriculum changes this year. The state requires we offer math ready and literacy ready. Literacy ready is for students who have not made a 19 on the ACT. Students will not be given an English credit for literacy ready but they will earn a credit toward graduation. Math ready is for students who have not made a 19 on the ACT. Students will receive math credit for math ready. The state is also requiring we offer a computer coding class. Next year world history will be offered as a sophomore class, so this year it is being offered to all students except the ones that were in AP World History last year. The AAIMS Awards Assembly will be held September 24, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Panther Arena. The students will receive a total of \$12,300. There were 123 passing scores on AP exams. Several students received national recognition. Eighteen students earned AP Scholar award, five AP Scholar students with Honor and six AP Scholar with Distinction. There are 178 students receiving concurrent credit with SAU and 394 with SAU Technical College. The high school continues test prep, The Learning Institute, Writing Across Curriculum, Developmental Composition Exam and sponge activities based on TLI recommendations. There were 44 students that completed the CPEP program this summer. There were 55 students enrolled in summer school. There are 55 students in the Gold and Platinum Club. The senior class accepted over \$3,300,000 in college scholarships. Fifty percent of students received scholarships this year. Laurie Hicks, regional teacher of the year, has been named a Teacher of the Year finalist.
- Angie Waters, Central Elementary Principal, reported that as of today the enrollment is 638. There are 195 fourth graders, 222 fifth graders and 221 sixth grade students. There

are 44 new students at Central. New personnel: Karnesia George, counselor; Jessica Blackburn, fifth grade, Courtney McHenry, fifth grade; Kayla Daniels, sixth grade. There are 139 sixth graders participating in band. All fourth and fifth grade rooms have iPod carts and teachers have MacBooks. Laptops are in all sixth grade classrooms except one. Fourth and fifth grade literacy classrooms have laptops. Next we hope to get laptops for fourth and fifth grade math classrooms as well. Three enrichment camps were offered after school last year. Two robotics camps were held for fifth grade, one in the spring and one in the fall. Each camp was three weeks long and taught by Joni Bonds and Amanda Cornwell. Forty-eight students participated in robotics. A technology camp was held for fourth graders. This camp was for two weeks. The students worked on coding on laptops. Angela Bynum and Denelle Metcalf taught the technology camp and forty students participated. Central Elementary likes to include community leaders. A community leader is invited each month to speak to the student of the month group and eat lunch with the students if they would like. Sixth graders will be participating in the science fair this year.

- Jill Rader, East Side Principal, reported on the status of East Side Elementary. Current enrollment is 954. Currently enrolled are 276 first graders, 246 second graders, 215 third graders and 218 in kindergarten. Seventy-five new students have enrolled in K-3 since June. There are 11 classrooms in kindergarten. There is one special education classroom at kindergarten. There are 12 regular classrooms in first grade. Second grade has 11 classrooms and in third grade there are ten regular classrooms. New employees: Jessica Arnold, Stacy Buchanan, Carlesha Larry and Dara Cowling in kindergarten; Abby Clark and Stephanie Houser in first grade; Jessica Selph and Lauren Pinner in second grade; Emily Barker and Jenny Venable in third grade. A part time nurse was hired, Danielle Owens for KC. Moving to different positions were: Stacey Davis from second grade to ELLA Lab, Linda Levingston moved from third grade intervention teacher to KC intervention and enrichment for 1st grade and KC. Wendy Satterfield is second and third grade literacy coach. Ten laptop carts were purchased for our third grade in preparation for PARCC testing and they are all being used. Twelve iPad mini carts were bought for 1st grade and four bought for KC. Six 70 inch televisions were bought for third grade to replace smart boards that have stopped working. At the WatchDog Dad night many signed up. This program started on September 2. At parent night there were 505 parents in attendance. PIE program fed the kindergarten center the first week of school. PIE also raised and donated money for new playground equipment. The money was used to purchase 14 new swings. Traffic is flowing very smoothly. There are approximately 450 students picked up in less than 10 minutes during the afternoon. New roof project hopefully will start this week. K-3 intervention, special education and ELLA Lab are using the dyslexia program. Resource teachers are pushing into the classroom instead of pulling out students. Students will receive services from their regular teacher and special education teacher. Upcoming events: Constitution day is September 17, pep rallies, book fair, flu clinic, picture day, RIF. Third graders will participate in the science fair. Bring your legislator to school day. October PD training for KC and intervention on Sunday and 1st grade will be trained by an Apple person. KC and 1st grade are going to the fair tomorrow. Numerous members of East Side team involved in the strategic planning committee.
- Lynnetta Roberts, Walker Pre-K Principal, presented an update to the board regarding the Walker Pre-K program. There are seven ABC Classrooms. Our licensed capacity is 162. Each classroom has a capacity of 20 students. With a ratio of 10:1 that gives us two adults per classroom, one licensed teacher and one paraprofessional (instructional classroom aide). The new classroom that has been added this year can only serve four year old students. It also allows for a classroom manager. Interviews are still being conducted for this position. Mrs. Wyrick and Mrs. Roberts are waiting for a meeting to be scheduled by ABC in order to learn more about the requirements for funding for this program. Nothing has been scheduled as of today. Head Start is operated by FACT, Inc. in El Dorado. They have one Head Start Classroom this year. Students that participate in this program must be three years of age by August 1 or four years of age by August 1. Children that do not meet the mandated kindergarten age of five years old are also eligible to apply and attend

