

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
**SOUTH TIPPAAH SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
Oscar Shannon Building  
June 20, 2023  
5:15 P.M.

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

Members Absent: Kevin Barefield

Others Present: Tony Elliott, Superintendent; Price Elliott, Board Attorney; Ruby Bennett, Assistant Superintendent; Tonya Kuhl, Business Manager; Judd Chapman, & Guests

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

The June 20, 2023 South Tippah School District Meeting Agenda as amended was approved on a motion by Nicole Bullock, seconded by Tim Clark. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Margie Shelton addressed the board with concerns. No action was taken.

Arnold Witt made the motion to accept the Ripley Insurance Proposal for Property & General Liability, as recommended by Judd Chapman. The motion was seconded by Nicole Bullock. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

The May 16, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes, May 16, 2023 Executive Session of the Regular Meeting Minutes, and May 24, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes were approved on a motion by Tim Clark and seconded by Arnold Witt. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not

voting: Kevin Barefield.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Disposal of Fixed Assets

Disposal Amount of \$48,888.72

Summary Statement of Fixed Assets

Additions of \$51,886.76

Fund Raisers

Pine Grove School

Cheer, Mini Cheer Camp, July 21, 2023

Ripley High School

Softball, Skills Camp, June 23, 2023

Men's Basketball, Car Wash, June 3, 2023

Field Trips

Ripley Elementary School

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, The Park, May 18, 2023

Request for Release

Adilynn Austin	New Albany
Axel Austin	New Albany
Emersyn Grace Ferrell	Tupelo Public
Allie Floyd	Booneville
Ellie Daniel Childs	Union County

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

Arnold Witt made the motion to approve the Ripley Middle School Improvement Plan Report. Nicole Bullock seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

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

Nicole Bullock made the motion to approve the Pine Grove School Activity Fund Claim to Jostens for \$10,000. The motion was seconded by Arnold Witt. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

The Claims Docket, claims #97744 - #98115, was approved on a motion by Arnold Witt and seconded by Tim Clark. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

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

Arnold Witt made the motion to accept the following resignations from licensed personnel: Libby Ward, Tippah Career & Technology Center. The motion was seconded by Nicole Bullock. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

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

Blue Mountain School

Callie Smith, Teacher  
Britt Lindley, Teacher/Coach

Pine Grove School

Owen Hill, Teacher

Ripley Elementary School

Holly Fortier, Teacher  
Kelly Ward, Assistant Principal



Ripley High School

Chad White, Teacher/Coach

Ripley Middle School

Jessica Thomas, Teacher

District

Joanna Ozbirn, Special Education Director

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

Arnold Witt made the motion to employ the following non-licensed personnel for SY23-24:

Bus Drivers

Patrick Pounds, Regular Rte. Driver  
Kathy Dixon, Bus Monitor  
Scott Kuhl, Special Needs Rte. Driver

District

Kenesha Sweezer, Assistant Food Service Supervisor

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

Nicole Bullock made the motion to employ the following summer workers for 2023:

Pine Grove School

Kevin Wells, Summer Worker @ \$10/hour

Ripley Elementary School

Jamas Cox, Summer Worker @ \$10/hour  
Noah Christian, Summer Worker @ \$10/hour  
Rheagan Campbell, Summer Worker @ \$10/hour

Ripley Middle School

Yusset Ruedas, Summer Worker @ \$10/hour

Bus Shop

Immanuel Griffin, Summer Worker @ \$10/hour  
Jeremiah Crum, Summer Worker @ \$10/hour

Austin Hill, Summer Worker @ \$10/hour  
Michael Turner, Summer Worker @ \$10/hour  
Candice Sparkman, 1 ½ Summer Bus Rte.  
Chris Shinall, ½ Summer Bus Rte.  
Lisa Lewis, 2 Summer Bus Rte.  
Jessica Prather, 1 Summer Bus Rte.  
Paula Johnson, 1 Summer Bus Rte.

