

**Board of Education Minutes
February 11, 2008**

The Lebanon Special School District Board of Education Meeting was called to order by Steve Jones, Board Chair, at 5:00 p.m., in the Director of School's Office, 701 Coles Ferry Pike. Board Members, Joel Thacker and Mark Tomlinson, and Director of Schools, Dr. Sharon Roberts, were also in attendance. Dr. Roberts led the pledge to the flag. A moment of silence was observed.

Dr. Roberts stated that there were no additions to the agenda. On a motion made by Joel Thacker and seconded Mark Tomlinson, the agenda was approved.

Recognition

Dr. Roberts stated that LSSD recently named school and system "Teacher of the Year" recipients. Jeanne Ray discussed the process involved with Teacher of the Year competition. One teacher from each school was named as school winner and two teachers were selected to move forward in the competition. Those recognized at each school were: Julie Whitefield (Sam Houston Elementary), Ron Davenport (Walter J. Baird), Renee Hearn (Coles Ferry Elementary), Candace Dodson (Castle Heights Upper Elementary). JoEllen Grooms (Byars Dowdy Elementary) was named but was unable to attend the board meeting. She will be recognized next month. Dr. Roberts congratulated Julie Whitefield for being selected Teacher of the Year for grades K-4 and Ron Davenport for grades 5-8 for the district. Both individuals will represent LSSD in the local and state competitions. Dr. Roberts also recognized Linda Bradley for being selected as the system's first "Paraprofessional of the Year".

Consent Agenda

On a motion made by Mark Tomlinson and seconded by Joel Thacker, the minutes from the January 14, 2008, meeting and the personnel request was approved.

New Business

Dr. Roberts requested approval of the 2006-07 Audit of LSSD Annual Financial Report. Joel Parks, LSSD Auditor, was present at the meeting and informed the Board that the audit was "strong" as usual. The audit presented was a district level audit as we are currently waiting on school level audits to be completed. On a motion made by Joel Thacker and seconded by Mark Tomlinson the report was approved.

Dr. Roberts presented the second reading of the Tobacco-Free Schools Policy. She stated that no changes have been made to the policy since the first reading. On a motion made by Mark Tomlinson and seconded by Joel Thacker the second reading of the policy was approved.

Dr. Roberts presented the first reading of the Equipment Policy. She stated that this policy ensures our compliance with federal mandates. On a motion made by Mark Tomlinson and seconded by Joel Thacker the first reading of the policy was approved.

Dr. Roberts presented a Request for Purchase from Castle Heights Upper Elementary PTO. The PTO has requested the purchase of a Promethean Board, software, projector and Activote system. Dr. Roberts stated that the PTO has funds to cover the cost of the purchase. On a motion made by Joel Thacker and seconded by Mark Tomlinson the request for purchase was approved.

Jeanne Ray requested board approval to purchase 20 laptops. She stated that the opportunity to purchase the latest Apple laptops at a great cost now would save the district a considerable amount of money this budget year since the funds have been allocated for the upgrade in the current budget. On a motion made by Joel Thacker and seconded by Mark Tomlinson the request to purchase was approved.

Reports/Information

Dr. Roberts provided a monthly attendance report for all schools and indicated that the district has experienced a 7.3%-9.8% absenteeism rate. She stated that we are continuing to monitor documented flu cases within our schools.

Dr. Roberts shared the Principal's Performance Contract with Board members. She stated that legislative sessions have addressed accountability measures and we have made modifications to align with those changes.

Dr. Roberts informed the Board that the State Board passed new standards for grades K-8. The new standards will be fully implemented in the 2009-10 school year. The new standards have added more rigor to the curriculum to better align with NAPE. She also stated the intent was to move from a knowledge level to an application level for students. New high school graduation requirements were also implemented and will affect the incoming 7th grade class.

Other Business

Dr. Roberts recommended to the board that the next Board of Education meeting date be March 24, 2008, at 5:00 p.m. Being no further business, Joel Thacker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 5:20 p.m., and Mark Tomlinson seconded the motion and adjourned the meeting.