The Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday, May 14, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the Board of Education Office, 201 North Forest Avenue, Independence, Missouri.

Members Present: Mrs. Ann Franklin, President  
Dr. Matt Mallinson, Vice President  
Mrs. Jill Esry, Treasurer  
Mrs. Jana Waits, Director  
Mr. Ken Johnston, Director  
Mrs. Denise Fears, Director  
Mr. Greg Finke, Director

Also Present: Dr. Jim Hinson, Superintendent  
Dr. Dale Herl, Dr. Dred Scott, Dr. Jason Dial, Dr. Beth Savidge, Dr. Linda Gray-Smith, Dr. Gloria Stephenson, Mrs. Nancy Lewis, Mrs. Sherry Potter, Mr. Bob Robinson, INEA, interested patrons and staff, and Mrs. Annette Miller.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. Ann Franklin, and minutes of the meeting were recorded by the secretary, Mrs. Annette Miller. Mrs. Franklin welcomed everyone and recognized students from Ms. Angie Zarillo's Truman High School leadership class to the meeting.

Jana Waits made the motion to approve the May 14, 2013 Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Ken Johnston and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Hinson reviewed the Consent Agenda that includes approval of Trash, Elevator, and Fire Extinguisher bids for service for the 2013-2014 school year with one to two year extensions.

Denise Fears made the motion to approve the May 14, 2013 Consent Agenda as printed.

2. Approval of May 14, 2013 List of Bills totaling $8,453,262.59
3. Personnel Recommendation #21
   A. Request to Assume Retirement Status (Teaching Staff) Effective End of the 2012-2013 School Year
      1. Cynthia Berryman, English/Truman High School  
      2. Jeff Roudebush, Instructional Specialist/Secondary Schools  
      3. Janis Downs, FACS/Truman High School  
      4. Mindi Woods, First Grade/Sugar Creek Elementary School  
      5. Ron Copple, Marketing/Williams Chrisman High School
   B. Resignation of Certificated Staff Effective End of the 2012-2013 School Year
      1. Sharrie Davis, English/Independence Academy  
      2. William Adams, Business/William Chrisman High School  
      3. Jon Jacque Lutern, Special Education/Nowlin Middle School  
      4. Amanda Boyce, School Psychologist/Hanthorn School  
      5. Meara Mitchell, Instrumental Music/Jim Bridger Middle School and Truman High School  
      6. Sheryl Spencer, Special Education/Little Blue Elementary School
   C. Employment of Certificated Staff for the 2013-2014 School Year
      1. Lindsey Lewis, Elementary Teacher  
      2. Amber Overman, Orchestra/Music Appreciation Teacher  
      3. Suzanne Godfrey, Elementary Teacher  
      4. Katie Volz, Elementary Teacher  
      5. Rebecca Miles, Elementary Teacher  
      6. Veronica Perez, Spanish Teacher  
      7. Dean Rausch, Counselor  
      8. Tammy Rausch, Elementary Teacher  
      9. Patty Riemensnyder, Process Coordinator  
     10. Kyle Barkley, Teacher  
     11. Gabrielle Gear, Elementary Teacher  
     12. Amanda Taylor, Elementary Teacher  
     13. Kelli Manser, Elementary Teacher  
     14. Bobbi Jo Schieber, Math Teacher  
     15. Abby Sanders, Math Teacher
16. Sarah Swartz, English Teacher
17. Kristin Matthias, Special Education Teacher
18. David Maglich, Special Education Teacher
19. Mallory Kleoppel, English Teacher
20. Jessica Miller, Teacher
21. Rebecca Greenstreet, English Teacher
22. Janelle Velock, Counselor
23. Michele Will, Process Coordinator
24. Darin Hall, Math Teacher
25. Kyle Minx, Vocal Music Teacher
26. Tyler Martin, Math Teacher

4. Approval to Accept Bid for District Trash Service for the 2013-2014 School Year.
5. Approval to Accept the Bid for Fire Extinguisher Service for the 2013-2014 School Year.
6. Approval to Accept Bid for Elevator Inspection Service for the 2013-2014 School Year.

The motion was seconded by Jill Esry and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Hinson asked Nancy Lewis to introduce this month’s Character of the Month group. She introduced Joyce Pack with Cargo Largo. This month’s video highlighted the Back Pack Program sponsored by Cargo Largo. They provide school supplies and personal hygiene items that are placed in the back packs. Last year they provided approximately 650 back packs that are provided to the District’s homeless students. This allows these students to be like other students. John Tramel shared the difficulty these students face on a daily basis and how anything that can make them feel like other students is greatly appreciated. Through this Back Pack Program, they have everything that everyone else has. The back packs are distributed throughout the year as needed. Cargo Largo is also involved with Holiday Helpers Program where parents get to shop because they have donated their time to help with the back packs. Cargo Largo also sponsors a golf tournament to help fund these programs. Nancy and her husband, Dee, are the owners of Cargo Largo and they understand how important it is to help these students and their families. Mrs. Pack said they are grateful that they have the opportunity to contribute to the District through these programs. Dr. Hinson presented Nancy Pack (Cargo Largo) with the CharacterPlus Partner of the Month plaque for May and thanked them for doing marvelous things for kids in our School District.

