

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
The School District of Independence

The Board of Education held a Work Session on Tuesday, October 5, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. in the Large Classroom at George Caleb Bingham Middle School, 1716 South Speck Road, Independence, Missouri.

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

Also Present:             Dr. Jim Hinson, Superintendent  
                                 Mr. Dred Scott, Mr. Dale Herl, Dr. Gary Hogue, Dr. Beth Savidge, Mr.  
                                 Jason Dial, Mrs. Nancy Lewis, Mr. Bob Robinson, Ms. Kelly Evenson of  
                                 *The Examiner*, interested patrons and staff, and Mrs. Annette Miller.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Ken Johnston, and minutes of the meeting were recorded by the secretary, Mrs. Annette Miller.

Dr. Hinson introduced Mr. Jason Dial, Assistant Superintendent. Mr. Dial shared information on the Emergency Preparedness Program and how it addresses keeping students and staff safe if a natural or manmade disaster should occur. Drills are conducted so students and staff will know how to react calmly and efficiently during any emergency. He stated the District's SRO's (School Resource Officers) and the DARE officers assist in keeping the buildings safe and they provide help in the areas of teaching, counseling, and law enforcement as part of the emergency preparedness program. The same emergency plan (developed by the District) is utilized by every school. The flip charts and SRO booklets were updated in 2008 and are reviewed periodically as new safety procedures are received.

Mr. Hinson introduced Mrs. Michele Crumbaugh, Director of Nutrition Services. Mrs. Crumbaugh shared a power point presentation highlighting that students need to feel safe at school, they need to get enough rest/sleep, and also they need good food. All of this benefits students so they can concentrate better on their academics. Nutrition Services encourages participation in the Free and Reduced Meal Program so that all students have an opportunity to receive nutritious meals. Currently, the School District is working with the Hy-Vee Stores in testing a program called NuVal (nutritional value). She explained how the program helps to educate students and their parents in making better food choices at the grocery store. The Nutrition Services department is working with the District's Health and Wellness Team in developing/implementing practices that benefit the health and well being of all students and District employees. The Department encourages people to develop a life-style of good eating habits that will provide long term health benefits.

Dr. Hinson introduced Mr. Alex Acsenvil, Director of Software Operations for the Technology Department. He presented information on how Technology Services provides support for data collection. He shared how reporting/tracking student performance and improvement helps teachers to directly impact instruction, The TLC (teacher learning coaches) and TIS (technology integration specialists) assist teachers with online assessment. PowerSchool is the program used for entering each student's information and the data transfers to other systems: Versatrans, Destiny, Horizon (nutrition services), SNAP, and School Messenger (automatic calling system). MOSIS is the state required program that assigns a specific number to each student for informational tracking. The Fiber Optic Project update in conjunction with the City of Independence is almost completed. This creates a six lit fiber redundant ring to all of the District's buildings. The Technology Department is currently working on the new Technology Plan for 2011-2014.

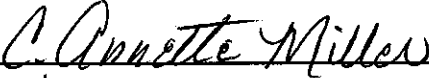
Mr. Johnston, on behalf of the Board of Education, expressed appreciation for the update information on these three programs.

There being no further information to come before the Board, the motion was made by Jill Esry, second by Jana Waits, to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. The motion was approved as follows:

Ayes: Ken Johnston  
          Ann Franklin  
          Jana Waits

Absent:

Blake Roberson  
Matt Mallinson  
Jill Esry  
Denise Fears

  
Secretary

  
President