

The Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday, November 9, 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: Mr. Dale Herl, Deputy Superintendent
Mr. Dred Scott, Dr. Gary Hogue, Mr. Jason Dial, Dr. Beth Savidge, Dr. Gloria Stephenson, Mrs. Nancy Lewis, Mr. Bob Robinson, INEA, PTA, Ms. Kelly Evenson of *The Examiner*, 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 President, Mr. Ken Johnston, and minutes of the meeting were recorded by the secretary, Mrs. Annette Miller.

Ann Franklin made the motion to approve the November 9, 2010 Agenda and all items as presented. The motion was seconded by Matt Mallinson and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Mr. Johnston asked if there were any District patrons or employees that would like to address the Board of Education. He reminded them that they were allowed five minutes.

Ms. Mindy Nix, 19216 East 30th Terrace South, on behalf of the Independence National Education Association extended an invitation to the Board of Education to attend Diane Ravitch's keynote address on "Why I Changed My Mind About School Reform" on Friday, November 12, 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn across from the Sports Complex.

Mr. Gary Bressman, 15508 East 40th Street, said that he is a graduate of Truman High School and a former employee of the Independence School District. He is proud to see what is happening in our School District with the new construction and renovation projects. He stated that students are playing on new football fields, running on new tracks, as well as heating/air-conditioning units that are being installed to upgrade the District's facilities. He applauded the Board of Education for moving forward with these projects. These improvements are good for our students, families and the community. He commended the District on how well the projects are going and how it uplifts the community and brings in economic value. These upgrades will have an impact that will live on well past all of us.

Cindy Engelman, 1846 South Sterling Avenue and part owner of Cornell Roofing Company addressed the Board. She said their business has been in Independence since 1927 and it is now a women owned enterprise. Cornell Roofing Company is a member of the NMA and they have 42 employees of which 37% reside in the Independence School District. She said a number of the employees have been with the Company more than 20 years and some of them average more than \$50,000 per year in salary while all employees average at least \$30,000 per year. She commended the District on the method that is being used in letting and awarding the construction/renovation bids. On behalf of Cornell Roofing Company, she thanked the Board of Education and School District for the work their company has been awarded.

Cynthia Lundquist, 17414 East 34th Terrace South, is with Sheet Metal Local #2. She said they have a local heating and air-conditioning company. She thanked the Board of Education and School District for having the foresight to use the NMA as it does require companies to pay prevailing wages to the employees. The School District's projects are giving back to the community by providing work to area employees. She appreciates what the School District is doing by using the NMA on the three large projects.

Terry Akins, 513 South Ash, and a graduate of Van Horn High School, stated that he is an electrician by trade and he supports the decision of the Board of Education and the School District in using the NMA on three of the Bond

Issue projects. This will allow companies to pay their employees at the prevailing wage rate and provide benefits as they work on these construction projects. Thank you for making this decision.

Mr. Johnston welcomed Rusty Welch, a Metropolitan Community College student, and students from Angie Zarillo's Leadership Class from Truman High School that were in attendance.

Blake Roberson made the motion to approve the November 9, 2010 Consent Agenda as printed.

Minutes – September 12, 2010.

Approval of November 9, 2010 List of Bills totaling \$15,098,819.14

Personnel Recommendation #8.

A. Employment of Certificated Staff for the 2010-2011 School Year.

1. Kelli Davis, Title 1 Reading.

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

Mr. Herl stated that the list of bills was a little higher than expected due to \$5.3 million in construction projects that were included in this month's list.

Mr. Herl explained that Dr. Hinson was out of town so he was providing a short report. The District has had a wonderful start to the school year. He added that attendance at the Parent/Teacher conferences, held the week of October 25, has been outstanding.

Jana Waits made the motion, second by Jill Esry, that the Board of Education approves to let bids for the various renovation projects (two classroom additions at Mill Creek; locker renovations at Truman, Van Horn, William Chrisman and Nowlin; science room upgrades at Truman and William Chrisman; HVAC upgrades at Bridger; building renovations at Nowlin; floor renovation at Van Horn; moving two houses on Holke Road; and other small renovation projects that may be done at various sites) to be completed in 2011 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Mr. Dred Scott, Deputy Superintendent, said that he had heard reports on how the District was meeting our students' needs with the updates being made to the schools. He wanted to share a report on the Missouri School Improvement Plan (MSIP) and the Annual Progress Report (APR) that addresses how we meet the students' academic needs. The District has used MSIP and APR for approximately 10 years as it assists schools in identifying students' strengths and weaknesses. The Administration reviews it periodically to check on accountability issues. The APR is based on multiple measures of performance over time. This year, the District received the APR results in October which has allowed the results to be used immediately which impacts the District's plans for the year. APR is measured by 14 performance/academic standards that are set by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). A large portion of the standards are focused at the high school level. He showed a power point explaining how the status and progress points are achieved in order to meet a standard. There are four levels of accreditation: Unaccredited - five standards or less have been met; Provisional - met at least six standards; Full Accreditation - met at least nine standards; and then there is the classification of Distinction for Performance - met at least 13 (or 14) of the 14 standards. One of the slides viewed was of the 20 school districts in the state that have the largest enrollment and their accreditation standing and another slide showed the comparison of the free/reduced lunch percentages for 20 districts. He closed by saying the School District has earned Distinction for Performance for the past five years and that this is good for our students and community.

Mr. Robinson, Director of Facilities, reported that construction at Thomas Hart Benton is behind schedule but the contractors are catching up and the roof system should be in place this week and then construction will start on the inside for the four classrooms. Truman High School's inside work is ready to begin. Van Horn is now 99% complete. Several projects are still in process at Fairmount, Sugar Creek and Three Trails. The roof is on at Luff and the project will give them more playground space. Blackburn construction work is ahead of schedule. William Chrisman's front entryway work is in process. The new East Elementary School grading work has started and construction work will be bid so the project work can begin in March 2011. Mr. Robinson will bring drawings to the next Board meeting. The District is still reviewing and evaluating sites for the new Elementary School in the western area.

There being no further information to come before the Board, Jill Esry made the motion, second by Ann Franklin 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: Ken Johnston
Ann Franklin
Jana Waits
Blake Roberson
Matt Mallinson
Jill Esry
Denise Fears

Absent: