

The Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday, December 9, 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. Blake Roberson, Director

Member Absent: Mr. Greg Finke, Director

Also Present: Dr. Dale Herl, Superintendent
Dr. Dred Scott, Dr. Lance Stout, Dr. Brad MacLaughlin, Dr. Linda Gray
Smith, Mr. Robert Burkey, INEA, PTA, interested patrons and staff, and
Mrs. Annette Miller.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. Ann Franklin. She welcomed guests in attendance including Truman High School students from Angie Zarillo's Leadership Class. The minutes of the meeting were recorded by the secretary, Mrs. Annette Miller.

Dr. Herl introduced Allison Kisner, The School District of Independence Foundation, Inc. Director, and John Tramel, Director of Neighborhood Services. They shared a video on the "Holiday Helpers" Program featuring comments from parents, staff, and students. The program allows parents to earn gift cards and then they can do their own shopping. Mr. Tramel thanked the Board for allowing them to share some of the wonderful things that this program provides to our students and families. He said it is a circle of giving – parents give, then they receive, then they are able to give to their children and families. It reinforces the message that our families are valued and appreciated. Holiday Helpers has provided assistance to more than 1,300 students in the last three years and 700 parents. Mrs. Kisner stated that our Independence community comes out and supports this program. So far, more than \$160,000 has been raised for this program.

Blake Roberson made the motion to approve the December 9, 2014 Board of Education Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Denise Fears 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. He submitted a request for the K-12 history of each of the current School Board members, specifically: school district or entity attended; various schools or buildings attended; and associated years of attendance.

Dr. Herl said that the List of Bills was very typical. He reviewed the recommendations for letting of bids: for partial roof replacements; asphalt overlay projects; HVAC upgrades; lighting and sound system upgrades; and the approval of monitoring/service plans and monitoring timeline for the Head Start Program. Dr. Herl said the maintenance project schedule is reviewed each year to determine if the work is needed or should be rescheduled based on the condition of the various areas.

Jill Esry made the motion to approve the December 9, 2014 Consent Agenda as printed.

1. Minutes – November 11, 2014 – Regular Session
2. Approval of December 9, 2014 List of Bills totaling \$7,897,438.31
3. Personnel Recommendation #10
 - A. Employment of Certificated Staff for the 2014-2015 School Year.
 1. Madison Haugland/Elementary Teacher
 2. Noelle Hazelrigg/ Elementary Teacher
 3. Joshua Seeley, Science Teacher
 4. Tammy Jackson-McDaniel, Data Coach
4. Approval to Let Bids for Partial Roof Replacement at Jim Bridger Middle School, Nowlin Middle School and Sycamore Hills Elementary School.
5. Approval to Let Bids for Asphalt Overlay at Truman High School, Nowlin Middle School, Korte Elementary School, and Ott Elementary School.

6. Approval to Let Bids for HVAC Upgrades at Jim Bridger Middle School, Bryant Elementary School, Mill Creek Elementary School and Procter Elementary School.
7. Approval to Let Bids for Upgrades to Lighting and Sound Systems in the Auditoriums at Van Horn High School, William Chrisman High School, and Truman High School.
8. Approval of Monitoring/Service Plans and Monitoring Timeline for Head Start Program.

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

Dr. Herl discussed how the District Administration will be closing out the window on Friday to review the student data and tweak curriculum and instruction as needed. The quarterly Leadership Retreat meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 5, at Central Office. The Career Academies are going exceptionally well and he gave credit to Dr. MacLaughlin and Nancy Lewis for their continuous work and planning. A lot of teachers have helped as well as business and community people. The District will start reviewing and updating the Comprehensive School Improvement Plan with the beginning of second semester. The buildings all have their SIP plans developed. The District will include parents and students in the CSIP process along with Central Office Administrators, teachers, and business members. The CSIP plan will be presented to the Board of Education in July. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education announced that they are ready to release the practice test results for Smarter Balance. The Bill 1490 Bill deals with Common Core but Districts still are not sure when this will take place. The District has three people serving on Common Core committees. Mrs. Franklin, who is serving on one of the committees, said their deadline is next October to develop recommendations that will go to the State Board of Education.

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

Dr. Stout introduced Chase Schneider, Youth Activities Coordinator for Middle schools. Mr. Schneider shared a power point on new things happening in the District. He also talked about the following programs: the Comets helped sponsor a Soccer camp and over 150 students attended; a pep assembly was held for schools aligned with Van Horn High School as they will be Future Falcons; a Family Fun Night was sponsored with LINK; a family sports night was held at Randall Elementary School; Santa Fe Trail, with the Truman High School soccer team, held a family fun event; and Van Horn held a development league for students - grades 3-6 and 40 students participated. In January, Leo Gibson and the Comets are sponsoring a 'read and exercise' program (20 minutes each day for 10 days) and then students receive tickets to a Comets game; and the Mavericks provide four (4) tickets for an upcoming game for Character of the Month students.

Dr. Herl discussed the difference between using a General Contractor and Construction Manager on projects within the School District. He said that a Construction Manager was used for the construction of the last two elementary schools. The District can save money by using a Construction Manager on smaller jobs also. Construction Managers work for the School District. They will bid out the jobs in the project but they cannot do any of the work themselves. Sub-Contractors will be presented to the Board of Education for approval and the District can turn down individual bids, if necessary, based on prior experience.

Blake Roberson made the motion that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent, or his designee, to request proposals for a Construction Management Company for future District construction projects. The motion was seconded by Matt Mallinson and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Stout presented the Administration's recommendation for property, liability, auto, crime, school leaders, and umbrella insurance coverage. Wright Specialty is the most competitive carrier for public schools in the Kansas City area. CBIZ, the District's insurance broker, negotiated a renewal with Wright Specialty for the 2015 calendar year as follows:

Property/Liability/Auto - \$611,097

Crime - \$4,783

Umbrella - \$74,318

School Leaders - \$735,439

This is a savings of almost \$40,000 from the 2014 year.

Denise Fears made the motion that the Board of Education approves Wright Specialty Insurance Company to provide property, liability, automobile, crime, umbrella, and school leadership insurance for the 2015 calendar year. The motion was seconded by Ken Johnston and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

There being no further information to come before the Board, Blake Roberson made the motion, second by Jill Esry, to adjourn the meeting and go into executive session for legal, real estate, personnel, and student issues at 6:42 p.m. The motion was approved as follows:

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

Absent: Greg Finke



Secretary



President