

BOARD OF EDUCATION
The School District of Independence

The Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday, April 9, 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
Mr. Greg Finke, Director

Member Absent: Mrs. Denise Fears, Director

Also Present: Dr. Jim Hinson, Superintendent
Dr. Dred Scott, Dr. Dale Herl, Dr. Jason Dial, Dr. Beth Savidge, Dr. Linda Gray Smith, Dr. Gloria Stephenson, Mr. Bob Robinson, Mrs. Nancy Lewis, Ms. Kelly Evenson of *The Examiner*, INEA, PTA, 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 and recognized students from Angie Zarillo's Leadership Class from Truman High School.

Dr. Hinson asked Nancy Lewis to introduce the District's Character of the Month Community Member/Partner. Ms. Lewis recognized Dr. Elias with Dental Arts (Elias, Opdahl and Bowen, DDS PC). Dental Arts provides, at no cost, free dental care to numerous students and has done so for years. She said Dental Arts is truly an advocate for children's health. This dental organization also travels to Africa to provide their services to children. Dr. Hinson presented a plaque to Dr. Elias in appreciation and recognition of the services Dental Arts provides to students in our School District. Dr. Elias said it is a win-win service. He is a 1969 graduate of Van Horn High School.

Jana Waits made the motion to approve the April 9, 2013 Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Greg Finke and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Cheryl Warren, 319 Golden Lane, Independence, MO 64055, parent of Sycamore Hills, Jim Bridger, and Truman High School students, addressed the Board of Education. Mrs. Warren stated that she disagreed with the District's Residency Regulation. She expressed the turnover that it might mean for students as 60 of the 95 administrators do not live in the Independence School District. She said that as of Fall this year that those administrators will not receive the same pay raises as others. She is concerned about the morale of teachers if 60 principals should leave. She said the District should be concerned about hiring the most qualified administrators. Mrs. Warren said that some Board Policies encourage staff communication and she wanted to know what staff input was shared on this change. She has talked with some teachers but said they would not speak out about this Policy/Regulation. She said that Policy 4830 encourages staff input, Policy 4831 encourages community input, and one of the District Goals is to improve relationships through communication. Mrs. Warren asked that the Policy be rescinded or that current staff be grandfathered. She asked to discuss this issue with the new Superintendent. Mrs. Franklin thanked Mrs. Warren and the Board of Education appreciated hearing her thoughts and concerns.

Dr. Hinson stated that the administration was recommending approval of the Consent Agenda including the locker replacement bid and the kitchen renovations bid as listed along with the monthly Bills list and Personnel recommendation.

Jill Esry made the motion to approve the April 9, 2013 Consent Agenda as printed.

1. Minutes of March 12, 2013
2. Approval of April 9, 2012 List of Bills totaling \$11,676,931.91
3. Personnel Recommendation #19
 - A. Request to Assume Retirement Status Effective End of 2012-2013 School Year
 1. Kaori Meckel, Math/Pioneer Ridge Middle School
 2. Catherine Lynch, Vocal Music/Sycamore Hills Elementary School
 3. Ruth Johnson, Fourth Grade/Three Trails Elementary School
 4. Lois Wiedner, First Grade, John W. Luff Elementary School
 5. Connie Smith, First Grade/Blackburn Elementary School

6. Virginia Koehn, Third Grade/Fairmount Elementary School
 7. Colleen McKinney, Kindergarten/Christian Ott Elementary School
 8. Paula Jensen, First Grade/Sugar Creek Elementary School
- B. Resignation of Certificated Staff Effective End of 2012-2013 School Year
1. Olga Burwell, Art/Van Horn High School
 2. Maribel Gadams, Counselor/Christian Ott Elementary School
 3. Twila Lahey, Math/Pioneer Ridge Middle School
 4. Dawn Mikus, Elementary Teacher/Blackburn Elementary School
 5. Jamie Moreno, Computer/George Caleb Bingham Middle School
 6. Ashley Caselman, Special Education/William Southern Elementary School
 7. Alicia Jackson, Counselor/Truman High School
 8. Julie Fleming, Third Grade/Korte Elementary School
 9. Jacqueline Thompson, Communication Arts/Jim Bridger Middle School
 10. Kendalynne Hohe, Kindergarten/Mill Creek Elementary School
- C. Employment of Certificated Staff for the 2013-2014 School Year
1. John Beaman, Chemistry Teacher
 2. Stephanie Bickel, Middle School Vocal Music Teacher
 3. Bre Kratzer, Middle School Math Teacher
 4. Elizabeth Carver, Elementary Teacher
 5. Jenna Wise, Speech Language Pathologist
 6. Travis White, Elementary Music
 7. Stacey Portillo, ELL Teacher
 8. Heather Smith, Special Education Teacher
 9. Lindsey Atagi, Elementary Teacher
4. Approval to Accept the Bid for Locker Replacement in the Boys' Varsity Locker Room and the Boys' P.E. Locker Room at Van Horn High School.
 5. Approval to Accept Bid for Kitchen Renovations at Thomas Hart Benton and Mill Creek Elementary Schools.

