



Richard Hardy Memorial School

Board Meeting Minutes

May 26th, 2022 @ 6:00 PM

Opening Prayer: Chairman Barbie Blansett

Meeting called to order: Meeting called to order by Chairman Barbie Blansett.

I. Reading of the April 21st, 2022, minutes. (Approval/Disapproval): Missi Cox made the motion to approve the April 21st, 2022, minutes; Fred Newcom 2nd the motion; motion carried.

II. Standard Business:

Principals Report: Sandra Crabtree

- RHMS Beta Club worked the Cornbread Festival.
- 4th and 5th grades went to Healthy Horizons.
- We had all our fundraising rewards for the students—pizza parties, Kona Ice, PJ/Hat Days, candy scramble and marshmallow wars.
- Seniors went to Six Flags for Senior night on 5/6.
- Prom was held on Saturday, May 7th.
- Life maze was attended by grades 7-12 on May 9th.
- K-1 field trip to Chattanooga Zoo.
- Field Day—organized by the Field Day Committee went well.
- Student Talent show was held on May 11.

- Awards days/nights—Senior Banquet/Awards Night—May 12th 8th grade graduation/awards night—May 17th; Grades K-5, awards, May 20th and grades 6-11th.
- Grades 2-5 and 6-8 attended the Whitwell Middle School Chorus production of The Little Mermaid.
- Seniors had events during Senior Week—water games, senior picnic, escape room, senior lunch, senior sunset at Top of the Rock.
- Pre-K petting zoo here at the school on May 18th and then Pre-K graduation May 26th.
- Graduation was held last Friday, May 20th, with 20 seniors graduating.
- Move-up Day on May 23rd—grades moved up to meet teachers and get acquainted.
- Coach K and Coach Culpepper went to a CSH meeting on May 25th...US Tennis Team was there, and we will be getting free tennis equipment to use for next year.
- Friday May 27th is ½ day of school.
- Saturday, May 28th—hand out grade cards; 3rd makeup day.

Financial Report: Jennifer Olton

Jennifer reported that both bonds have been paid and all expenses are current and up to date. The floors are complete that was paid for by ESSER 3.0 fund and look great. We are still waiting on TNRMT invoice so that the SY23 budget can be finalized. We are also getting 2 new servers that will be purchased in June, the cost is approximately 20K for both.

III: Old Business:

Bids on Historical Building: Neither bid has been updated or returned as of the board meeting. Both should be back in for the next meeting.

Special School Tax: We finally have an answer for the Special School Tax. According to Mr. Cagle who spoke with one of our congressmen the Special School Tax is being put on hold. The reason being that with the onset of the new BEP changing to TISA as of SY24 and for the first 2 years our local tax will be

lower and will gradually increase into the new formula which will be more money for the schools.

IV: New Business:

Director Interview with candidate Sharon Allison. Chairman Barbie Blansett called Sharon Allison to the table so she could formally be interviewed by the board for the Director's position. (Board member Fred Newcom did not participate in the interview). Chairman Blansett began the interview and asked Ms. Allison as a Director would you ever re-hire terminated employees. Ms. Allison responded by saying "no, that would be going backwards, and we want to move forward". Chairman Blansett next asked, would you bring back employees that had quit; Ms. Allison responded by stating "it depends on the situation and why they may have left, we have let other employees return in the past". The next question that Chairman Blansett asked Ms. Allison, could she work with our current Principal Sandra Crabtree; Ms. Allison responded by stating "she could definitely work with the principal and did not have any issues". The last thing that was asked, was about Ms. Allison's experience and years at RHMS. Ms. Allison stated that she has been at RHMS for 17 years and for 8 of those years she has served as the Federal Programs Director. Chairman Blansett then proceeded to ask board member Missi Cox if she would make the motion to approve Sharon Allison as the new Director effective July 1, 2022. Missi Cox made the motion to approve Sharon Allison as the new director; Chairman Barbie Blansett 2nd the motion; motion carried. (Fred Newcom did not participate in the voting).

Out of State Teaching Experience: Jennifer Olton stated to the board that in the past when a teacher came from another state their years of experience was started over at 0 and they lost their previous years of experience. This was approved around 10 years ago to help off-set some of the financial issues that were occurring. It has since come to our attention that other states like Alabama is giving their teachers a significant raise and to retain the teachers, we have from other states their years of experience should be reinstated which would raise their current pay. Jennifer looked at the 5 teachers that we have from other states and if we did reinstate them, we would only be looking at about a \$29,000 increase. This not only helps with those teachers that are here at RHMS but any future teachers that we get from other states will be able to keep their years of experience and make more money. Chairman Barbie Blansett made the motion

to re-in state teachers' years of experience from other states; Missi Cox 2nd the motion; motion carried.

Public Records Policy: Tabled until next months meeting.

Trainings/Workshops/Field trips/Fundraisers:

Laci Boston (FRC) will be attending an FRC training on June 9th at Murfreesboro. Chairman Barbie Blansett made the motion to approve the training; Fred Newcom 2nd the motion; motion carried.

Next Meeting will be held Thursday June 28th, 2022 @ 6:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Chairman, Missi Cox

Director, Beth Webb