

The Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday, May 13, 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. Lance Stout, Dr. Brad MacLaughlin, Dr. Beth Savidge,  
Dr. Linda Gray-Smith, Mrs. Sherry Potter, Mrs. Cindy Grant, Mrs. Nancy  
Lewis, Mr. Brandon Dumsky, 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 those in attendance including students from Angie Zarillo's Truman High School Leadership class, Jackson Wingo with BSA Troop 161, and other guests. Mrs. Franklin asked Dr. Herl to make a special presentation.

Dr. Herl shared a video recognizing three organizations that provide mental health services to the School District: the Missouri Department of Mental Health; Comprehensive Mental Health; and the Greater Kansas City Mental Health Foundation. John Tramel, Director of Neighborhood Services; Debbie Cox, Science teacher; and Julie Crowell, At-Risk Coordinator; were featured in the video. They explained how, through training, they have learned to look at students and their situations differently. They know the signs to look for and can better address students' issues. Dr. Herl presented a plaque to John Tramel, recognizing these three organizations as the Community Character Plus recipients for the month of May, because of how they are better preparing staff to handle at-risk situations.

Mrs. Franklin read a statement regarding staff and patrons speaking at open and closed Board meetings.

A period of time not to exceed thirty (30) minutes has been allotted to residents of the District and staff at the beginning of the meeting for comments. The Board is very interested in citizen viewpoints and issues; however, some items are not appropriate to be addressed in an open session of the Board of Education. If you wish to make comments regarding the hiring, disciplining or evaluation of individual employees or matters pertaining to individually identifiable employees or students, those comments can be made by signing up and listing the topic to be discussed, so that we verify that it is a subject that is properly handled in closed session. If you would like to address the Board about an individually identifiable employee or student, please see the Board Secretary, Ms. Miller, so that we can get you properly signed up. In the alternative, you can submit your comments to the Board in writing. If you have remarks that do not include references to individual students or personnel, we can proceed with those now.

Remarks are limited to five minutes and to one appearance, thus allowing a maximum number of participants in the allotted time period in which citizens are to speak to issues.

Blake Roberson made the motion to approve the May 13, 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, requested any correspondence between the School District and the insurance company involving the Palmer building mold damages. He also requested the selling price and name of the buyer for the Palmer building.

Sylia Siniawski, 18504 E. 23<sup>rd</sup> Terrace South, 64057 addressed the Board of Education regarding youth sports in education and developing quality leaders for our community. She said for adults that win and losses matter more than it does for the students. She said that involvement in sports helps build character in the youth. Ms. Siniawski

said that professional athletes are rare and that building leadership skills in young people is more important. She stated the win/loss tally hardly counts for the real number of wins or defeats because the victories are really the improved attitude on and off court that is displayed by the students. She stated that quality leadership inspires quality leadership and referenced the District's Character Plus program and the traits it displays. Coaches and teachers exhibit these qualities through their leadership which motivates students to think critically and consider what their opponents views are when they are on the court. Ms. Siniawski asked the District to evaluate the real role of youth sports and how it can inspire leadership in the next generation.

Dr. Herl reported that the Bills List is a little lower for this month and that it varies as supplies/materials are purchased. Dr. Stout shared information on letting the bid for a new scoreboard for the District's Football Field. The current one is old and it is difficult to order repair parts. Community sponsors have been contacted and will provide the funding to provide this new scoreboard.

Denise Fears made the motion to approve the May 13, 2014 Consent Agenda as printed.

1. Minutes – April 15, 2014 – Regular Session
2. Approval of May 13, 2014 List of Bills totaling \$8,034,422.32
3. Personnel Recommendation #22
  - A. Request to Assume Retirement Status of Certificated Staff Effective at the End of the 2013-2014 School Year.
    1. Cathy Crouthers, Special Education/William Chrisman High School
    2. Debra Hemmy, Special Education/Independence Academy
    3. Diane Maupin, Instructional Coach/Jim Bridger Middle School
  - B. Resignation of Certificated Staff Effective End of the 2013-2014 School Year.
    1. Brooke Johnson, Special Education/Pioneer Ridge Middle School
    2. Allison Predmore, Math/Truman High School
    3. John Crutcher, Physical Education/William Chrisman High School
    4. Travis White, Vocal Music/Abraham Mallinson and Sugar Creek Elementary Schools
    5. Heather Wells, Spanish/Pioneer Ridge Middle School
    6. Elizabeth Carver, First Grade/Sugar Creek Elementary School
    7. Emily Shelor, Vocal Music/Randall Elementary School
    8. Kaylee Bartolotta, Elementary Teacher/Sycamore Hills Elementary School
    9. Andria Simon, Science/Nowlin Middle School
    10. Kristin Matthias, Special Education/William Southern Elementary School
    11. Joel Page, Physical Education/Van Horn High School
    12. Terry Parker, Physical Education/William Chrisman High School
    13. Lisa Hill, Special Education/Truman High School
    14. Sarah Ruhlman, First Grade/Three Trails Elementary School
    15. Jessie Lewis, First Grade/Sugar Creek Elementary School
    16. Kristen Bomgardner, Speech Language Pathologist/Three Trails Elementary School
    17. Rachel Zimmerman, English/William Chrisman High School
    18. Paul Hart, Vocal Music/Jim Bridger Middle School
    19. Cheryl Andrsevic, Third Grade/Abraham Mallinson Elementary School
    20. Dawn Wilkerson, Kindergarten/Sycamore Hills Elementary School
    21. Chris Rebello, Special Education/William Chrisman High School
    22. Greg Wickham, English/Truman High School
    23. Kyle Minx, Music/Sycamore Hills Elementary School
  - C. Employment of Certificated Staff for the 2014-2015 School Year.
    1. Rachael Schulte, Science/Van Horn High School
    2. Anne Hooper, Elementary Teacher
    3. Kesley Wydendorf, Special Education Teacher
    4. Haley Crosier, Elementary Teacher
    5. Kathleen Ricker, Special Education Teacher
    6. Bailey Cano, Core Literacy Teacher
    7. Jessica Jones, Elementary Teacher
    8. Linda Powell, Middle School Spanish Teacher
    9. Mikkell Bjornson, Secondary Math Teacher
    10. Kimberly Jacobs, Special Education Teacher
    11. Scott Schaefer, Physical Education Teacher
    12. Jane Knight, Special Education Teacher
    13. Amy Tatge, Process Coordinator

