

EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION MINUTES

A special meeting of the Educational Commission was held on May 29, 2019.

INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME:

Chairman Pro Tem Veazey called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm. Veazey read a prepared statement which gave an overview of the mission of the Educational Commission. In his overview, Veazey also mentioned each of the six school districts that serve students from Olympia Fields. Finally, Veazey provided an outline of the evening's agenda and process. Veazey also addressed a rumor that had circulated that had erroneously stated the purpose of the meeting. Finally, Veazey informed the audience of the pre-prepared questions (attached), which were made available and had been previously forwarded Dr. Davis and Dr. Thomas, for response during their presentations. A summary of Olympia Fields student attendance in schools (attached) was also made available.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delores Woods, Doris Langon, Kijuana Marshall, Cheryl Rutherford, Tanya Davis, Trustee Watkins

GUESTS:

Dr. Blondean Davis, Dr. Johnnie Thomas, Shirley Johnson, Michael Johnson, Bill Reems, Geraldine Tyler, Brian McGraw, Jeannie McGraw, Randy Alexander, Ethel Collier, Pat Collier, Trustee Pennington, Elizabeth Barnes Burkhardt, Steven Cook, Erika Sorkol, Drella Savage, Nate Grant, Bruce Betts, Deborah Benny, Doug Hamilton, Daniel Evans, Nicole Porter, Marissa Burns, Brian Hale, Anthony Young, Janice Preston, Nicole Griffin, Victor Blackwell, Sharon Eubanks Pope, Nadia Wendy Lane, Robert Lane, Carolyn Fishman, David Smith, Steven Jackson

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment offered.

AGENDA ITEM: PRESENTATION BY DR. BLONDEAN DAVIS, SUPERINTENDENT, DISTRICT 162/CEO SOUTHLAND COLLEGE PREP HIGH SCHOOL

Dr. Davis gave a power point presentation. The presentation is attached. Dr. Davis began her presentation by mentioning that she is completing her fifteenth year leading District 162 and her ninth year leading Southland. She stated that in her time she has seen an evolution within the schools and community which would be explained later in her presentation.

AGENDA ITEM: PRESENTATION BY DR. JOHNNIE THOMAS, SUPERINTENDENT, DISTRICT 227

Dr. Thomas gave a power point presentation. The presentation is attached. Dr. Thomas made a point to begin his presentation with a plea for help in the areas of parent participation and community involvement. He stated that his students are in "crisis" and that there is a void of hope amongst the students. He wished that the schools and community would re-connect. Dr. Thomas also distributed a flyer outlining dates for the forums District 227 is holding regarding facilities.

AGENDA ITEM: QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Dr. Davis and Dr. Thomas fielded and answered several questions from the audience.

AGENDA ITEM: NEXT STEPS

Veazey requested audience suggestions of "potential next steps" for the Educational Commission to work on in collaboration with the school districts. The list of Potential Next Steps is attached.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m..