Dr. Hinson introduced Dr. Brad MacLaughlin, the new Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education.

Items on the Agenda under New Business included information for the Board of Education’s consideration.

Dr. Hinson reported that the Jackson County Board of Equalization had notified the School District that it was time to submit the name of an individual to represent the District at upcoming assessment appeals. He also said the Statute is very specific and it is difficult to find people that qualify and are willing to do this. Mr. Ron Bruch, former developer, has consented to represent the School District.

Greg Finke made the motion that the Board of Education approves Ron Bruch as the Independence School District’s representative to the 2013 Jackson County Board of Equalization. The motion was seconded by Ken Johnston and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Hinson explained that several District facilities required asphalt work and the Administration was recommending approval of two bids for this work based on the bids received.

The motion was made by Jana Waits, second by Matt Mallinson, that the Board of Education approves the bid from Wil-Pav for asphalt work at the Innovation Center, John W. Luff Elementary, Sugar Creek Elementary, Mill Creek Elementary, Van Horn High School, and William Chrisman High School for a cost of $165,314.00. The Board of Education also approves the bid from Barkley Asphalt for asphalt work at Independence Academy for a cost of $66,499.00. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Hinson stated that as part of the ongoing maintenance schedule, the administration was recommending approval of the bid for a performance management contract for HVAC work at Korte Elementary School, electrical work at Nowlin Middle School, and the completion of a District-Wide HVAC audit. He said the District is working with curtailting off hours usage of utilities and being better stewards of energy consumption to provide savings to the District. The District has not received any rate decreases and the administration is trying to have a conversation with Independence Power Light about the District’s utility rates. The District is hoping to have saved about $300,000-$400,000 this year and possibly another $200,000 next year through energy conservation methods. The District will provide an update at the June Board of Education meeting.
Greg Finke made the motion that the Board of Education approves awarding the Performance Management Service Contract to Energy Systems Group (ESG) for a cost of $632,500.00. The motion was seconded by Jill Esry and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Hinson asked Dr. Beth Savidge to share information about the Common Core Standards. She said that she would explain what common core standards are and what they are not. She stated that a team had been formed to identify the skills and knowledge that students must have in English Language Arts and Mathematics. The expectations will be the same for all students. She said that in academic vocabulary - students will receive help to make sure they understand the text and it may require spending an inordinate amount of time on this in order to expand their vocabulary. Students need to understand why things are being taught and why they need to learn them. The common core standards are research and evidenced based. The Council of Chief State School Officers and National Governors Association worked with educators, content-experts, researchers, national organizations and community groups to design the standards. Forty-five states and the District of Columbia are using the standards. Minnesota, Nebraska, Texas, Virginia, and Alaska have not adopted the standards yet. There are 10 standards per category and these will be narrowed down. Reading and writing transcend all levels. One of the goals is to build knowledge through content-rich nonfiction. Reading, writing, and speaking is grounded in evidence from text, both literary and informational. Students will be provided regular practice with complex text and its academic vocabulary. In Math, the students will need to understand the standards for mathematical practices. Focus, coherence, and rigor will be stressed. Algebra 1 will be introduced by the sixth grade. A big piece will be teaching of fractions as it has to be improved upon. Standards do not tell teachers how to teach but what should be learned. The District has some incredible teachers with a passion for this work. The have established priority standards for K-6th grades. She said that new assessments will come out in two years. Missouri will remain in control of the test results. Students learn much better if they can read text so it is important to stay focused on literacy. The focus is to improve reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. These standards are much more complex but the District and students will be better because of the literacy initiative. The Board of Education thanked Dr. Savidge for her presentation and is glad to see how the pieces of this process will work.

Dr. Hinson stated that this is the last week for the Missouri Legislative session. He said a lot of things could happen between now and the end of the week. Everyone should be watching the Bills and any amendments that may be attached. Senate Bill 26 (relating to Income Tax) passed in the House and Senate. Governor Nixon has indicated he may veto it. The Public School Retirement System's 2.55 index and 25 years and out probably will not be renewed. At this point, it is very difficult to predict what might happen with some of the Bills. Dr. Hinson said that he and Dr. Herl met with Congressman Sam Graves on federal issues, budget, and sequestration. The picture is convoluted. Congressman Graves was great to converse with but he did not offer a lot of hope that the federal government would help public education.

There being no further information to come before the Board, Greg Finke made the motion, second by Jana Waits, to adjourn the meeting and go into executive session for legal, real estate, and personnel issues at 8:50 p.m. The motion was approved as follows:

Ayes: Ann Franklin
Matt Mallinson
Jill Esry
Jana Waits
Ken Johnston
Denise Fears
Greg Finke

Absent:

C. Annette Miller

Secretary

President