

**Hot Springs School District #6**  
**MINUTES**  
**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**  
**May 16, 2023**

The Hot Springs School District Board of Directors met on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. at the Roy Rowe Auditorium of the Jones Administrative Building, 400 Linwood Avenue, Hot Springs, Arkansas.

**Board members present:** Mrs. Ann Hill, Mr. Dino Lenox, Mrs. Debbie Ugbade, and Dr. Cynthia Rogers. **Central Office Staff members present:** Superintendent, Dr. Stephanie Nehus; Mrs. Becky Rosburg, Assistant Supt; Dr. Taryn Echols, Assistant Supt; David White, Bryce Walker, Rodney Echols, Vashanti Williams, Adriane Barnes, and Ferderica Langley. **Principals:** Kiley Simms, William Brazle, Kristen Gordon, Kristal Brandon, Utana Newborn, and Dr. Kyria Wilson. **Asst. Principals:** Sarah Turner and Tony Hines.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mrs. Ann Hill, president of the Board. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Dino Lenox.

**SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS:**

School Board President, Mrs. Ann Hill called for a motion to elect school board officials; Mrs. Ugbade motioned to elect Mr. Dino Lenox as School Board President, Dr. Rogers seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 Vote. Mr. Lonell "Dino" Lenox is the school board president for the 2023-2024 school year. Mrs. Hill called for a motion to elect the school board vice president. Dr. Rogers made a motion to elect Mrs. Linda White as school board vice president. Mr. Lenox seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 vote. Mrs. Linda White will serve as the school board vice president for the 2023-2024 school year. Mrs. Hill made a motion to elect the school board secretary. Dr. Rogers made a motion to elect Mrs. Debbie Ugbade as school board secretary. Mr. Lenox seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 vote. Mrs. Ugbade will serve as school board secretary for the 2023-2024 school year.

Mrs. Becky Rosburg, Asst. Superintendent introduced newly hired employees from the previous month. The Board welcomed them to the district.

**PRESENTATIONS/ RECOGNITIONS:**

Mr. Brazle, Principal at the Hot Springs Junior Academy, presented the HSJA Model PLC School Designation Banner to the Hot Springs Junior Academy and School Board members. Mr. Brazle also awarded the staff and board members with patches to symbolize the accomplishments of their work, dedication, and support.

Ms. Jamie Huisman, Langston Elementary Leadership Academy Destination Imagination (DI) Sponsor, along with her DI students presented their video about their upcoming competition at the Global DI conference. The students also expressed what DI means to them and how happy they were to be able to have this program at their school. Students will be presenting this skit at a national competition this summer.

Ms. Stephanie Goodman, Hot Springs Junior Academy JAG Specialist, presented National JAG winners to the community and the board of directors. These young ladies presented their own business plans and have a functioning button business called "Button Shack".

Mr. Larry McDaniel, special education paraprofessional, presented the members of the unified basketball state champion team. These students worked hard and brought home the 1st place trophy. Mr. McDaniel explained what unified athletics is and how great of an opportunity it is for our students to be a part of. The team thanked the board and community for their support.

Dr. Nehus, superintendent, recognized the students who were recipients of the Arkansas Seal of Biliteracy. There were 17 recipients of this award, 16 students were awarded proficiency in English and Spanish, with 1 being proficient in English and Arabic. Dr. Nehus also recognized Future Trojan Leadership Series completers. This program is designed to give teachers that are interested in pursuing administrative roles in the district, such as principals and district level administrators. There were three recipients recognized. Dr. Nehus also recognized Oaklawn STEM, Main Street Visual and Performing Arts Academy, and Park IB for Capturing Kids' Hearts National Showcase School Designation.

#### **ITEMS OF ACTION:**

Mr. Lenox called for a motion to approve the April 18, 2023 board minutes. Dr. Rogers motioned to approve the April 18, 2023 board meeting minutes. Mrs. Ugbade seconded the motion. The motion passed a 4-0 vote.

Mr. David White, Chief Financial Officer, presented the financial report. Mr. White stated that collections this month have stayed the same but will be expected to exceed due to an error with a major mortgage company and tax receipts. Mr. White believes that we are still in a good financial place right now. Mr. White asked the board if there were any questions. Mr. Lenox called for a motion to approve the financial report. Mrs. Hill motioned to approve the financial report. Mrs. Ugbade seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 vote.

Mr. Ray Beardsley presented the closing documents for the bond issue for approval. Mr. Beardsley stated that Bank of America received the bid @ 3.78%. He also recapped all other

bids that were presented. June 1, 2023 at 10:00am will be the closing and the district will receive the construction proceeds and the clock starts to get complete before June 1, 2026. Mr. Beardsley presented the board with Construction Bond Packets to review. Mrs. Hill called for a motion to adopt the resolution authorizing the issuance and delivery of the \$25,590,000, Hot Springs School District No. 6 of Garland County, Arkansas. Construction Bonds dated June 1, 2023 and the other documents pertaining thereto as prepared by the Friday, Eldredge & Clark Law Firm. Mr. Lenox motioned to adopt the resolution. Mrs. Ugbade seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 vote.