the PK program if they meet the eligibility requirements. Present enrollment is 106 students. New personnel this year: LaDonna Herring, Ashly Shackelford, Jacquelyn Briggs and Monica McGraw. New school nurse is Ann Stephens. They have already participated in professional development and other training required by the ABC program. They will attend ECERS tomorrow at the Reynolds center. Two teachers were trained in work sampling last week in Arkadelphia and two others will attend in Monticello. There will be additional PD training that will be required for all new teachers and paraprofessionals. We will also make a trip to the fair this week.

- Gwen Carter, Magnolia Junior High School Principal, presented to the board an update for Magnolia Junior High School. At the August 14 parent visitation day there were 1,711 parents on campus. Enrollment is 637 students. There are eight new teachers: Dave Graham, 8th grade math; Megan Bevins, English; Ashley Nichols, science; Megan Turner, 9th grade physical science; Caitlyn Heaton, 7th grade social studies and Arkansas history; Kim Speakman is self-contained special education; Marissa Castillos, Spanish. There are currently 419 students enrolled in AP classes. Pre AP Biology class is now on the MJHS campus and taught by Brandy Browning. This year we entered into a middle school literacy initiative that will boost the reading levels of our students. Each week every student is given five words that they use in sentences, use them in every class, announcements made also use a word a week. David Sisson is now head football coach at MJHS.
- The Magnolia School District Annual Report to the Public was given by Leslie Mayo, Federal Programs Coordinator for the district, at the monthly school board meeting held Monday, September 14, 2015. In 2014-15, all schools in the Magnolia School District were fully accredited according to Arkansas Standards for Accreditation. The district is also fully accredited by the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement. In 2013-14, the district conducted a self-assessment followed by a site visit in March from a visiting team consisting of educators from Arkansas and from out of state. This accreditation is for a five-year term. All schools in the district have been designated as Focus Schools based on the NCLB Flexibility Waiver. The district is in compliance with all laws and regulations regarding equitable educational opportunities. Title I is a federally-funded program for the purpose of enabling schools to provide quality education for all students. Under the program, special assistance is given to students with greatest need. Title I funding is based on the district poverty level. In 2015-16, improving student achievement in reading and mathematics will continue to be the focus of the K-12 Title I program. Services are rendered at each building. The Kindergarten Title I teacher will work with small groups of students that need help with literacy skills. At East Side Elementary, six highly trained teachers will provide additional support to at risk students in small groups using research based strategies and supplemented by the Sunday reading program. Three additional licensed teachers work with students in grades one through three that need help in reading and literacy skills instruction. All Title I teachers will be trained in Sunday Reading Program and supplemental Sunday materials will be purchased for use by Title I teachers. An after-school tutoring program at Central Elementary School will be offered for one month before ACT Aspire assessments are given. The tutoring program is staffed by Central classroom teachers and focuses on improving the students' academic skills, particularly in literacy and mathematics. Training for teachers and staff is provided with Title I funds. A literacy facilitator supports teachers at East Side and Central and a math facilitator supports teachers at Central two days a week. Materials are also purchased for the parent centers at the elementary schools. Secondary students who are most in need of services receive instruction in reading. Students are scheduled into a reading class one period each day for direct instruction in reading. Before and after school tutoring programs are provided in mathematics at both secondary campuses and credit recovery classes in English and mathematics are available as well. Laptops will be purchased to prepare students for the new state-required assessments which will be administered online in the spring. The laptops will be used for teaching writing and mathematics and will give students opportunities for the practice of taking online assessments. Title II, Part A will fund two

