

**Minutes Regular Meeting of the El Dorado School Board  
July 10, 2023**

The directors of the board met on the above date at 6:00 p.m. in the Central Office Board Room, 200 West Oak St, El Dorado, Arkansas with Susan Turbeville presiding. Other directors present were Vicky Dobson, Renee Skinner, Kenneth Clemons, Wayne Gibson, and Keith Smith and Todd Whatley. Also in attendance were Jim Tucker, Melissa Powell, Sherry Floss, Shelley Pruitt, and Missy Passmore.

Mrs. Turbeville asked if there were corrections or additions to the minutes of the meetings held June 12 and the Special Called Meeting on June 26. On a motion by Todd Whatley, a second by Vicky Dobson, and carried on a 7-0 vote the minutes were approved and are on file in the superintendent's office.

The board reviewed the monthly bills. After a time of discussion and on a motion by Wayne Gibson, seconded by Todd Whatley, and carried on a 7-0 vote, the minutes were approved and are on file in the superintendent's office.

Jennifer Lee Presented a Curriculum Update for WMS 5th & 6th grade Math. They created a committee made up of 5th grade math teachers Lori Wilcox and Sarika Mohandas, and 6th grade math teachers Anna Norris, Willow Waggoner and Timothy Franks. The Curriculum Resource Title is Kendall Hunt Illustrative Mathematics. The resource description states that Illustrative Mathematics is a problem-based core curriculum rooted in content and practice standards to foster learning and achievement for all. Students learn by doing math through solving problems, developing conceptual understanding, and discussing and defending their reasoning. Teachers build confidence with lessons and curriculum guides that help them facilitate learning and help students make connections between concepts and procedures.

She stated that the rationale for choosing this curriculum is that it was approved by the Arkansas Department of Education's Ed Reports and a High Quality Instructional Material. It is aligned to the new mathematics standards. It provides a consistent transition from elementary to middle school (The elementary schools have been using this resource for the past two years.) It meets expectations for assessing grade-level content and the assessments are aligned to grade-level standards. Overall, the materials devote at least 65% of class time to major work of the grade level. She also stated that the suggested amount of time and expectations of the materials for teachers and students are viable for one school year as written and would not require significant modifications. As designed, the instructional materials can be completed in a school year. After a time of discussion, on a motion by Wayne Gibson, a second by Kenneth Clemons and carried on a 7-0 vote it was

RESOLVED that the board hereby approves the Curriculum Adoption Update for the WMS, 5th and 6th grade Mathematics as presented.

Next Jeannie Strother presented the Curriculum Adoption Recommendation for 10th grade English Language Arts. Committee members included 9th grade English teachers Alyssa Bean, Morgan Clark, and Grace Wolfe, 10th grade English teachers Aprile Richardson, Mary Thomas Hodnett, and Lynn Gunter and Literacy Instructional Facilitator Brady McDuffie. The Curriculum Resource Title is Pre-AP English 2. The Curriculum Resource Description is that Pre-AP English 2 builds on the foundations of Pre-AP English 1. While English 1 introduces the fundamentals of close observation, critical analysis, and the appreciation of author's craft, English 2 requires students to apply those practices to a new array of nonfiction and literary texts. As readers, students become aware of how poets, playwrights, novelists, and writers of nonfiction manipulate language to serve their purposes. As writers, students compose more nuanced analytical essays while never losing sight of craft and cohesion.

Mrs. Strother stated that the rationale for choosing this curriculum is that it is approved by the Arkansas Department of Education. It is paid for by the Department of Education for two more years. It is aligned to the new ELA standards. It provides consistent translation from English 9 and then into AP English Language and Composition (11th Grade). It meets expectations for assessing grade-level content. She stated that the suggested amount of time and expectations of the materials for teachers and students are viable for one school year as written and would not require significant modifications. As designed, the instructional materials can be completed in a school year. After a time of discussion, on a motion by Renee Skinner, a second by Vicky Dobson and carried on a 7-0 vote it was

RESOLVED that the board hereby approves the Curriculum Adoption Update for the 10th grade English Language Arts as presented to the board.

Mrs. Strother then presented the Curriculum Adoption Recommendation for WMS's 5th & 6th Grade English and Writing. Committee members included 5th grade Writing Teachers Courtney Canady, Haley Moore and Brianna Murphy, 6th grade Writing teachers Kari Carelock, Deborah Guevara, and Destiny Island, and Intervention and Assessment Coordinator Kristyna Newton. The Curriculum Resource Title is Benchmark Education Writing Workshop. The Description for this curriculum is that the Benchmark Writer's Workshop is a flexible set of resources designed to help all teachers be confident and effective writing mentors and empower students to set goals, take risks, and discover their own voices. As required by the Arkansas English Language Arts (ELA) standards, students receive instruction and practice opportunities in the three modes of writing: narrative, informative, and opinion. The curriculum develops the complexity of syntax, vocabulary, grammar, and conventions to produce grade-level process writing as well as writing in response to reading.

