

**SPECIAL MEETING M I N U T E S**  
**ADA BOARD OF EDUCATION – MARCH 27, 2018**

The Board of Independent School District Number 19, of Pontotoc County, State of Oklahoma met in regular session at the office of the Board of Education, 324 West 20<sup>th</sup>, Ada, Oklahoma in said school district on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2018, at 5:31 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Ms. Keri C. Norris, President; Ms. Russ Gurley, Vice-President; Mr. Doug Haney, Clerk; Mr. Kyle Stuart, Member; Dr. Todd Boone, Member

**ABSENT:** None

**STAFF ATTENDING:** Mr. Mike Anderson, Superintendent, Mr. Bryan Harwell Executive Director; Mrs. Paula Kedy, Executive Director; Mrs. Lisa Fulton, Federal Programs Director; Ms. Becky Huckleby, Deputy Minutes Clerk;

**GUESTS:** Ms. Taylor Knapp, SFE; Mr. Eric Swanson, Ada Evening News

Notice of this special meeting of the Board of Education was given to the County Clerk of Pontotoc County, Oklahoma, on Thursday, March 22nd, 2018.

Public notice of the meeting, with an agenda, was posted in prominent view at the Board of Education building in said school district at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to this meeting excluding Saturday, Sunday, and legal holidays all in compliance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act.

With a quorum present the meeting was called to order by Ms. Keri C. Norris, President, at 5:31 p.m.

Ms. Norris invited discussion with possible instruction to the superintendent and/or possible Board action on the subject of a suspension of school and the potential teacher Work Stoppage.

Mr. Anderson commented this is a difficult situation and very fluid as there are no templates, workshops, classes or prior experiences to work from. There is not a perfect mechanism, but it is necessary that we use respect and be together and suspend school as necessary. The message a walkout sends is critically important; but, he was also certain that there were other ways to send that message. It is very important that we respect one another's decisions and stay unified.

Dr. Boone commented on his concerns regarding student activities, special needs students and student services. He was concerned about suspending school and not suspending student activities. He stated it really isn't a strike unless everything is suspended. He would like the class time to be made up. Mr. Anderson stated that class time would be made up; however, student activities could not be made up.

Mr. Haney commented that a walkout is a mistake.

Ms. Norris commented she has polled community members. There are no good answers. The students should be a priority in the mix; the students should not be a pawn in the fight; we need compromises with no harm to students.

Mr. Gurley had concerns about partially staffed buildings. He had questions regarding the poll going out to teachers on Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Stuart agreed with Dr. Boone that it didn't seem right to continue the fun activities but cancel instruction time.

Mr. Anderson stated that the classroom time will be made up; but other student activities such as vocal music contest, special Olympics, FCCLA, DECA and BPA competitions will not be made up and students will lose those opportunities if they are not allowed to participate. Mr. Harwell commented that the OSSAA is not cancelling district or playoff student competitions. He also stated that we do not have an even playing field between schools who suspend student activities and those who do not.

Mr. Stuart wants Ada's advocacy goals to target information for the legislators.

Ms. Norris wants organized advocacy with a combined message.

Dr. Boone stated days need to be made up with quality time and asked what is the case if teachers do not return to work.

Ms. Norris wants to get the word out about food service being available to those students during a work stoppage. She appreciated all of the administration working on this.

Each building has a different opinion about a work stoppage. The purpose of the poll is to determine if Monday will be an advocacy day and return to school on Tuesday or whether it indicates school will be suspended for the week and monitored daily. When school resumes, the teacher leave policy will be in place as usual.

Dr. Boone stated it is never a bad thing to do the right thing.

Mr. Haney commented to keep activities in place this week and review again at another board meeting. Ms. Norris suggested if another board meeting be necessary it be held on Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup>.

At the conclusion of this discussion, Ms. Norris gave instruction to Mr. Anderson that if legislation passes, school should be in session on Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. If it doesn't pass, school should be suspended until April 9<sup>th</sup>.

A motion was made by Mr. Doug Haney to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Russ Gurley and passed with Norris, Gurley, Haney, Stuart and Boone voting yes.

s/Kelly Howry  
Kelly Howry, Minutes Clerk

s/Keri C. Norris  
Ms. Keri C. Norris, President