

Morgan County Board of Education

Work Session Notes

January 11, 2024 4:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Paul Holmes, Vice Chairman Jimmy Dobbs, Board Members Mike Tarpley, Chris Humphries, Adam Glenn, and Superintendent Tracie R. Turrentine.

Absent: Board Members John Holley and Billy Rhodes.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent invited Mr. Robert L. Elliott, Jr., New Construction Point of Contact for Morgan County Schools, to report on new construction projects currently underway. Included in Mr. Elliott's report:

- Revised completion date for the new classroom addition at Union Hill School is May 29, 2024. Window installation is scheduled for next week. Power to the facility should be turned on January 22nd. Phase one should be complete the middle of March. We are on track with the budget numbers.
- Completion date for the new Priceville Junior High School is July 23, 2025. We are on track with the budget numbers. The gym will be delivered the middle of March. Work pouring slabs and laying blocks is underway for the next month.

Included in the Superintendent's report to the Board:

- Update on proposed use of the Sparkman site.
 - We have reached out to Calhoun about the possibility of using the Sparkman site as an instructional facility for healthcare sciences. This was in response to Governor Ivey's desire to see more healthcare sciences to grow the State's healthcare workforce, and the legislature splitting the grant money among colleges, one possibly being Calhoun.
 - The site is centrally located in the middle of the county and could serve students from throughout the county.
 - The endeavor would not take away from our current Career Technical Education program; it would add new pathways tied to job vacancies within Morgan County.
 - This would also add various adult education pathways and community initiatives.
 - We could know something on the grant proposal as early as February.
 - The Superintendent will recommend a new name for the site at the next Board meeting.

Board Member Comments

- Mr. Dobbs reported on the upcoming Alabama Association of School Boards (AASB) Spring Conference taking place locally at the Westin, Huntsville, AL. Attendees will have an opportunity to tour the Alabama School of Cyber Technology and Engineering as well as participate in the Poverty Simulation all of our teachers go through. Mr. Dobbs said the locality of the conference makes it a good time for Board members to earn training hours; he encouraged our Board members to attend. AASB is marking their 75th year of providing training to Board members throughout the State.
- Mr. Holmes noted that the contract for the system's Chief School Finance Officer states they will be evaluated annually. Mr. Holmes would like to see us get the evaluation done in

April or May. The same evaluation model used last year will be used for this year's evaluation. Mr. Holmes will get with Mrs. Goode to schedule the evaluation.

Agenda Changes

- **Added to the agenda in the form of recommendations from the Superintendent: personnel items nine through seventeen. The Board members are supplied with a list of the agenda changes and supporting documentation as it applies.**

Board Member Comments

- **The proposed use of the Sparkman site is good news; these are exciting times for our system and the Board is looking forward to it.**
- **Please keep Mr. Holley and Mr. Rhodes in your thoughts and prayers as they are both under the weather a little bit and have some issues going on.**