literacy facilitators to work with teachers and students at East Side and Central and provide training for teachers and staff to improve instruction. The district literacy coordinator is partially paid from these funds. Because Magnolia is a high poverty school district, it is eligible for Title VI funds. These funds pay computer lab aides and a portion of the School Resource Officer position. Instructional technology is also purchased with these funds. Perkins Vocational funds support the upgrading of vocational education programs. These funds provide inservice for vocational teachers, purchase instructional materials for CTE courses and update equipment as needed for Workforce Technology classrooms. The Gifted and Talented Education Program serves students in grades K – 12. The program is staffed by one part-time GT coordinator, one full-time GT teacher and six part-time enrichment teachers for grades 1-6. Some of the programs provided include enrichment in K–3 grade classes; grades 4–6 pullout program; grades 6–12 AP and Pre-AP Courses; and academic competitions. An overview of Science Benchmark and End of Course Biology results were provided. The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC) results will not be released until November. The report also included the 2015-16 Arkansas Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (ACSIP)/Indistar goals for the district and each campus. All actions for the 2014-15 ACSIP were completed. For the district this year, the goal for Support for Special Needs Students is to provide teacher training and necessary materials and equipment to improve student achievement in literacy, mathematics and science and to reach all 2016 AMOs; for Wellness, to improve the overall wellness of all students; and for English Language Learners, to improve in the acquisition of English and achieve grade level standards in all ELL students.

- Magnolia High School ACSIP goals include Mathematics - all students will improve in all areas of mathematics with an emphasis in Algebra on Solving Equations and Inequalities. In Geometry the emphasis will be on Coordinate Geometry and Transformations; Literacy - to improve all students' literacy skills, specifically in area of content and style in the writing domain; Science - achieve grade level proficiency in science for all students; Wellness - to improve the overall wellness of students; and Targeted Improvement Plan (TIP) 2015-16 goal to address the deficiencies identified in the report from the 2014 AdvancEd Site Visit and the 2010 Scholastic Audit Report to promote the learning needs of all students. Magnolia Junior High School goals include Mathematics - all students will improve in all areas of mathematics with an emphasis on Numbers and Algebra in 7th grade, Measurement in 8th grade, Linear Functions and Solving Equations and Inequalities in Algebra I and Coordinate Geometry and Transformations in Geometry; Literacy - to improve all students' literacy skills, specifically in area of content and style in the writing domain; Science - achieve grade level proficiency in science for all students; Wellness - to improve the overall wellness of students; and Targeted Improvement Plan (TIP) 2015-16 goal to address the deficiencies identified in the report from the 2014 AdvancEd Site Visit and the 2010 Scholastic Audit Report to promote the learning needs of all students. Central Elementary School goals include Mathematics - all students will improve in all areas of mathematics with an emphasis on Number and Operations, Geometry and Algebra; Literacy - to improve all students' literacy skills specifically in the areas of responding to open response prompts and in writing domains of content and style; Science - achieve grade level proficiency in science for all students; Wellness - to improve the overall wellness of students; and Targeted Improvement Plan (TIP) 2015-16 goal to address the deficiencies identified in the report from the 2014 AdvancEd Site Visit and the 2010 Scholastic Audit Report to promote the learning needs of all students. East Side Elementary School goals include Mathematics - all students will improve in all areas of mathematics with an emphasis on Geometry and Data Analysis and Probability; Literacy - to improve all students' literacy skills specifically in the area of content and style; Science - provide all students science instruction aligned to the Student Learning Expectations of the Arkansas Science Curriculum Framework and the Common Core Standards; Wellness - to improve the overall wellness of students; and Targeted Improvement Plan (TIP) 2015-16 goal to address the deficiencies identified in the report from the 2014 AdvancEd Site Visit and the 2010 Scholastic Audit Report to promote the learning needs of all students.

- The Board approved the ACSIP plan; now called INDISTAR program.
- The Board accepted resignations and approved employment
- The Board heard the Superintendent's Report.