

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
621 SOUTH STATE STREET
JACKSON, MS 39201
REGULAR MEETING OF THE JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2017

Board Present

Ms. Beneta D. Burt, President
Mr. Rickey D. Jones, Vice President
Ms. Camille S. Simms, Secretary
Mr. Jed Oppenheim, Member
Dr. Richard Lind, Member
Ms. Kimberly L. Campbell, Member, Esq.

Attorneys and Administrative Staff

Dr. Freddrick Murray, Interim Supt.
Hon. Dorian Turner, Board Attorney
Hon. JoAnne Shepherd, Dist. Counsel
Dr. Jason Sargent, Chief of Staff
Dr. William Merritt, IV. Elem., CAO
Dr. Michelle King, Elem., CAO
Ms. Chinelo Evans, CAO

V. Public Participation for General Comments:

1. Jacqueline Griffin, a parent and a community activist spoke in opposition to the three search firms being recommended to the board for their involvement in the superintendent search. Each firm, according to Ms. Griffin, is under review for their failure to execute parts of their agreement. More specifically for failure to conduct thorough background checks. Secondly, "As stakeholders, members of the Jackson community have the skill set needed to hire a superintendent. We are vested members of this community and we know the qualities of a good superintendent," she said.

2. Mr. Willie C. Ford, a parent, a pastor and a 2003 JPS science teacher of the year, spoke in support of more student discipline. He says that students should show more respect for teachers and their peers. He quoted, Proverbs 3:6, which say, "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it." He added that students need direction and should realize that choices they make have consequences. Thank you.

VI. Review of Discipline Cases:

- a. Dr. Bishop Knox reported that there was no more discipline cases for review.

VII. Superintendent' Reports/Announcements:

Dr. Freddrick Murray, Interim Superintendent, gave updates on:

The at-risk school process: There are eighteen (18) schools in which the district awaits feedback from MDE. Board members will likely receive feedback tomorrow. He handed out a template for which he asked board members to represent

Audits: Each board member will be sent a questionnaire in connection with the District's annual audit. Information will be sought to ensure that a board member has no involvement in conflict of interest ventures and/or any improprieties. This questionnaire is sent in compliance with Standard four (4) of the MDE Code. The audit should be completed by the first week of March.

Board members inquired about the dollar amount charter schools costs the district. Ms. Miller reported that 1.38 million dollars have been sent to three (3) charter schools this school year for the education of 514 children. She added that this is an increase from the 327 students last year who attended charter schools. Note: Charter school students do not receive full pupil allocations.) This school year, JPS enrolls 27,000. Updates were accepted on the 2017-18 School Funding report.

- b. Review of Sections: A (School District Organization) and B: (Board of Trustees Operations) Policies: Ms. JoAnne Shepherd, District Counsel, reported that we have some

Next, Mr. Jed Oppenheim moved that the district re-open the RFP process and locate other superintendent search firms. Mr. Rickey Jones seconded the motion. And for good cause shown, three members, Mr. Rickey Jones, Mr. Jed Oppenheim and Ms. Kimberly Campbell, voted "aye" in favor of the motion; two members, Ms. Beneta D. Burt and Dr. Richard Lind voted "nay" in opposition to the motion. Ms. Camille Simms abstained from the vote. The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 2 to 1. Mr. Kodi Hobbs was absent from the meeting.

By consensus, the board members will:

Give Ms. Dorian Turner, Board Attorney, distinctive qualities that each would like to see in a new superintendent. Ms. Turner will compile the information.

The board requests that the firms be well vetted and ensure that neither has pending litigation against them.

X. Consent Agenda Items - Finance Presented by Ms. Miller, CFO:

- a. Approval of Disbursements and Account Payable and Activity Fund Claims for the period of December 22, 2016, through January 27, 2017;
- b. Approval of Various Donations;
- c. Approval to Award Formal Bids

The Board voted to approve all three finance items, a, b, and c, on motion of Mr. Rickey D. Jones and second of Dr. Richard Lind. And for good cause shown

