

The Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday, January 11, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. in the Large Classroom at George Caleb Bingham Middle School, 1716 South Speck Road, Independence, Missouri.

Members Present: Mrs. Ann Franklin, Vice President
Mrs. Jana Waits, Treasurer
Mr. Blake Roberson, Director
Dr. Matt Mallinson, Director
Mrs. Denise Fears, Director

Members Absent: Mr. Ken Johnston, President
Mrs. Jill Esry, Director

Also Present: Dr. Jim Hinson, Superintendent
Mr. Dred Scott, Mr. Dale Herl, Dr. Gary Hogue, Mr. Jason Dial, Dr. Beth Savidge, Mrs. Cindy Konomos, Dr. Gloria Stephenson, Mrs. Nancy Lewis, Mr. Keith Henry, Mr. Bob Robinson, INEA, interested patrons and staff, and Mrs. Annette Miller.

A moment of silence was observed for children that have been victims of child abuse or neglect.

The meeting was called to order by the Vice President, Mrs. Ann Franklin, and minutes of the meeting were recorded by the secretary, Mrs. Annette Miller.

Jana Waits made the motion to approve the January 11, 2011 Agenda and all items as presented. The motion was seconded by Blake Roberson and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Mrs. Franklin asked if there were any District patrons or employees that would like to address the Board of Education.

Mr. James Holloway, 18916 Hawthorne Drive, addressed the Board with a concern for safety of his first grade daughter at Blackburn Elementary School. Currently, there is a male student in the classroom that has behavior disorders. Mr. Holloway stated that the teacher uses a code word when the student starts to act out and the rest of the class then leave the classroom to go to a safe place until the student is removed or settles down. He said that it is an unsafe classroom and they are ready to pull their child out and home school or seek a private school placement. He would like to see the problem resolved so that his child can remain at Blackburn. He referenced that apparently there are new policies that bring students from outlying districts to this district, which he said may or may not be part of this problem. He just wants his child to be in a safe environment where she can learn and not be afraid of going to school.

Mrs. Camille Holloway, 18916 Hawthorne Drive, also spoke to the Board regarding the situation at Blackburn Elementary School. Mrs. Holloway said that the classroom has witnessed several behavioral outbursts by this student and one incident involved him throwing a chair which damaged her daughter's water bottle. She said the student's desk area is taped off in the classroom and that the children are not learning due to the disruptions. She also expressed concern for this student and that he apparently is not getting the help and education that he needs. Their son is a freshman in high school and they have had very positive experiences in the District until this issue at Blackburn. They have talked with the building principal, Mr. Scott, and Mrs. Jill Esry regarding their concerns. They would like for the District to resolve the situation so that this can become a safe classroom again.

Mrs. Franklin thanked them for sharing this information and said the Administration and Board will follow up on their concerns.

Dr. Hinson stated that the Bills for this month totaled \$11,855,550.17 and the other items on the Consent Agenda were routine items.

Denise Fears made the motion to approve the January 11, 2011 Consent Agenda as printed.

Minutes – December 14, 2010.

Approval of January 11, 2011 List of Bills totaling \$15,855,550.17

Personnel Recommendation #12.

- A. Employment of Part-Time Certificated Staff for the 2010-2011 School Year.
 1. Anne Heidemann, Title 1 Learning Coach/Fairmount Elementary School.
- B. Employment of Certificated Staff for the 2010-2011 School Year.

1. Crisa Seals, Special Education Teacher.

The motion was seconded by Jana Waits and was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Hinson said the District was on a roll because students have been out two consecutive days this week due to the weather. He said he will confer with other school district leaders regarding weather conditions following the meeting to determine if school will be in session on Wednesday. Dr. Hinson said the current Legislative Session will require a lot of time. A vast number of Fiscal Notes have already been received and the Administrators have to view the impact these proposed legislative issues could have on public education. The Administration will be watching all financial and open enrollment bills/information very carefully as they could be crucial to the District. The Administration spends a lot of time on these issues and keeping updated on the educational impact.

Mr. Herl said he was pleased with bids for the Property, Liability, Worker's Compensation, Auto, and Umbrella Insurance coverage. He reported that the premiums came in lower with better coverage and that this is a very competitive market at this time.

Blake Roberson made the motion, second by Jana Waits, that the Board of Education approves Wright Risk Management (WRMA) Insurance Company to provide property, liability, automobile, crime, umbrella, and school leadership insurance; and Missouri Employer's Mutual (MEM) to provide worker's compensation insurance for calendar year 2011. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Mr. Herl said that the District had sent out bids for instructional supplies for the 2011-2012 school year. The Administration recommends approval of the bid listing a 34% discount from listed catalog pricing from School Specialty. They are currently the District's instructional materials supplier.

Jana Waits made the motion, second by Denise Fears, that the Board of Education approves the bid of a 34% discount off listed catalog pricing from School Specialty for District instructional supplies for the 2011-2012 school year. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Hinson stated that the District is required to have a Flexible Benefit Plan for employees and that it is not driven by the District. The Healthcare Reform Act has made a change affecting flexible benefit plans beginning this month. First Trust of MidAmerica (FTOMA) has updated the District's plan to include the following change: a participant may not be reimbursed for the cost of any medicine or drug that is not "prescribed" within the meaning of Code Section 106(f) or is not insulin.

The motion was made by Denise Fears that the Board of Education approves adopting the Resolution for Flexible Benefit Plan as presented. The motion was seconded by Blake Roberson and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Mr. Robinson, Director of Facilities, reported that the work at both John W. Luff and Blackburn Elementary Schools had been completed. The Ribbon Cutting at John W. Luff Elementary School was postponed and will be rescheduled. He stated that a number of projects are being completed. William Chrisman High School's new entry is being used and contractors are working on remodeling the old entry which should be finished by the end of January. The Truman High School gymnasium and band room additions should be completed by the middle of February. Preliminary design work has begun on the new project (classroom addition) at Mill Creek Elementary School for next year. Another project for next year will be the parking addition at Truman High School. Van Horn High School remodeling is almost complete and the punch list work is being done now. The grading work is almost finished at the new east elementary school site. The building construction is scheduled to begin March 2011 with a completion date of May 2012. Independence Regional Innovation Center work is on schedule. The Technology Department has been moved to their new offices on the Ground Floor. Remodeling work on the second floor should be completed around February 20th and the first floor renovations should be ready by March 10th.

Dr. Hinson and the Board of Education commended Mr. Robinson and his crews for all of their hard work clearing driveways, parking lots, sidewalks, etc. during the last few days of inclement weather.

There being no further information to come before the Board, Denise Fears made the motion, second by Jana Waits to adjourn the meeting and go into executive session for legal, real estate, and personnel issues at 6:22 p.m. The motion was approved as follows:

Ayes: Ken Johnston
Ann Franklin
Jana Waits
Blake Roberson
Matt Mallinson
Jill Esry
Denise Fears

Absent: Ken Johnston
Jill Esry

C. Annette Miller

Secretary

Ann Franklin

Vice President