

Ouachita School Hosts Annual Public Meeting

Ouachita School Superintendent, Ronnie Kissire opened the Annual Public Meeting on Monday night, August 25, 2014 by welcoming everyone and introducing the members of Ouachita's Board of Education.

Superintendent Kissire detailed the budget from the 13-14 school year. Mr. Kissire also explained that monies from vending machine contracts were divided equally between Student Council, High School Bookstore, Elementary Bookstore, and the Superintendent's Activity Fund. The money is used to provide additional supplies and programs above the regular budget.

The Elementary and High School were both Accredited for the 2013-14 school year. District goals were presented by the superintendent and included completing a multipurpose physical education safe room for the district, baseball and softball field upgrades thanks to our local volunteers, renovation of the new administrative office, changes to the elementary car rider line, and other various district updates.

Dr. Thigpen presented the state of the high school and plans for this school year, (2014-15). Mrs. Fulmer and Mrs. Neel presented student performance scores on the high school and elementary. Combined population scores, which include all students, were used. Iowa Test of Basic Skills scores were at or above the national average; Benchmark raw scores for Ouachita School were at or above state scores. The district plans to continue to use "The Learning Institute" testing system and teacher training to help define and correct the target areas that will help students meet deficiencies.

Mrs. McDade reported on federal programs, how money was spent in these programs the previous year and how it is budgeted for 2014-15. Ouachita receives funding from Title I, Title IIA, and Title VI. A portion of Title I money is budgeted to provide services for welfare and the homeless. Mrs. Cook reported on the state of the district's Gifted and Talented program as well as the 2014-15 plans. Superintendent Kissire explained the district goals and objectives for Nutrition & Physical Activity as required by Act 1220.

After providing an opportunity for those attending to ask questions, Mr. Kissire thanked everyone again for attending and dismissed the meeting.