District

Laura Roberts, Summer Worker @ \$34.20/hour  
Joanna Ozbirn, Summer Worker @ \$10/hour

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

Nicole Bullock made the motion to approve the SY22-23 Gifted Report. Arnold Witt seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Tim Clark made the motion to approve the New Albany/South Tippah/Union County Alternative Education Agreement for 2023-2024. The motion was seconded by Nicole Bullock. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Arnold Witt made the motion to approve the South Tippah School District Homeless and Unaccompanied Youth Policy. Nicole Bullock seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Arnold Witt made the motion to approve the South Tippah School District English Learner, Immigrant and Migrant Policy and Plan. The motion was seconded by Nicole Bullock. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Arnold Witt made the motion to approve the South Tippah School District Parent and Family Engagement Plan. The motion was seconded by Nicole Bullock. Voting for the motion:

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

Arnold Witt made the motion to approve the South Tippah School District Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care Plan. Nicole Bullock seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

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

Arnold Witt made the motion to approve the Instructional Management Plan for 2023-2024. Nicole Bullock seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Arnold Witt made the motion to approve the Supplement, Not Supplant Methodology. Nicole Bullock seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Tim Clark made the motion to approve the South Tippah School District Contract Agreement with Awareness Educational Services, LLC for SY23-24. The motion was seconded by Nicole Bullock. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Arnold Witt made the motion to approve the Behavior, Attention, and Developmental Disabilities Consultants, LLC Addendum for SY22-23. Tim Clark seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to approve the South Tippah School District Contract Agreement for Services with Assurance ELA Consulting, LLC for FY24. Arnold Witt seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Tim Clark made the motion to approve the South Tippah School District Contract Agreement with Xcel Consulting, LLC for FY24. The motion was seconded by Nicole Bullock. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Arnold Witt made the motion to approve the Fortenberry & Ballard, PC Proposal for Audit Services to South Tippah School District for FY23 & FY24. Tim Clark seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to approve the Disposal of Used Textbooks. Arnold Witt seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

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

Nicole Bullock made the motion to approve the Athletic Handbook for SY23-24. Tim Clark seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Arnold Witt made the motion to approve the Student Handbook Revisions for SY23-24. The motion was seconded by Nicole Bullock. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.



Tim Clark made the motion to approve the Rayco Rental Agreement with Ripley Middle School. The motion was seconded by Nicole Bullock. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to approve the Rayco Rental Agreement with South Tippah School District for the District Office. Tim Clark seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Arnold Witt made the motion to approve community recreation activities conducted by district coaches. Coaches are allowed to charge a registration fee to defray the costs of the camp activities. The motion was seconded by Tim Clark. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to deem catastrophic illness for non-licensed personnel 1RCI2023. Tim Clark seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Tim Clark made the motion approve the bid rejection for the Ripley High Math/Science Complex Skylight Repairs as recommended by Justin Zahner with Shafer Zahner Zahner. The motion was seconded by Nicole Bullock. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Arnold Witt made the motion to approve the Employment Resolution (Attached). The motion was seconded by Tim Clark. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Nicole Bullock made the motion to approve the Resolution of Intent (Attached). Tim

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

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

Nicole Bullock made the motion to approve the revisions to Board Policies: GBN, GBRIA, & GBRMB. The motion was seconded by Arnold Witt. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Tim Clark made the motion to approve the Board Policy Review of Section G: Personnel (GBAAB-GBR-P). Nicole Bullock seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

Arnold Witt made the motion to move the Budget Adoption back to June on the Annual Agenda Calendar. Nicole Bullock seconded the motion. Voting for the motion: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & Nicole Bullock. Voting against the motion: None. Absent and not voting: Kevin Barefield.

There being no further action to come before the Board, Chairman Cockrell entertained a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Nicole Bullock, seconded by Tim Clark, and unanimously approved by the affirmative vote of all Board Members present: Kerry Cockrell, Tim Clark, Arnold Witt, & 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 18th day of July 2023, at the Oscar Shannon Building, at 410 Greenlee Street, Ripley, Mississippi.

ORDERED, ADOPTED, and RESOLVED, this the 20th day of June 2023.

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Chairman, South Tippah School Board

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Secretary, South Tippah School Board