Dr. Nehus presented the FSMC contract renewal for Chartwells 2023-2024. This contract is for a 5 of 5 years renewal. Dr. Nehus stated the district was very pleased with the services that have been provided with FSMC Chartwells over the last 4 years of the contract. If the board votes to renew this contract then at the close of this contract we will have to take bids from other providers. After the presentation of the renewal process, Mr. Lenox called for a motion to approve the FSMC contract renewal for Chartwells. Mrs. Ugbade motioned to approve the FMCS contract renewal for Chartwells. Dr. Rogers seconded the motion. The motion passed a 4-0 vote.

Dr. Nehus recommended to the board the approval of the Dawson Co-op Board Resolution. This resolution would appoint Dr. Nehus to serve as the representative for the Board of Directors on the Dawson Education Services Cooperative Board of Directors until June 30, 2025. Mr. Lenox called for a motion to approve the Dawson Co-op Board resolution. Mrs. Hill motioned to approve the Dawson Co-op Resolution. Dr. Rogers seconded the motion. The motion passed a 4-0 vote.

Dr. Nehus recommended the approval of Hot Springs Child Care Memorandum of Understanding. The MOU agrees that both parties agree to share information and coordinate to the extent possible at both locations. Mr. Lenox called for a motion to approve the MOU between Hot Springs Child Care and Hot Springs School District. Mrs. Ugbade motioned to approve the MOU. Mrs. Hill seconded the motion. The motion passed a 4-0 vote.

Dr. Nehus presented the Howard Technology Solutions- Dell Laptop Contract. This contract is the purchase of 10 Dell Laptops including computer and equipment. Mr. Lenox called for a motion to approve the Dell Laptop Contract. Mrs. Hill made a motion to approve the Dell Laptop Contract. Dr. Rogers seconded the motion. The motion passed a 4-0 vote.

## INFORMATION:

Dr. Nehus gave a brief overview of the Superintendent's report for the month of May.

1. We have the opportunity to receive an additional year of support with the Leading PLCs Districtwide Cohort. We will have four onsite coaching days with our district leadership team.
2. **We graduated our largest class in the last 10+ years, with 246 graduates. AND ... Our Class of 2023 received (collectively) \$16,750,000 in scholarships!**
3. The Trojan Boys Soccer Team made it to the Semi Final Round in the State Soccer Tournament!
4. "Legally Blonde, the Musical," was an unbelievable production from our students at Hot Springs Junior Academy and Hot Springs World Class High School! They brought Broadway right here to Hot Springs, and drew crowds from across the region.
5. We had an outstanding District Arts Night in May, which celebrated students from all schools by way of an artwork showcase and student performances from HSSD Choirs, Dancers, the Hot Springs Dance Troupe, and Cast Members from "Legally Blonde, the Musical."
6. Trojan Choir Students in grades 7-12 from Hot Springs Junior Academy and Hot Springs World Class High School provided an outstanding performance in "A Michael Jackson Revue" earlier this week! Their vocal talent brought joy and inspiration to crowds of students and families with these timeless songs.
7. Oaklawn STEM Magnet School hosted another excellent STEM Day event last week. These events are a wonderful example of how our educators are masters at bringing together learning AND fun, for our students and families.
8. Staff and 6th graders from Langston Elementary Leadership Academy begin their 2nd annual Washington D.C. Trip in the wee hours of the morning, tomorrow. Everyone send good energy to them as they create another life-changing experience for these kids as they tour the historic and cultural sites of D.C. This is such a tremendous effort to organize and undertake, thank you Langston for making this possible!
9. We had another hugely successful Trojan Battle Royale event, which is a track and field event for our 5th and 6th graders from all four elementary schools! Our Coaches, Administrators, and Teachers/Coordinators from all schools put together this lineup of activities, allowing students to compete and celebrate their peers together at Joe Reese Stadium and our Trojan Baseball Fields.
10. The first student performance this morning of "Shrek The Musical, Jr." at Main Street Visual & Performing Arts Magnet School was outstanding! You'll be singing and dancing with them, please don't miss it. They are performing again tonight, and then again at 9:00 and 6:00 on Thursday, 5/18.

**RATIFICATION OF PERSONNEL:**

Dr. Nehus presented the Ratification of Personnel for approval. Mr. Lenox called for a motion to approve the ratification of personnel. Mrs. Ugbade motioned to approve the ratification of personnel. Mrs. Hill seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 vote.

**REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

Mr. Marco Kloss was granted three (3) minutes to address the Board. He spoke on the importance of communications between the board and the community.

No comments from the Board were presented, per policy.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With there being no further business coming before the Board. Mr. Lenox called for a motion to adjourn. Dr. Rogers made the motion to adjourn. Mrs. Ugbade seconded. The meeting adjourned at 5:58 P.M.

Date Approved: **06/20/2023**

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**Mr. Lonell "Dino" Lenox Board President**

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**Mrs. Debbie Ugbade , Board Secretary**