

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
**SOUTH TIPPAAH SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
Oscar Shannon Building  
December 12, 2023  
5:15 P.M.

Members Present: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Tony Elliott, Superintendent; Price Elliott, Board Attorney; Ruby Bennett, Assistant Superintendent; Tonya Kuhl, Business Manager; Kelly Gates, Federal Program Director, & Guests

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Cockrell and commenced as an open meeting. The Invocation was led by Kevin Barefield. Tony Elliott led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Tim Clark read the South Tippah School District Vision Statement and Mission Statement.

The December 12, 2023 South Tippah School District Meeting Agenda was approved on a motion by Kevin Barefield, seconded by Nicole Bullock. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to accept the recognition of the Ripley High School Golf team for winning the Class4A State Championship. Mr. Elliott presented these students with certificates. Kevin Barefield seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Arnold Witt made the motion to approve the resolution honoring Kerry Cockrell. The resolution was read by former Superintendent Frank Campbell. The motion was seconded by Tim Clark. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

The November 15, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes and November 15, 2023 Executive Session of the Regular Meeting Minutes were approved on a motion by Tim Clark and seconded by Arnold Witt. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Kevin Barefield made the motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Disposal of Fixed Assets

Disposal Amount: of \$82,175.36

Summary Statement of Fixed Assets

Additions of \$6,500.00

Fund Raisers

Blue Mountain School

Archery, sell candy bars, January 2024

Senior Beta Club, Calendar Fundraiser, November 2023

Homecoming Committee, sell homecoming t-shirts, November 2023

Pine Grove School

FFA, sell meat sticks, December 2023

Basketball, Youth Basketball League, January 2024

Ripley Elementary School

Library, Scholastic Book Fair, February 12-16, 2024

Library, Coin Challenge, January 29 - February 2, 2024

Field Trips

Blue Mountain School

Seniors, tour Ashley Furniture, January 26, 2024

Seniors, tour ICC Campus, January 2024

Pine Grove School

FFA, Jackson/Legislative Luncheon, January 16-17, 2024

Seniors, Tour Toyota Plant, December 6, 2023

Ripley High School

Economics, Tippah County Jail, December 7, 2023

Choir, Diversicare/Caroling, December 12, 2023

Economics, Peoples Bank, November 30, 2023

Ripley Middle School

Quest, Landers Centers/Memphis Hustle, February 7, 2024

Administration of Medication to Students

REM24-37 – REM24-40

Additions to the Substitute List:

Jennifer Guyton  
Katie Beth Rutherford  
Carla Gaillard  
Sherry Ferrell

Nicole Bullock seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to approve the Superintendent's Report as presented by Superintendent Tony Elliott. The motion was seconded by Kevin Barefield. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

The Pine Grove Activity Claim to Horizon Sales for \$20,723 was approved on a motion by Arnold Witt and seconded by Tim Clark. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

The Claims Docket, claims #99624 - #99885, was approved on a motion by Tim Clark and seconded by Arnold Witt. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

The Financial Statements were approved on a motion by Nicole Bullock and seconded by Kevin Barefield. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Tim Clark made the motion to approve the resignation of the following licensed personnel: Jessica Thomas, Ripley Middle School, effective December 15, 2023. The motion was seconded by Arnold Witt. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Kevin Barefield made the motion to employ the following licensed personnel for SY23-24:

Ripley Middle School

Mollie Hopkins, Title 1 Interventionist, beginning January 3, 2024  
Allie Rodgers, Teacher, beginning January 3, 2024  
Kakie Jeter, ESSER Afterschool tutor @ \$30/hour  
Jo Beth Akins, ESSER Afterschool tutor @ \$30/hour  
Melissa Criswell, ESSER Afterschool tutor @ \$30/hour  
Emily Raines, ESSER Afterschool tutor @ \$30/hour

The motion was seconded by Nicole Bullock. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None.

Absent and not voting: None.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to employ the following non-licensed personnel for SY23-24:

Pine Grove School

Amber Austin, Full-time Substitute

Ripley Middle School

Becky Montgomery, Teacher Assistant

Ripley Elementary School

Nick Barkley, Sub Janitor

The motion was seconded by Kevin Barefield. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None.

Absent and not voting: None.

Arnold Witt made the motion to advertise for bank depository bids. Tim Clark seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Kevin Barefield made the motion to approve Nicole Bullock as the new board member joining Tim Clark and Kevin Barefield for the 2024 calendar year at the Tippah Career & Technology Center as representatives for the South Tippah School District. Nicole Bullock seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Arnold Witt made the motion to approve the South Tippah School District Contract for Specified Services with Sandra Sumner. The motion was seconded by Tim Clark. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Arnold Witt made the motion to approve the request from Rollins & Sumrall Education Group to post an RFP and bid for E-Rate Category 2 products and services. Tim Clark seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to approve the At-Risk Liaison Job Description. Tim Clark seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Tim Clark made the motion to approve the revision to the South Tippah School District Supplements Salary Schedule for FY23-24. The motion was seconded by Arnold Witt. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to rescind Board Policy BCBE: Distributing of Board Meeting Materials. Kevin Barefield seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Kevin Barefield made the motion to approve the revision to board policies: BBB & BCBK. The motion was seconded by Nicole Bullock. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell,

Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Arnold Witt made the motion to approve the Board Policy Review of Section B: School Board Operations. Tim Clark seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

There was no action required on Agenda Item 26: Annual Agenda Calendar

Tim Clark made the motion to consider the need for an Executive Session to discuss Agenda Item 27: Superintendent's Evaluation. Arnold Witt seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss Agenda Item 27: Superintendent's Evaluation. The motion was seconded by Kevin Barefield. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, Kevin Barefield, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: None.

Board Chairman Cockrell immediately closed the session and cleared the room to consider an Executive Session of the December 12, 2023 Regular Meeting of the South Tippah School District Board of Trustees.

Chairman Cockrell re-convened the open session and announced in the open meeting that the Board had voted unanimously to approve and accept the Superintendent's Evaluation.

There being no further action to come before the Board, Chairman Cockrell entertained a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Tim Clark, seconded by Nicole Bullock, and unanimously approved by the affirmative vote of all Board Members present: Kerry Cockrell, Kevin Barefield, Arnold Witt, Tim Clark, & Nicole Bullock, the Board adjourned until the next regular meeting of the South Tippah School District Board to be held at 5:15 o'clock p.m., on the 16th day of January 2023, at the Oscar Shannon Building, at 410 Greenlee Street, Ripley, Mississippi.

ORDERED, ADOPTED, and RESOLVED, this the 12th day of December 2023.

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Chairman, South Tippah School Board

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Secretary, South Tippah School Board