

Thomas County Board of Education Minutes

January 10, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Voting Members

Mr. Ken Harper, Board Member
Mr. Chris Hayes, Board Member
Mr. Ed Hopper, Board Member
Mr. Mark NeSmith, Board Member
Mrs. Leah Smith, Chair
Mr. Dan Stewart, Vice Chair
Mrs. Joy West, Board Member

Non-Voting Members

Judge Vickie Burnette, Thomas County Probate Judge
Mrs. Robin Cartright, Curriculum Director
Mrs. Melanie Davis, Director of Public Relations and Communications
Mr. Joey Holland, Deputy Superintendent for Finance
Mrs. Jennifer Mitchell, Administrative Assistant
Dr. Lisa Williams, Superintendent

- I. CALL TO ORDER
Chair NeSmith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with all members present.
- II. DEVOTIONAL – CAROLINE GLADSTONE, TEACHER AT CROSS CREEK ELEMENTARY
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – DEZMOND JONES, STUDENT-ATHLETE AT TCCHS
- IV. INSTALLATION OF BOARD MEMBERS – VICKIE BURNETTE, THOMAS COUNTY PROBATE JUDGE
Judge Vickie Burnette swore in the two re-elected board members, Ken Harper (District 3) and Leah Smith (District 5), and the two newly elected board members, Ed Hopper (District 7) and Joy West (District 1).
- V. ELECTION OF OFFICERS
A motion was made to nominate Mrs. Leah Smith as Chair and Mr. Dan Stewart as Vice Chair. After the motion was made, Chair NeSmith called for discussion and further nominations and there were none.
Motion made by: Mr. Ken Harper
Motion seconded by: Mr. Chris Hayes
Voting: Unanimously Approved

VI. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Agenda
- B. Minutes: December 13
- C. Bishop Hall board minutes: October 20
- D. Upcoming meeting: February 14 regular meeting
- E. Resolutions for outstanding students
- F. Fundraising requests
- G. Out-of-district students
 - Motion made by: Mr. Chris Hayes
 - Motion seconded by: Mr. Ken Harper
 - Voting: Unanimously Approved

VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. Recognition of outstanding students
- B. Recess to allow guests who would like to leave to be excused; board meeting continued in board room following a brief break
- C. Pathways GNETS Update – Dr. Williams discussed a GaDOE report regarding funding recommendations for GNETS in FY24.
- D. Financial Report – Joey Holland

VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- A. No individual provided the 24 hour notice required as a condition of addressing the Board

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. 2023 board meeting schedule
 - Motion made by: Mr. Mark NeSmith
 - Motion seconded by: Mr. Ken Harper
 - Voting: Unanimously Approved

- B. Resolution to ratify recommendation for fire and security alarm systems at Hand-in-Hand and the BOE auditorium/PLC facilities
 - Motion made by: Mr. Ken Harper
 - Motion seconded by: Mr. Dan Stewart
 - Voting: Unanimously Approved

- C. Board Member Trainings
 - 1. Board Chair – February 2 in Tifton
 - 2. Veteran Board Members – Virtual Session & February 8 at SWGA RESA (In-person)
 - 3. New Board Members – February 14-15 in Macon with travel on February 13
 - Motion made by: Mr. Chris Hayes
 - Motion seconded by: Mr. Dan Stewart
 - Voting: Unanimously Approved

D. Personnel Report

Motion made by: Mr. Mark NeSmith

Motion seconded by: Mr. Ken Harper

Voting: Unanimously Approved

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by: Mr. Ken Harper

Motion seconded by: Mr. Chris Hayes

Voting: Unanimously Approved

Handwritten signature of Mark NeSmith in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Chairperson

Handwritten signature of Lisa Williams in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

Secretary