The rationale for choosing this curriculum is that WMS teachers asked for a specific writing curriculum even though a writing curriculum does not currently have to be approved by the state. Teachers wanted a program that connected to their reading instruction and provided embedded PD. Professional Development by Benchmark curriculum specialists is included with the adoption of the material. It aligned to the new ELA standards. It provides a consistent transition from elementary to middle school. It meets expectations for assessing grade-level writing. As designed, the instructional materials can be completed in a school year. After a time of discussion, on a motion by Renee Skinner, a second by Keith Smith and carried on a 7-0 vote it was

RESOLVED that the board hereby approves the Curriculum Adoption for 5th & 6th grade English/ Writing as presented to the board.

Mr Tucker thanked the board for drawing a line in the sand during the 2022-2023 school year when it came to discipline issues. He stated that the goal is a safe environment for our students and he believes the board did a wonderful job working towards that goal. Mr. Tucker then presented the Student Handbook Policy updates for the 2023-2024 school year. After a time of discussion, on a motion by Todd Whatley, a second by Kenneth Clemons and carried on a 7-0 vote it was

RESOLVED that the board hereby approves the Student Handbook Discipline Policy as presented to the board. A copy of the updated policies can be found on the district website.

Mrs. Turbeville stated that we had received the following transfer requests, and Mr. Tucker stated that as they are legal transfers it is his recommendation to approve the following transfers.

Parent resides in El Dorado and would like to transfer her student, to the Parkers Chapel School District. On a motion by Vicky Dobson, a second by Kenneth Clemons and carried on a 7-0 vote it was

RESOLVED that the board hereby approves the transfer of this student to the Parkers Chapel School District.

Parent resides in the Parkers Chapel school district, would like to transfer her student to the El Dorado School District. On a motion by Kenneth Clemons, a second by Wayne Gibson, and carried on a 7-0 vote it was

RESOLVED that the board hereby approves the transfer of student to the El Dorado School District.

Parent resides in the Strong-Huttig school district and would like to transfer her student to the El Dorado School District. On a motion by Vicky Dobson, a second by Keith Smith and carried on a 7-0 vote it was

RESOLVED that the board hereby approves the transfer of Ella Kayt Streets to the El Dorado School District.

Parent resides in the Strong Huttig school district and would like to transfer her student to the El Dorado School District. On a motion by Todd Whatley, a second by Kenneth Clemons and carried on a 7-0 vote it was

RESOLVED that the board hereby approves the transfer of to the student to El Dorado

School District.

Parent resides in the El Dorado School District and would like to transfer his student to the Parkers Chapel School District. On a motion by Vicky Dobson, a second by Kenneth Clemons and carried on a 7-0 vote it was

RESOLVED that the board hereby approves the transfer of the student to the Parkers Chapel School District.

Mrs. Turbeville made the following announcements:

- **ASBA's Administrative Directives and Hard Conversations Sessions -**  
Attorney Kristen Garner will use a practical and experiential learning experience for licensed and unlicensed supervisors and school leaders in light of the new Arkansas LEARNS Act. There are multiple sessions available.
  - June 6, 2023 (Register by June 22) 9:00am-2:00pm - lunch provided
  - July 12, 2023 (Register by June 28) 9:00am-2:00pm - lunch provided
  - July 25, 2023 (Register by July 11) 9:00am-2:00pm - lunch provided
  - August 2, 2023 (Register by July 19) 9:00am-2:00pm - lunch provided
  - August 10, 2023 (Register by July 19) 9:00am-2:00pm - lunch provided
- **Administrator's Retreat** - The Lodge @ Mt Magazine, Paris, AR, July 17-19  
Check in is at 4PM on the 17th and check out is 11am on the 19th.
- **2023 Central Hybrid Fall Leadership Institute**, Hot Springs Convention Center, September 28, 2023
- **2023 AAEA Fall Conference**, Benton, AR - October 10, 2023
- **70th ASBA Annual Conference**, Marriott Hotel & Statehouse Convention Center December 6-8
- **New Board Member Boot Camp**, Marriott Hotel & Statehouse Convention Center December 6

The meeting recessed to an executive session to discuss personnel matters at 6:35 pm. The board reconvened to an open meeting at 7:30 pm and on a motion by Wayne Gibson, a second by Renee Skinner and carried on a 7-0 vote. it was:

RESOLVED that the board hereby approves the superintendent's recommendation concerning the acceptance of resignations and the employment of new personnel.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:36 pm.