

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF REORGANIZED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 4  
BLUE SPRINGS, JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI**

December 11, 2023

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The Board of Education of the Reorganized School District No. 4, County of Jackson, State of Missouri, met in regular session at 6:15 p.m., December 11, 2023, in the Professional Learning Center of the Gale T. Bartow Administrative Center, 1801 NW Vesper, Blue Springs, Missouri.

Present: Mr. Hawk, Mr. Siems, Mr. Swanson, Mrs. Gilstrap, Mrs. Coen, Mrs. Agate, and Mrs. Swank

Absent: None

President Hawk noted all board members were in attendance and called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Dr. Jerome introduced Blue Springs South High School Air Force JROTC Colonel Stan Cole and Senior Master Sergeant Courtney Jones. The JROTC Raider Team from South won their second Air Force National Championship at the All-Service Raider Nationals in Molena, Georgia. Cadet leaders described their season and attributed the team's success to the hard work displayed by every member. Video footage showed the different obstacles and their outstanding efforts.

President Hawk asked for any objections to the adoption of the Consent Agenda.

No. 26 Hearing no objections, President Hawk stated the following consent agenda items were approved by unanimous consent as presented:

- a. minutes of the regular board meeting of November 13, 2023  
minutes of the special board meeting of December 4, 2023
- b. ratification of cash disbursements
- c. approval of the monthly check register over \$15,000
- d. approval of execution of specified contracts
- e. bid tabulations on the following items:
  1. High School Course Book Printing – BAC
  2. Ethernet Routing Switches – LTEC, PCC, BAC, B & G, Transportation
  3. Routing Software Program Upgrade – Transportation
- f. certified personnel items as follows:
  1. retirement resignations from the following certified employees effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year:
    - a. Rodney Day – Moreland Ridge Middle School
    - b. Kristi White – Moreland Ridge Middle School
- g. approval of the school calendar for the 2024-2025 school year as recommended by the district calendar committee and discussed at the December 4, 2023 board work session
- h. approval of the annual DESE District Assurance Checklist for 2023-2024
- i. salary increases on certain classified salary schedules based on Missouri minimum wage
- j. the following student trips as requested:
  1. Blue Springs South High School Girls Basketball – Tournament – December 14 through 16, 2023 – Springfield, Missouri
  2. Blue Springs High School Dance Team – Competition – January 13 and 14, 2024 – St. Louis, Missouri

3. Blue Springs High School Girls Basketball – Tournament – January 18 through 20, 2024 – Frontenac, Kansas
4. Blue Springs South High School Girls Swim and Dive – Competition – January 19 and 20, 2024 – Columbia, Missouri
5. Blue Springs South High School Boys Wrestling – Tournament – January 19 and 20, 2024 – Columbia, Missouri
6. Blue Springs South High School AFJROTC Drill Team – Competition – January 19 and 20, 2024 – Waynesville, Missouri
7. Blue Springs South High School Cheerleading – Competition – January 19 through 22, 2024 – Dallas, Texas
8. Blue Springs South High School Debate and Forensics – Tournament – January 26 and 27, 2024 – Jefferson City, Missouri
9. Blue Springs High School Choir – Performance – February 15 through 19, 2024 – New York, New York
10. Blue Springs South High School Choir – Performance – May 3 through 5, 2024 – Branson, Missouri

President Hawk asked for any objections to the adoption of the Regular Agenda.

No. 27 Hearing no objections, President Hawk stated the adoption of the regular agenda was approved by unanimous consent as presented.

Katie Woolf announced that Dawn Creswell, bus driver at McMillian Transportation Center, was the December Employee of the Month. President Hawk presented a plaque and gift bag in recognition of the award. Mrs. Creswell thanked the board and administration for the honor, accepting it on behalf of all drivers and bus aides. She expressed her gratitude to her department and district staff for the love and support they provide to her and everyone across the district family.

Katie Woolf announced Kadence Shepherd, 12<sup>th</sup> grader at Blue Springs High School, as the December Student of the Month. Kadence was presented with a plaque and gift bag by President Hawk. She thanked the board and her principal for the award, and school administrators, Coach Cole, and her family for being a constant support system.

Jason Woolf introduced Franklin Smith Elementary School Principal Jennie Alderman for presentation of the program highlight, featuring the FSE school events and clubs which connect learning to the Leader in Me Program and the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People. Students Ma'Khi Davis, Dylan Peyton, Tristan Basic-Purdie, Claire Davison, and Riley Basic-Purdie shared their experience and teacher Rani Khakh provided a staff perspective.

The MSBA update video was presented.

Chief Russell introduced a new Department of Public Safety Officer.

No. 28 Jeff Siems moved to commission the new officer to the Blue Springs School District Department of Public Safety, pursuant to section 162.215 RSMo. Kurt Swanson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously in favor.

President Hawk administered the oath of office to Public Safety Officer Nicholas Rose.

Dr. Jerome presented administrative retirements for consideration.

No. 29 Kay Coen moved to accept the retirement resignation of Bryan Weyrauch, assistant principal at Brittany Hill Middle School, effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. Rebeca Swank seconded the motion, which carried unanimously in favor.

No. 30 Kurt Swanson moved to accept the retirement resignation of Jill Sherman, assistant principal at Moreland Ridge Middle School, effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. Kay Coen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously in favor.

Dr. Jerome presented administrative hiring recommendations for the 2024-2025 school year for consideration, created by previously announced retirements and approval from the board for the return of an additional assistant superintendent position.

No. 31 Rebeca Swank moved to approve the promotion of Danica Fuimaono from Director of Student and Diversity Services to Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, effective for the 2024-2025 school year. Jeff Siems seconded the motion, which carried unanimously in favor.

No. 32 Kurt Swanson moved to approve the promotion of Liz Talamantez from Director of Elementary Education to Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, effective for the 2024-2025 school year. Rhonda Gilstrap seconded the motion, which carried unanimously in favor.

No. 33 Jeff Siems moved to approve the promotion of Steve Cook from Director of Secondary Education to Assistant Superintendent of Operations, effective for the 2024-2025 school year. Kay Coen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously in favor.

The public meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

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Karin E. Keener, Secretary  
Blue Springs R-IV Board of Education

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Robert Hawk, President  
Blue Springs R-IV Board of Education