



# Sumner County Board of Education

## MEETING MINUTES - JULY 5, 2007

The Sumner County Board of Education met in a special called session at 7 p.m. on Thursday, July 5, 2007. The meeting was held in the Board Meeting Room of the District Central Office, located at 695 E. Main Street in Gallatin. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Fussell. Board members Mary Ralph Bradley, David Brown, Mike Fussell, Glen Gregory, Don Long, Sharon Lyle, Nancy Roth, Randy Stamps, and Rob Wheeler were present. Will Duncan and Ben Harris were noted absent. Director of Schools Benny Bills and Board Attorney Jim Fuqua were present.

The purpose of the meeting was to:

1. Consider and take action on recommendations from the Architect Proposal Review Committee concerning Phase One of the Continuing Growth Building Program; and
2. Consider and take action on the 2007-08 General Purpose School Fund Budget.

Architect Proposal Review Committee Chairman Don Long reported that the Committee approved its recommendation to the Board at a meeting held earlier on this evening. Mr. Long moved and Mr. Gregory seconded approval of Committee's recommendation to make the following architect assignments for Phase One of the Continuing Growth Building Program: Kaatz, Binkley, Jones and Morris - new Portland elementary school, new Portland middle school, new Westmoreland Elementary School, and new Drakes Creek middle school, if the firm honors the 2.3 percent fee it announced during the Committee meeting; Johnson & Bailey - renovation and addition projects for Portland Middle School, Bethpage Elementary School, Portland High School, and Hyde Magnet School; and Hart Freeland Roberts - renovation and addition projects at Gene Brown Elementary School, Oakmont Elementary School, Nannie Berry Elementary School, and North Sumner Elementary School. Mr. Wheeler moved to amend the motion to have Mr. Long and Mr. Bills negotiate fees with the firms. The proposed amendment was accepted as part of the main motion by the makers of the motion and the second. Director Bills recommended approval of the recommendation. The motion was approved 9-0.

Board members discussed the draft of the 2007-08 General Purpose School Fund Budget dated July 5, 2007. Chairman Fussell proposed adjusting the budget so that all teachers, regardless of their years of experience, would receive a total salary increase of five percent from the combination of steps, state increases, and local increases. Without objection, the Board heard from Chief Negotiator Ron Hosse concerning the process of re-opening negotiations to change a previously ratified contract article. Chairman Fussell urged the Board to give direction to Mr. Bills to include the five percent for all teachers in the next draft of the budget. Mr. Wheeler moved and Mr. Long seconded a request for the Director and staff to study the proposal made by Chairman Fussell and make a report on its potential impact to the district, including suggestions of possible budget reductions to fund such a change, and make a recommendation to the Board concerning the proposal. The motion passed 6-3, with Mr. Long, Mr. Wheeler, Ms. Bradley, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Brown, and Chairman Fussell voting yes; and with Mr. Stamps, Ms. Lyle, and Ms. Roth voting no.

Chairman Fussell urged the Board to give direction to Mr. Bills to include the entire original budget request of the Maintenance Department in the next draft budget submitted to the Board. Mr. Gregory moved and Mr. Long seconded a request for the Director and staff to study and report on the impact of funding the full request of the Maintenance Department. The motion failed to obtain the six votes required for approval, with Mr. Long, Ms. Bradley, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Brown, and Chairman Fussell voting yes; and with Mr. Stamps, Ms. Lyle, Mr. Wheeler, and Ms. Roth voting no.

Mr. Stamps moved and Ms. Lyle seconded approval of the Draft 2007-08 General Purpose School Fund Budget dated July 5, 2007, along with a request that the County Commission fund the shortfall in the budget by reallocating the two cents of the property tax rate that was moved from School General Purpose to County Debt Service on June 18, 2007. Director Bills recommended approval of the draft budget. The motion failed to obtain the six votes required for approval, with Mr. Stamps, Ms. Lyle, Mr. Wheeler, and Ms. Roth voting yes; and with Mr. Long, Ms. Bradley, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Brown, and Chairman Fussell voting no.

Mr. Stamps moved and Mr. Wheeler seconded adjournment. Without objection, the motion was approved, and the meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

**Approved: 7/17/07**

  
Benny Bills, Director of Schools

  
Mike Fussell, Board Chairman