

The Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday, September 11, 2012, 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
Mr. Ken Johnston, Director
Mrs. Denise Fears, Director

Members Absent: Mrs. Jill Esry, Treasurer
Mrs. Jana Waits, Director
Mr. Greg Finke, Director

Also Present: Dr. Jim Hinson, Superintendent
Dr. Dale Herl, Dr. Dred Scott, Dr. Beth Savidge, Dr. Linda Gray-Smith,
Mrs. Cindy Grant, Dr. Gloria Stephenson, Ms. Cindy Konomos, Mrs.
Sherry Potter, Mr. Bob Robinson, Mrs. Nancy Lewis, INEA, Ms. Kelly
Evenson of *The Examiner*, 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 to the meeting. She also recognized Angela Danley from UCM and Kendra Breault from Blue River Community College who were auditing the meeting as part of their class assignment.

Ken Johnston made the motion to approve the September 11, 2012 Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Matt Mallinson and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Hinson stated that the Bills List for September was normal for this time of year.

Denise Fears made the motion to approve the September 11, 2012 Consent Agenda as printed.

1. Minutes – August 14, 2012 – Public Hearing and Regular session.
2. Approval of September 11, 2012 List of Bills totaling \$13,444,179.97

The motion was seconded by Ken Johnston and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Hinson talked about the 9/11 tragedy that happened eleven years ago today and said that numerous events were held today across the District commemorating the lives that were lost and the state that our Nation faced. The District's enrollment is up over 200 students compared to this time last year.

A video was show called "A Child's Smile" with commentary from: Dr. Beth Gehring who said that TMC-Lakewood was blessed to have this opportunity to partner and help children; Dr. Paula Livingston talked about there not being any fluoride in the water in Independence; Charlie Shields, President and CEO of TMC-Lakewood, said often it is difficult for parents to get their children to the dentist and how this program will benefit them; Jeff Anger, Fairmount Principal, said that some of his parents have to decide do they serve dinner (or a meal at their house), pay to get their child's cavity taken care of, or do they pay the electricity bill? Dr. Hinson stated that when most of us have a toothache, we rush to the dentist and get it fixed. A lot of our parents don't have the access or ability to do this. The dental program started in six schools by taking the equipment from school to school and found that the kids like learning how to take care of their teeth. Thanks to a recent fund raiser by TMC-Lakewood, "Evening Under the Stars" (raised \$150,000 in one night); a mobile dental coach will now travel to different locations and provide this service. This is a great example of the partnership between TMC-Lakewood and other metro entities.

Wennely Quezada, seventh grader at Jim Bridger Middle School, sang the National anthem in commemoration of the 9/11 tragedy. Dr. Hinson then asked Wennely some questions: her favorite classes are PE and choir; favorite school food/meal is chicken nuggets and least favorite is rice. She loves riding the school bus – says it is awesome but they should have radios for music.

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

Dr. Herl stated that the Administration is recommending changes in the transportation of Head Start and Early Childhood Special Education students for safety, consistency, and cost savings reasons. This will require the District leasing 15 buses at no cost to District as this is covered 100% by the Early Education programs' grants.

Matt Mallinson made the motion that the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent, or his designee, to enter into the bus lease agreement with Central States Bus Sales as presented. The motion was seconded by Ken Johnston and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Hinson explained that the Board needed to set the non-student tuition rate for the 2012-2013 school year and that it is slightly higher than the 2011-2012 rate.

Ken Johnston made the motion that the Board of Education approves the recommendation to set the 2012-2013 school year tuition rate at \$9,159 per student. The motion was seconded by Denise Fears and was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Hinson stated that it is time to review and approve the School District's annual Assessment Plan. Minor changes have been made to the Plan based on State requirements.

The motion was made by Denise Fears, second by Ken Johnston, that the Board of Education approves the 2012-2013 Assessment Plan, as required by the Missouri School Improvement Plan (MSIP) guidelines for the School District. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Ken Johnston made the motion that the Board of Education approves the 245 Transportation Routes for the Independence School District for the 2012-2013 school year. The motion was seconded by Denise Fears and was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Hinson asked John Tramel to discuss a new District program that addresses providing host homes/families for students that are homeless due to abuse/neglect, parent conflict, substance abuse in the home, death or incarceration of parent(s), and domestic violence issues (physical abuse). Mr. Tramel said that a number of these students have been referred to as 'couch surfing students' because they stay from place to place as they do not have a definite home/residence. This new program will recruit families in the District to provide housing and care for these students. Drumm Farm is partnering with the District on background/screening check for participation in this program. Mr. Tramel stated that an informational meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, September 13, 7:15 p.m. in the Cafeteria at Central Office to enroll students and then training sessions will be held to help these students through the program. Dr. Hinson said he appreciates the Board's support of the District's opportunities to provide services outside the box for students and families such as: MEND, MindStream, BALD, etc. Lots of kids experience life different from how we experienced life growing up. There are a growing number of students every year that experience homelessness without financial or physical care being provided by their parents. Finding housing is not always easy for these students. Mr. Tramel expressed his appreciation to the Board of Education for their support of this new initiative.

Bob Robinson reported that the new ADA lift work at Jim Bridger Middle School is complete; remodeling work of John W. Luff Elementary School's kitchen is complete; Nowlin Middle School's roof work is complete; construction is slightly behind on the Ennovation Center Health Clinic but substantial completion is set for September 24; and the New West Elementary School's rough grading is almost finished, using a little different finishing procedure on the concrete flooring, underground plumbing inside the building is complete, continue to monitor the moisture content of the soil due to the record drought, the sanitary sewer to the building is about 75% complete, storm sewer to the building is almost 50% complete, and the substantial completion is scheduled for July 2013. Mr. Robinson explained that it is important to have the building enclosed before winter. They plan to have the roof and heat on before cold weather hits. The list of projects from the Bond Issue continues getting shorter.

There being no further information to come before the Board, Denise Fears made the motion, second by Ken Johnston, to adjourn the meeting and go into executive session for legal, real estate, and personnel issues at 6:30 p.m. The motion was approved as follows:

Ayes: Ann Franklin
Matt Mallinson
Ken Johnston
Denise Fears

Absent: Jill Esry
Jana Waits
Greg Finke

Secretary

President