

Board Minutes March 27, 2017

The Johnson County Board of Education met in a called session on Monday, March 27, 2017 in the board office at 7:30 p.m. Kevin Brantley, Donald Smith, Chris Fields, Alvin P. Moorman, and Marty Thompson were present. Mr. Brantley called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Mr. Thompson gave the invocation and Mr. Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

The following business was transacted:

1. The proposed agenda was approved on a motion by Mr. Moorman, second by Mr. Fields; unanimous approval.
2. Mr. Brantley stated that he wanted to clear up some confusion from the regular board meeting that was held on March 21, 2017 concerning the proposal from the committee about uniforms and cell phones. He noted that after consulting with legal counsel, the motion from this committee did not carry because two voted in favor, two abstained, and he did not vote at all. He further stated that there should not have been a vote, because these are not board policies. There are school policies that are approved when the handbooks are approved. He then stated his desire to hear from the administration to see if any of them were on board with this. He asked if they had a problem being on a committee to decide these issues.
 - Mrs. Merritt specified that more research was needed before a decision to change the handbook is made. She was concerned by the fact that Mr. Howard was not involved in the process from the beginning. However, she is willing to support the committee's efforts after more research is done. She also felt that the athletic coaches should be involved.
 - Mr. Howard stated that he had no clue there was a committee and was not privy to any information until he heard it at the board meeting. He further stated that the elementary school does not have an issue with dress code at this time, but he would be glad to be involved in the committee.
 - Mr. Bethea said there was definitely an issue concerning the two topics at the middle/high school. He continued by saying that we need to "have our ducks in a row" before presenting to the board. He felt that other counties should be consulted and visited.
 - Mrs. Thomas stated that she was not recommending that any vote be taken by the board concerning uniforms or cell phones at this time for several reasons. She stated that procedural protocol was not followed. The committee was formed by the principal and their purpose for being on the agenda was as an inquiry to gauge the board's support for a change in cell phone procedures in the student handbook. The discussion with the board about uniforms was not sanctioned by the principal, who is ultimately in charge of this committee. Mrs. Thomas further stated that it was her understanding that the principal plans to continue to have the committee to research both of these issues and to make a decision about what to include in the student handbook in the near future. This decision will occur after more consultation with all community stakeholders as well as school personnel.

➤ The board then agreed by consensus that they have no problem with the committee moving forward with gathering information about these issues. They also decided when the appropriate measures had been taken; it could be brought back before the board.

3. The meeting was then adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

**JOHNSON COUNTY BOARD
OF EDUCATION**

By: _____
Chairman

Attest: _____
Superintendent