

The Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday, November 11, 2014, 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
Mrs. Jill Esry, Vice President
Mrs. Denise Fears, Treasurer
Mr. Ken Johnston, Director
Dr. Matt Mallinson, Director
Mr. Greg Finke, Director
Mr. Blake Roberson, Director

Also Present: Dr. Dale Herl, Superintendent
Dr. Dred Scott, Dr. Beth Savidge, Dr. Linda Gray-Smith, Mrs. Sherry Potter, Mrs. Cindy Grant, Mrs. Nancy Lewis, 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 students from the Truman High School Leadership Class and a Boy Scout (Max Potter) from Troop 300.

Dr. Herl shared information and a video highlighting the English Language Learner's Program (ELL) and the Coordinator, Deb Stidham. He said that Independence is the only school district in Missouri operating this type of a program. Elementary students from all five grade levels are transported to Nowlin Middle School for a full day of learning. Students are separated based on their English learning proficiency and lessons are structured so that students can accomplish the assignments. Based on test results from last year, the program is working well for students. Dr. Herl commended Dr. Scott and Mrs. Stidham as they were the driving force in developing this program which works with students from 21 different languages. Currently, over 400 students are participating and this is a special place where they can be successful.

Greg Finke made the motion to approve the November 11, 2014 Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Ken Johnston and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Mrs. Franklin asked if there were patrons or staff that wished to address the Board of Education in open session.

Gene Hoppe, 16508 Crackerneck Road, Independence, addressed the Board regarding issues involving the Palmer Building. He requested information on the following: studies conducted on the Palmer building and if any were initiated and paid for by the insurance company; name of the insurance company; any settlement and how much provided by the insurance company; dates of the two phases and how much spent when Palmer was remodeled; and the election dates of the Bond monies used for the remodeling.

Dr. Herl reported that this month's Bills total was a little lower for this time of year. He said the Administration was recommending letting bids for bleacher and stadium renovations at Truman High School; locker room remodeling at William Chrisman High School; and purchase of eight (8) 71 passenger, Type C, conventional buses.

Denise Fears made the motion, second by Jill Esry, to approve the November 11, 2014 Consent Agenda as printed.

1. Minutes – October 14, 2014
2. Approval of November 11, 2014 List of Bills totaling \$9,303,959.82
3. Personnel Recommendation #8
 - A. Request to Assume Retirement Status of Certificated Staff Effective End of the 2014-2015 School Year.
 1. Diana Kuiper, FACS/William Chrisman High School
 - B. Employment of Certificated Staff for the 2014-2015 School Year.
 1. John Zumwalt, Special Education/Independence Academy
4. Approval to Let Bids for Bleacher and Stadium Renovations at Truman High School.
5. Approval to Let Bids for Locker Room Remodel at William Chrisman High School.
6. Approval to Let Bids to Purchase Eight (8) 71 Passenger, Type C, Conventional Buses.

The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

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

Dr. Beth Savidge shared information on the Saturday Kindergarten Success Program that started on November 8th and will be held the next six Saturdays from 9:00-11:30 a.m.. Students were invited to attend the Success Program based on their preschool screening data which indicated they would be significantly behind academically and needed additional support in order to be successful in school. Ms. Terry Brown discussed baseline testing and the focus on students learning and understanding rhyming, sound fluency, counting to 100, and number identification. She said kindergarten teachers are excited to have this opportunity to serve these students and meet their needs. The three sites are: Christian Ott, Korte, and Glendale Elementary School. Dr. Savidge said the program is off to a phenomenal start. Teachers are focusing on jolly phonics, math in focus, and imagine learning. The teachers will work with the students on reading, written work, listening and speaking skills, technology skills, and making friends - new and old. Mercedes Mendoza said that two fathers came to enroll their children in the Saturday Success Program as this was an answer to their prayers. They are from Guatemala and have only a third grade level education and do not speak English. One father said that he will come every Saturday as this program will make the difference for him and his child. Dr. Savidge said a grandmother came crying and said she was so glad to have this help for her grandchild. Dr. Savidge said she is grateful to have 15 teachers come on Saturdays to make life better for these students and for the support of the Board of Education to allow the District to implement the program. Mrs. Franklin thanked Dr. Savidge, Ms. Brown, and Ms. Mendoza for the presentation and the Board will look forward to receiving updates on the program's progress.

Dr. Herl said that the School District currently is a member of the Cooperating School District's co-op purchasing program. The Administration is recommending joining The National Purchasing Cooperative BuyBoard Program. This program will expand the District's options for purchasing equipment, safety items, audiovisual equip, etc. The BuyBoard Program is recommended by MSBA and NSBA. There is not cost for District to belong.

Blake Roberson made the motion that the Board of Education approves becoming a member of The National Purchasing Cooperative. The motion was seconded by Greg Finke and approved unanimously by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl presented the Board of Education Goals for the Independence School District. He thanked the Board for their time in formulating these goals. The Goals are listed for 2014-2019 but will be reviewed annually for any updates/changes. These goals will assist the District in developing the Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP) for 2015-2016.

The motion was made by Matt Mallinson, second by Denise Fears, that the Board of Education approves the Board Goals for the 2014-2015 school year. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education. (Page 10863)

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

Ayes: Ann Franklin
Jill Esry
Denise Fears
Ken Johnston
Matt Mallinson
Greg Finke
Blake Roberson



Secretary



President

INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

GOALS 2014-2019

Academic Achievement

- Focus on the Four Pillars of Success
- Aggressively attract and retain exemplary staff
- Provide quality professional development to encourage growth

Communication and Collaboration

- Ensure everyone is treated with courtesy and professionalism.
- Use a variety of outlets to reach our parents and patrons
- Actively involve our community partners
- Expand opportunities for parental engagement



Fiscal Responsibility

- Maintain sufficient fund balances to withstand financial difficulties
- Create and support long-range facilities plan
- Continue transparent fiscal reporting
- Maintain procedures to ensure fiscal accountability

Legislative Advocacy

- Educate and inform federal, local and state officials
- Develop an annual legislative platform
- Inform patrons and employees of legislative issues