Mineral Springs School District
School Board Meeting Minutes

The Mineral Springs School Board met in regular session March 9, 2015 in the administration building. The meeting was called to order by Vice President William Dixon at 6:30 p.m.

Roll call was done and two board members were absent (Mike Erwin and Dorothy Vaughn). A quorum was established. The prayer was led by Mr. Curtis Turner.

A motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting was made by Mr. Ray Hawkins and seconded by Mrs. Sheila Jackson. The motion passed 5-0 to approve the minutes as written.

The next item on the agenda was the approval of the district’s financial statement.

Superintendent Turner stated compared to last year’s ending balance at this same time there was a 100,000.00 difference and the district’s expenditures are within what was budgeted. The ending balance for the month of February was 5,276,903.46

It was recommended to the board by Superintendent Curtis Turner Jr. that the financial statement be approved. The motion to approve the financial statement for February was made by Mrs. Sheila Jackson and seconded by Mr. Ray Hawkins. The motion passed 5-0.

The building principal’s reports were next on the agenda.

Principal Stephanie Rowe reported the enrollment for 7-12 grades is 187. PARC Testing started today with 7th grade and will continue through the week. Grades 8th thru 12th will start next week. Juniors took the ACT test on Tuesday March 3rd Grover Hill met with seniors to help them complete Fax Performs for their financial aid. Principal Rowe informed the board that the CTE and Federal State monitor visits were rescheduled due to the inclement weather in the area. Sophomores will travel to De Queen on March 18th to attend the “All Hands on Deck”, at UACCC, with Counselor, Jeanette Lampkins and Career Coach, Julian Jamison. A selected group of seniors traveled with Mrs. Lampkins to UACCH in
Hope, they took a test called RUDECH through the Arkansas Rehabilitation service to gain help with financial aid assistance for college. Principal Rowe informed the board that students who missed the ASAP test will retake it next week on March 19th. The new scoreboard donated by Diamond State bank was delivered to the school and will be installed in the next few weeks, and both the senior boys and girls basketball teams are playing in the state tournament.

Principal Stacy Gauldin reported the elementary had 229 students in kindergarten thru-sixth grades. 3rd grade started PARCC test today and 4th grade will test as the week progresses. Literacy Night was held on March 3rd from 4:30 to 5:00. Parents and students were treated to free hot dogs and lemonade. During Literacy Night teachers provided parents and students with sample test questions to practice. Principal Gauldin also stated that Curriculum Specialist, Kim Erwin administered a parent survey in the elementary computer lab. Mrs. Erwin had 23 responses. The survey concluded that overall people felt welcome, informed and safe in our school.

The next item is informational.

Superintendent Turner stated Mineral Springs School has 5 school days to make up, however, nothing has been proposed to staff as of date. The make-up days will be added between now and the end of the school year.

The next item on the agenda was old business.

Superintendent Turner stated Bancorp South holds the School Board Liability Insurance. Bancorp South was still in negotiating process when the first payment was due in February. Mr. Turner informed everyone that the board was still covered from Feb. 1st thru Apr. 1st at the cost of $710.00 for the two months. Mr. Turner informed the board the quote for School Board Liability Insurance had been received and the premium is $5,235. The $5,235 will cover the board from April 2, 2015 thru February 1, 2016. Mr. Turner stated premiums were up due to litigation cost and school salaries. Superintendent Turner recommended the board approve the school board liability insurance with the premium rate of $5,235. A motion was made by Mrs. Jamie Jackson to approve the School Board Liability premium for $5,235 and the motion was seconded by Mr. Ray Hawkins. The motion carried 5-0.
The next item of new business was IT Works.

Superintendent Turner informed the board that upgrades were made in the cable system by IT Works. The MSSD has worked with IT Works for 1.5 years to upgrade the server and internet service to a ‘cat 6’. This will increase our technology capabilities. Mr. Turner stated the total cost is $150,491.25. MSSD will pay 10% of the cost in the amount of $15,000.00, and that will be refunded under E-rate a federal government program. It was recommended by Superintendent Turner that the board approve expenditures to IT Works in the amount of $15,000.00. A motion was made by Mrs. Sheila Jackson to approve expenditures for IT Works for $15,000.00 and the motion was seconded by Mrs. Zemeria Newton. The motion carried 5-0.

The next item on the agenda was personnel.

Superintendent Turner recommended the board to accept the resignation of elementary first grade teacher, Mrs. Pam Wendell, who will retire at the end of the current school year. A motion was made by Mrs. Jamie Jackson to accept the resignation of Mrs. Pam Wendell and the motion was seconded by Mr. Ray Hawkins.

Mr. Turner recommended that the board approve the employment of all certified staff for grades K-12 based on recommendations by both principals for the 2015-2016 school year. A motion was made by Mrs. Sheila Jackson to accept the employment of certified staff K-12 for school year 2015-2016 and the motion was seconded by Mr. Ray Hawkins. The motion carried 5-0.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Ray Hawkins and seconded by Mrs. Sheila Jackson. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Zemeria Newton, Secretary

Mike Erwin, President