Dyersburg City Schools

School Board Meeting

February 5, 2024

Dyersburg Intermediate School

The Dyersburg City School Board met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. at Dyersburg Intermediate School. Chairperson, Jim Coy Houston, opened the meeting and welcomed those in attendance. The School Board members present for the meeting were: Whitney Allmon, Jim Coy Houston, Mike Hickman, Courtney Patrick, Scott Self, and Gleyn Twilla.

The following consent items were approved by the board with a motion from Scott Self and a second from Whitney Allmon:

1. Tonight’s Agenda
2. Last Month’s Minutes

 3. DHS Cheer to Fort Walton Beach, FL 2/29/24-3/4/24

 4. DHS Dance Team 3/7/24-3/12/24 to Orlando, Fl. (Approved in October

 2023, however, the departure date changed from 3/11 to 3/12)

 5. Mileage Reimbursement from $0.58/mile to $0.67/mile

**New Business**

Brenda Gibson welcomed everyone to DIS and the STEM Lab. She explained that due to this being the first year of learning in a STEM Lab for DIS students, they have been focusing on foundational skills. Students have been working with robotics. Fourth graders have built cars. Fifth grade has been working with replicas of the Mars Rover which allows students to use coding on their computers to stimulate movement. Students have also been using a 3D printer. Ms. Gibson has been using STEM activities to enhance what students are learning in the classroom. She is also preparing them for STEM experiences that will be extended at the middle school level. Mrs. Click explained that 100% of students attend classes in the STEM Lab at different times throughout the year. In addition to STEM classes, DIS has a Robotics Club and a STEM Club. After the meeting, students showcased their projects for all in attendance.

Mrs. Worley discussed the release of the governor’s educational savings account plan. She explained a resolution opposing Governor Lee’s Education Freedom Act. This resolution proposes that public dollars should stay in public schools. If an entity receives public dollars, they should be held to the same accountability as public schools. Mrs. Worley stated that our teachers do a fantastic job educating our students. Dyersburg City Schools does not deny any student regardless of their background.

Scott Self explained that if the governor has his way and a student isn’t meeting certain standards, the parents of that student can take him/her to a private school. When this student leaves, the money for this student leaves public education and goes to the private school. The private school is not held accountable for making certain this student meets the same standards taught and tested in public schools.

Mrs. Worley explained that our parents already have the choice of private, home, or a different public school. This resolution is saying that public dollars should stay in public schools. If public money is taken, then there should be accountability for the money

Scott Self encouraged everyone to contact Rusty Grills, Chris Hurt, Ed Jackson and anyone involved in the legislative process.

Gleyn Twilla discussed his belief that the goal of the Education Freedom Act is to create for-profit businesses. He stated that only a select few students will attend these schools and feels that private schools will use this to increase tuition. Mrs. Worley stated that research shows this is what has happened in states that have already passed legislation such as this act.

With board approval, Scott Self made a motion to approve this resolution with a second from Mike Hickman.

Seela Newbill discussed district status with federal accountability. She shared an overview of how federal accountability is calculated and explained the different categories used for state designation. Based on data from last year, our district is an exemplary district. Exemplary is the highest designation. Dyersburg Middle School is a reward school. Mrs. Newbill stated that we are very, very proud of our students, teachers, and administration. The strongest areas in our district are 3-12 achievement, graduation rate, chronic absenteeism, and growth in grades 6-8.

**Policies:**

With board approval and a second from Courtney Patrick, Gleyn Twilla made a motion to accept the review of policies 5.4-5.803 during first and second reading.

**Successes**

Jim Coy Houston brought attention to the following successes and asked everyone to recognize these achievements with our students.

**DIS**

DIS Spelling Bee Winners:

1st Place - Ben Davis

2nd Place - Tanner Riney

3rd Place - Brielle Stenmark

Trojan Leaders of the Week:

Week of Jan. 3 - Jayla Hunter, Olivia Henderson, Thomas Nolen

Week of Jan. 15 - Aidyn Carthen, Ka'Renia Keeling, Star Bailey

Week of Jan. 29 - Madisyn Washington, Warren Klinkhammer, Cason Boyd

**DMS**

FFA

Congratulations to Ally Hinson for winning the Creed Competition for FFA.  She will advance to the regional contest on February 8th!

Congratulations

The DMS Dance Team recently competed at the NDA Bama Dance Regional in Hoover, Alabama. They performed their competition pom routine and were able to come home with a 3rd place finish, in a very large division, against a talented group of competitors, from across the region, from various states! We are so proud of these ladies for all of their hard work and how they represented DMS! It was a bonus to watch and support our fellow DHS Dance Team sisters, too. Go DMS Dance!

Congrats to the following All-West Region Band Students!

Nia Mackey All-West Blue Band 7th Chair

Henry Polk All-West Red Band 20th Chair

Very tough competition this year! You will do a great job in Memphis at the All-West State Band Convention representing Dyersburg Middle School.

DMS Boys 6th Grade Basketball

Congratulations to the 6th Grade Boys basketball team. They defeated TCA.

Congratulations to the following Trojans of the Week: London Bradley,
Sadie Frye, Dylan Bartley, Katlyn Caldwell, Gracyn Seay, and Cameron McCulloch.

**DHS**

The Dyersburg Lady Trojans record for this season is currently 19-3.  Our district record is 5-0. We are ranked #5 in the state. Our goals this season are to win the district and region championships, to go to state, and bring the gold ball home. We want to make our community and our families proud.

Band-All West

Congratulations to:

Junior Claire Bernheisel made All-West Region Blue Band 11th Chair &

Freshman Madison Neace who made All West Region Red Band 25th Chair

We are proud of these students! It's very hard to make this group.

We had two juniors nominated for the Forked Deer Electric Cooperative Youth Leadership Summit.  Hannah Pankey and Grant Dykes.  Grant was then 1 of 2 students selected from the 8 nominated to represent our region at the summit.  Congratulations Grant!

Congratulations to this week's Trojan ticket drawing winner Jordan Nelson.

FFA

Congratulations to Kate Meadows and Ann Thomas Lowery for competing in the TN State Swine Show. Kate had several class placings and Ann Thomas brought home the hardware for Reserve Champion Showman, Reserve Premier Exhibitor in Market Hogs, and premier exhibitor in breeding gilts!!

**Future Meetings**

February 23-24 School Board Retreat

March 4, 2024 CO

April 1, 2024 CO

May 6, 2024 TOY/Retirement

With no further business and board approval, Whitney Allmon made a motion to adjourn with a second from Scott Self.