Minutes Regular Board Meeting May 9, 2013

The Harmony Grove School Board met in regular session on Thursday, May 9, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the board room of the superintendent's office on the Harmony Grove School Campus.

Joe Rogers, Jr., president of the board, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Other members present and on time were Todd Bearden, Jeremy Givens, Stephen McCann, and Angel Pigott. Raymond Furlow arrived at 8:40 p.m. Marcus Ellis was absent from the meeting.

The minutes of the April 11, 2013 regular board meeting were read and approved without objection. The financial report and payment of bills were approved without objection.

At 7:32 p.m. the board entered closed session to discuss a situation involving a student at the request of the student's parent. At 8:39 p.m. the board entered open session. The board referred the parent back to the superintendent and principal to attempt to resolve the issues of concern to the parent.

There was no unfinished business.

In new business, Mr. Davidson presented four items for the board to review before the next regular meeting to consider as possible policies to adopt. These items involve (1) staff vacation and holidays (2) expense reimbursements (3) superintendent's use of school vehicle as part of compensation and benefits (4) and proposed teacher evaluation instrument used in TESS.

Mrs. Barkhimer, food service director, presented a proposal to increase meal prices for the 2013-2014 school year and the reasons it is necessary. Mr. Givens made a motion to approve an increase in student lunch prices by five cents per meal and student breakfast prices by 25 cents per meal. Mrs. Pigott seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Davidson presented a request from Debbie Thrower at Sparkman Elementary School to construct a covered pavilion on the playground for Sparkman Elementary students. Mrs. Thrower has indicated that money has been raised to pay for the project and volunteers have offered to do the work. Mr. Furlow questioned the safety of such a structure. Mr. Davidson stated that the school would seek expert advice on the safety issue. Mrs. Pigott moved to approve the project as presented. Mr. Givens seconded the motion. The motion was approved 6-0.

A request was made that twelve month employees be allowed to work Monday-Thursday from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for a 40 hour, four day work week with Fridays off from June 3 – August 2, 2013. Mr. Givens moved to approve the request. Mr. Furlow seconded the motion. The motion was approved 6-0.

Bus bids were opened and reviewed. Mr. Rogers requested that Mr. McAdoo get further information and some clarification before the board acted on any of the bid proposals. This item will be revisited at the June regular board meeting.

After a review of two bids for student insurance, Mr. Furlow made a motion to accept the low bid of \$5,669 from K and K insurance for PK-12 at-school including athletics and activities coverage. Mr. Givens seconded the motion. The motion was approved 6-0.

Mr. McAdoo reported on the scholastic audit visit to Sparkman High School on April 25-26, 2013. He stated that the visiting team did not indicate any red flags and seemed to indicate that the curriculum needed more rigor and more feedback should be given to teachers after being visited by the principal. Mr. McAdoo indicated that the superintendent should be getting a report within a few weeks.

At 9:05 the board entered executive session to discuss personnel. At 10:07 the board entered open session. Mr. Givens made a motion to accept the resignations of Christina Laster and Amanda Stephenson from Sparkman High School. Mrs. Pigott seconded the motion. The motion was approved 6-0. Mr. Bearden made a motion to accept the retirement resignation of Mrs. Vera Word. Mrs. Pigott seconded the motion. Mr. Rogers directed the superintendent to request on behalf of the board that Mrs. Word stay until September 1 to train a replacement. The motion was adopted 6-0. Mr. Givens made a motion to employ Michele Lawson as 5th grade teacher at Harmony Grove Elementary; Victoria Knight as 5th grade teacher at Sparkman Elementary; and Melissa Rocconi as special education teacher at Harmony Grove for 2013-2014. Mr. McCann seconded the motion. The motion was approved 6-0. Mr. Givens made a motion to hold a special board meeting on May 30, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. to handle additional personnel issues. Mr. Bearden seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. Mr. Bearden made a motion that mileage is to be maintained on every school vehicle other than buses and a monthly log of travel with odometer readings be sent in the board's packet each month. Mrs. Pigott seconded the motion. The motion was approved 6-0.

Mr. Bearden made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Pigott seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. The board meeting adjourned at 10:12 p.m.

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education