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

Dr. Hinson reported that a gas line valve leak was reported at Van Horn High School today but that the leak had been repaired. He announced that the District had received a letter from the YouthFriends Program stating that they will no longer exist after May as they are officially closing their doors. He also said that the Administration is looking at how the District can continue to operate this program that benefits so many of our students. Dr. Hinson asked Mr. Keith Henry, Transportation Department, to share some good news. Mr. Henry said the District's Transportation Department received an excellent rating from the State High Department's annual inspection. He introduced his staff of mechanics and thanked them for their hard work and dedication to excellence. He reported that the inspection results exceeded the state average of 95% due to the quality workmanship provided by these men. He shared the School Bus Fleet Excellence Award and the State Highway Excellence Award that the District's Transportation Department received.

Several new Business Items were presented for the Board of Education's consideration.

Dr. Hinson said that it is time to approve the District's Summer School Program for 2013, as follows:

Elementary Session – May 29-June 25, 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Thomas Hart Benton, Blackburn, Glendale, Korte, Christian Ott, William Southern, Spring Branch, Sycamore Hills, Three Trails

Middle School Session – May 29-June 25, 7:45 a.m. until 3:15 p.m.

George Caleb Bingham, Pioneer Ridge

High School Session (grades 9-12) – May 29-June 28, 7:15 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

William Chrisman and Independence Academy

Jana Waits made the motion that the Board of Education approves the 2013 Summer School Program and locations as presented. The motion was seconded by Greg Finke and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Hinson reported that the annual Missouri School Board dues for 2013-2014 are based on the number of students enrolled in the District. The dues for the 2013-2014 school year are \$11,550.00.

Ken Johnston made the motion, second by Jill Esry, that the Board of Education authorizes the School District to pay membership dues in the amount of \$11,550.00 to the Missouri School Boards' Association for the 2013-2014 school year. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Hinson said that the National School Board dues for 2013-2014 area due and they are also based on the District's enrollment and the District falls in the category of 7,500-14,999 students. Therefore, the dues are \$5,925.00 for the 2013-2014 school year.

Jana Waits made the motion that the Board of Education authorizes the School District to pay the membership dues in the amount of \$5,925 to the National School Boards' Association for the 2013-2014 school year. The motion was seconded by Greg Finke and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl reported that the District operates/maintains 154 buses and the goal is to rotate the buses out on a 15 year schedule. He stated that at this time, the Administration is recommending replacing 10 buses with full size buses that have lift equipment to allow special needs students to ride with their peers. The total cost of this is \$1,014,629.00 and they will be purchased through Central States Bus Sales. Keith Henry explained/described the new buses and the amenities included.

Matt Mallinson made the motion, second by Ken Johnston, that the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent, or his designee, to purchase from Central States Bus Sales for a total cost of \$1,014,629.00:

- 3 full size 71 passenger, type D, transit style buses
- 3 full size 66 passenger + lift, type D, transit style buses
- 4 mid-size 48 passenger, type D, transit style buses

The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Hinson said the School District has become aware of a wonderful opportunity and he asked Dr. Herl to explain. Dr. Herl said that the District has been offered the unique position of being one of six districts in the Midwest to have an exclusive apparel agreement with the Adidas Corporation. The District would be able to purchase, at a discounted rate, uniforms for the various activities or athletic teams. The agreement will also allow students a 35-50% discount on sports items. This agreement will save the District money and allow for quality sports uniforms and equipment.

Greg Finke made the motion, second by Jana Waits, that the Board of Education approves the Adidas Corporation and Nill Brothers Sporting Goods to be the exclusive provider of athletic apparel, footwear, and uniforms to the Independence School District. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Hinson said he has been very busy reviewing Fiscal Notes from the State Legislature. He said HB 470 cleared the House today and part of the concern is that it creates a charter school virtual school. Missouri has cut funding to state Virtual School Programs and also to the Foundation Formula. Therefore, passage of this HB takes funding away from public education and provides for charter schools. HB458 is in conflict with public law as it allows for tax credits. The Administration is waiting to see the outcome of several other bills that have been introduced. He said the Bill regarding teacher tenure does not make sense. The Administration will continue contacting legislators about these concerns. Mrs. Franklin encouraged everyone to keep up with public education and proposed bills that would detract from funding and providing quality educational systems.

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 6:25 p.m. The motion was approved as follows:

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

Absent: