

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE
JCPS SUPERINTENDENT SCREENING COMMITTEE

MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2018, 1:00 P.M.
FIRST FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM, VANHOOSE

Members Present:

Chris Brady, JCBOE Chairman
Karin Bennett, Parent elected by PTA presidents
Julie Cummings, Principal; Screening Committee Chairperson
Sue Foster, President JCAESP-AFSCME
Beth Fuller, Teacher
Yvette Gentry – Minority Parent representative
Brent McKim – Teacher

Also Present:

Frank Mellen – JCBOE General Counsel
Beth Friedman – Project Manager

Chairperson Cummings opened the meeting and asked if there was a motion to enter Executive Session. Ms. Foster made a motion to enter Executive Session, and Ms. Gentry seconded it, and it was unanimously adopted.

Ms. Cummings then read the following statement:

The Superintendent Screening Committee will now conduct a closed session, as permitted by KRS 61.810(1)(f) of the Open Meetings Act, for the purpose of discussions that might lead to the appointment of an individual employee.

The few members of the press who were present left the room.

[Notes from the Executive Session are contained in a separate document that is exempt from disclosure under the Kentucky Open Records Law.]

The Committee adjourned the Executive Session at approximately 1:45 p.m.

The members of the press were then invited back into the room.

Ms. Cummings then read the following statement:

The Superintendent Screening Committee met in Executive Session for the purpose of discussions that might lead to the appointment of an individual employee, pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(f) of the Open Meetings Act, and no action was taken.

Ms. Cummings asked the members to read the questions from the handout, and consider which ones they want to ask the candidates at the next meeting. Mr. Mellen stated that he can combine the first sentence in 1a, with the last sentence in 1b, in accordance with the members' desire. Ms. Gentry asks for clarification on classified vs. non-classified employees. Mr. Mellen pointed out that the candidates know the difference between the two.

Mr. Brady and Mr. McKim stated that it is important to have some questions that probe the candidates' vision of teaching and learning. Ms. Fuller thinks that questions 2c and 2f reflect on a person's character. Regarding question 2c, Mr. McKim stated in 2011, one candidate could not name one article that they had read, which was very telling in his opinion. Based on the two remaining candidates, Mr. Brady does not think that question would expose the same issues now as it did then.

Both Ms. Gentry & Ms. Cummings like question 2d, & Mr. McKim thinks it shows the empathetic side of someone.

Mr. Mellen stated that questions 2c and 3b could be combined. Ms. Fuller stated that question 2e is very important to the people from whom she has heard. Mr. McKim stated that questions 2e & 3b deal with similar problems. Ms. Cummings thinks question 2e should be kept in.

Mr. Brady stated that questions 2d and 2f are character issues, and Mr. McKim believes that question 2f could be very revealing, and that both those questions should be kept in.

Regarding questions 3a and 3d, Mr. Mellen stated that they could use language from both and combine them into one question. Ms. Cummings thinks they should strike question 3c.

Mr. McKim thinks that questions 4a and 4c go together, but they should eliminate the first two sentences in 4a, and pull question 4c into it. Mr. Brady, Ms. Cummings and Mr. McKim all think that question 4b is very important. Mr. McKim thinks that question 4d should be cut.

Regarding questions in section 5, Mr. Brady & Mr. Mellen think that questions 5a and 5b can be combined. Mr. Brady and Ms. Fuller agree with Mr. Mellen that question 5c is good and should be kept as is.

Ms. Cummings thinks that questions 6a and 6b can be combined, and Mr. Mellen agreed. Mr. Brady states that question 6c is one that he submitted, and he is very curious about the timeline and plan regarding construction on new schools and facilities. Ms. Gentry

believes that the question should have an equity-focus. Mr. Brady agreed, but stated that it should not be leading.

Mr. McKim and Mr. Mellen believe that questions 14 and 15 on the last page of the handout should be combined and should be the last question asked of the candidates. Ms. Cummings is in agreement, and asked the members if they want to strike all the other questions in that section of the handout.

Mr. Brady asked Mr. Mellen to circulate a new draft with the revised questions to the members as discussed during the meeting.

It was decided that the next meeting of the Screening Committee will be held on Friday, January 19, 2018, at 1:00 p.m. A four-hour block of time will be allotted in which to interview the candidates.

Mr. Mellen pointed out that the approval of the minutes from the last meeting should have been on the Agenda. Ms. Cummings asked the members if there was a motion to approve the minutes from the December 20, 2017 meeting. Ms. Foster made a motion to approve them, and Ms. Gentry seconded it, and it was unanimously adopted.

Ms. Cummings stated that if there were no further matters to discuss, the meeting would adjourn. A motion was made by Ms. Foster to adjourn the meeting, and it was seconded by Ms. Fuller, and was unanimously adopted.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Friedman, Project Manager