4. Approval to Let Bids for a Scoreboard/Video Board at the District Football Field, Video Scoreboards for the Gymnasiums at William Chrisman, Truman, and Van Horn High Schools, Outdoor Marquee Signs at William Chrisman, Truman, and Van Horn High Schools and a Kiosk with Wayfinding at The Ennovation Center.

The motion was seconded by Jill Esry and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl reported that SB 509 passed and the Governor's veto was overridden by the Legislature. This law will take effect in 2017 if the triggers are met and could create a reduction in revenues between \$600-\$800 million. The law will: gradually reduce top individual income tax from 6 percent to 5.5 percent, and phase in a new 25 percent deduction for business income reported on personal tax returns. State revenues have to grow by at least \$150 million over their high mark from the previous three years for these items to take effect. There is no guarantee that public education funding will not be affected. The District will need to monitor the new law. SB 493 deals with transfer issues and the Legislature is close to a resolution. DESE would go in and accredit/unaccredit schools within a school district. Students could then transfer in-district to another school if their school is unaccredited, or if that school was full, then they could transfer to a school in another district in that county, a neighboring county, or to a charter school. Dr. Herl provided an update on the 2014 Summer School Program - over 7,000 students have already enrolled. This is a good issue for the District to have. This is the first year in a long time that the District has operated the program instead of contracting with Edison. The Nowlin gymnasium construction is progressing a little slower than projected but hopefully, it will be ready around November. The District is in the heart of MAP testing now. The District has tried to provide the most instructional time possible prior to MAP and EOC testing. Dr. Herl said he is very pleased with the testing schedule and hopes it will provide great results.

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

Dr. MacLaughlin shared an exciting opportunity for students in the District as he described what the Freshman Academies will look like starting with the 2014-2015 school year. He reviewed the implementation process and how it will provide focus and support for all ninth grade students through specific planning before they choose their career academy. The Teacher Academy Teams will be composed of five subject area teachers: Math, Social Studies, Science, ELA, and CTE. Each middle school will start with one Teacher Academy Team for the 2014-2015 school year and will increase to 2-3 teams for the 2015-2016 year. The Academies are focused on helping students transition to high school and their eventual career academy choice. The Board of Education members have served on the Ford Next Generation Learning Academy teams and are aware of the opportunities the program can provide for students as they prepare to make their career choices.

Dr. Herl stated that the District had received the National School Boards Association dues for 2014-2015 at a cost of \$5,335.00 which is a decrease from last year's dues of \$5,925. Some of the benefits from belonging to NSBA are: the District can use their attorneys when dealing with national level issues; training sessions for Board member; and the national NSBA Conference held annually in April.

Jill Esry made the motion that the Board of Education authorizes the School District to pay the National School Boards Association membership dues in the amount of \$5,335.00 to the for the 2014-2015 school year. The motion was seconded by Ken Johnston and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Under the Jackson County Charter, the School District is entitled to appoint a voting representative to the Jackson County Board of Equalization. Based on the requirements that this individual possess a real estate background, the Administration is recommending that Mrs. Cathy Pollard serve as the District's representative.

The motion was made by Greg Finke, second by Denise Fears, that the Board of Education approves the appointment of Mrs. Cathy Pollard as the Independence School District's representative to the 2014 Jackson County Board of Equalization. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

As part of the District's long range maintenance schedule, the Administration is recommending approval to accept the bid from Overhead Door Company to replace the main entrance doors at Korte Elementary School.

Denise Fears made the motion that the Board of Education accepts the bid from Overhead Door Company for replacement of the main entrance exterior doors at Korte Elementary School for a cost of \$22,417.00. The motion was seconded by Blake Roberson and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl said that the District let bids for improvements to the baseball field at William Chrisman High School and the Administration is recommending approval of the bid from Brown Midwest at a cost of \$242,436.00. This field serves as the practice field for the District's baseball and softball teams.

Matt Mallinson made the motion that the Board of Education accepts the bid from Brown Midwest for improvements to the baseball field at William Chrisman High School for a cost of \$242,436.00. The motion was seconded by Ken Johnston and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

The District let bids for additional storage space at Thomas Hart Benton and it is the Administration's recommendation to accept the bid from Integral Construction. The additional space will be for storing the cafeteria tables when they are not in use.

Blake Roberson made the motion, second by Greg Finke, that the Board of Education accepts the bid from Integral Construction for additional storage space at Thomas Hart Benton Elementary School for a cost of \$112,700.00. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl stated that the District only received one bid for carpet and floor tile installation due to the economy and contractors having lots of jobs at this time. The bidder was Regents Flooring who has done work for the District in the past.

A motion was made by Denise Fears that the Board of Education accepts the bid from Regents Flooring for carpet installation at Three Trails Elementary School, Jim Bridger Middle School, and Truman High School; and floor tile installation at Independence Academy for a total cost of \$46,476.00. The motion was seconded by Jill Esry 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 Ken Johnston, to adjourn the meeting and go into executive session for legal, personnel, and real estate issues at 6:45 p.m. The motion was approved as follows:

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

Nays:



Secretary



President