

FORT PAYNE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BOARD BRIEFS

March 23, 2023, Regular Monthly Meeting 6PM in the Conference Room of the Central Office

Called the meeting to order and welcome the guests.

Established a quorum.

Approved the minutes of the February 23, 2023, regular meeting, as submitted.

I Presentation

A. MDA Professional Group

II Personnel

A. Retirements

1. Accepted the resignation of the following personnel, due to retirement, as submitted:

- Kala Kirby, Guidance Counselor at Fort Payne High School, effective July 1, 2023
- Susan Hollingsworth, System-wide SPE Aide, effective June 1, 2023

B. Resignations

1. Accepted the resignation of the following personnel, as submitted:

- Brittney Owens, JV and Varsity Cheer Sponsor, effective March 15, 2023
- Sarah Nelson, Instructional Aide at Fort Payne Middle School, effective May 26, 2023
- Ericka Reed, System-wide CNP Worker, effective March 27, 2023

C. Transfers

1. Approved the transfer of the following personnel, as submitted:

- Michael Banks, Head Boys Varsity Basketball Coach at Fort Payne High School, to Assistant Boys Varsity Basketball Coach at Fort Payne High School, effective for the 2023-2024 school year, as submitted.
- Sam Benson, Library Aide at Fort Payne High School to a Science Teacher at Fort Payne High School, effective February 28, 2023 and non-renew his contract on May 26, 2023

D. Recommendations

1. Approved Melissa Smith, as a 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Math School Improvement Team at Little Ridge Intermediate School, effective March 10, 2023, for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year.

## II Personnel (Continued)

### E. Other

1. Approved the additions to the following substitute personnel list, effective for the 2022-2023 school year, as submitted:

- Bus Driver
- CNP
- Teacher

- VI Approved March 1, 2023, as the effective date of Stormy Stevens, Assistant Principal at Little Ridge Intermediate School, as submitted.
- Board Approved January 26, 2023  
Stormy Stevens, Science Teacher at Fort Payne High School, to Assistant Principal at Little Ridge Intermediate School, effective date pending upon a qualified Science Teacher being hired at Fort Payne High School
- VII Approved the following request for out of state travel, as submitted.
- Patrick Barnes, FPHS Principal and Athletic Director
    - FPHS FIRST Robotics Team – April 18-23, 2023  
FIRST World Festival – Houston, TX
    - FPHS Hospitality and Tourism – April 25, 2023  
Read House Hotel and Restaurant – Chattanooga, TN
- VIII Approved the creation, advertising and filling of a System-wide Physical Education Teacher, as submitted.
- IX Approved the February 2023, financial statements and bank reconciliation reports, as submitted.
- X Superintendent's Report

Mr. Jett was pleased to announce Mrs. Carolyn Martin's re-appointment to the school board. Mrs. Martin is an outstanding asset to our Board. Congratulations!!

Mr. Jett congratulated the FPHS Boys Varsity Soccer Team on the following wins. The team is currently # 1 in the 6A Division.

- Florence Soccer Challenge, with Kai Stolp as the Tournament MVP
- Rainbow City Classic, with Chris Rocha holding the record of 5 goals in one game!!
- Oak Mountain who currently holds the #1 spot in the 7A Region with a score of 1-0
- The JV Team won the Guntersville Wildcat Cup 2023

Mr. Jett congratulated the FPHS Boys Soccer Team and their coaches on a great season.

The team is ranked #1 Overall in the STATE!! Great Job!

X Superintendent's Report (Continued)

Mr. Jett congratulated the FPHS Boys Golf Team on winning the Tiger Invitational in Huntsville.

- Tyler Coley shot a 69 to win the Individual Championship
- JP Groat was 2<sup>nd</sup> with a 75
- Blake Woods finished 4<sup>th</sup> with a 78

Congratulation to the team and each of the individual winners.

Mr. Jett congratulated the Gigawatts Robotics Team on their outstanding performance in Mississippi. For the second time the team brought home the FIRST Impact Award. The team finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the robot game. This win allows the team to move to the World Festival to be held in Houston, TX in April.

Mr. Jett announced the following achievements from Fort Payne Middle School:

- Claire Gootee chosen for the District 2 Honor Band where she placed 10<sup>th</sup>. She was also chosen as an All State Band Alternate
- Ellie Cyrus won First Place in the DeKalb County FFA Creed Speaking Contest
- Micah Washington raised \$1700 of \$2800 the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Class raised for the American Heart Association
- Nandini Patel was The Fort Payne Middle School's Governor's App Challenge Winner from District 8. As a finalist, she will compete in April in Montgomery. Her app design tracks body mass index, heart rate, and coater consumption.

Mr. Jett congratulated all of these students on their outstanding accomplishment!

Mr. Jett congratulated Brandi Battles, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher at Wills Valley Elementary School, on being selected as the VFW Post 3218 Elementary Teacher of the Year.

The Fort Payne track program is off to a strong start for the 2023 outdoor season. Thanks to a dominant performance in the 4x800, where Fort Payne had girls' teams took the top two places, the girls left Rome Georgia with a 1<sup>st</sup> place team finish in the Rome Invite. The middle-distance dominance continued for the wildcats in the James Clemens Invite, but some strong performances in the hurdles by 8<sup>th</sup> grader Lydie Varnadore and a big day for jumper/thrower Cooper Garrett allowed the wildcats to edge out James Clemens for the team win.

The boys' team is seeing its best start in several years with a 9<sup>th</sup> place finish at the Rome Invitational, and an impressive 5<sup>th</sup> place finish at the James Clemens Invitational. Both Meets were highly competitive, including a number of the best teams in Georgia and Alabama. Leading performers for the boys' track and field team are Skyler Cody in the hurdles, and the entire group of distance runners, with great performances in the 4x400 and 4x800.

Between the boys' and girls' teams, the Fort Payne Track program boasts 26 Alabama class 6A top 25 performances in the first three weeks. The next meet for the wildcats is the Northeast Alabama Invitational on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. This will be the first meet hosted on Fort Payne's new track and field surface.

X Superintendent's Report (Continued)

Mr. Jett announced the Board will have a Training Session on April 6, 2023, 2:00pm – 4:00pm, in the Conference Room of the Central Office. The topic will be New Mobile Device Training, the Board will be moving forward with the use of Chromebooks for all needs. This will complete the required training for the 2022-2023 school year.

XI Executive Session

1. The Board entered Executive Session to discuss topics of litigation and potential litigation at 6:32pm.

- Member Roll Call

Carolyn Martin, Board President	Absent
Neal Baine, Board Vice-President	Yes
Sharon Jones, Board Member	Yes
Randy Bynum, Board Member	Yes
Randy McClung, Board Member	Yes

2. Neal Baine, Vice-President called the Regular Meeting back to order at 7:21pm.

XII Approved a recommendation to accept a Settlement.

XIII Approved a recommendation to join a Class Action.

XIV Approved April 3, 2023, at 6:00 P.M. in the Conference Room of the Central Office as the date, time and place of a Called Board Meeting.

XV Approved April 27, 2023, at 6:00 P.M. in the Conference Room of the Central Office as the date, time and place of the next regular Board Meeting.

XVI Adjourned