

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
The School District of Independence

10652

The Board of Education met for a Tax Rate Levy Hearing on Tuesday, August 13, 2013, at 5:45 p.m. in the Board Room at the Board of Education Office, 201 North Forest Avenue, Independence, Missouri.

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

Also Present: Dr. Dale Herl, Superintendent  
Dr. Dred Scott, Dr. Lance Stout, Dr. Brad MacLaughlin, Dr. Beth Savidge,  
Dr. Linda Gray Smith, Mrs. Cindy Grant, Mr. Blake Zachary, Mr. Bob  
Robinson, 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.

Dr. Herl reviewed the proposed Tax Rate Levy for the 2013-2014 school year.

Dr. Herl explained that the Debt Service Fund increased three cents this year – from \$1.24 to \$1.27. This was due to the Assessed Valuation decreasing over the last year from \$931,400,000 to \$926,400,000. The tax rate is based on preliminary Assessed Valuation information that is provided by the Jackson County Clerk's office. In the last several years, the Assessed Valuation has decreased even more when the District receives the actual 2014 Assessed Valuation totals in August.

Dr. Herl said the proposed Tax Rate Levy amounts are as follows: Operating Fund - \$4.43 and Debt Service Fund - \$1.27. The total recommended Tax Rate Levy for the 2013-2014 school year is \$5.70 per \$100 Assessed Valuation. The District has submitted the Tax Rate Summary to the State Auditor's office, using their State forms, and they have approved the proposed Tax Rate Levy.

The Board of Education agreed that the District continues to do a great job educating students while receiving less revenue – "doing more with less."

There being no further information, the hearing was adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
The School District of Independence

The Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday, August 13, 2013, 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  
Dr. Matt Mallinson, Vice President  
Mrs. Jill Esry, Treasurer  
Mrs. Jana Waits, Director  
Mr. Ken Johnston, Director  
Mrs. Denise Fears, Director  
Mr. Greg Finke, Director

Also Present: Dr. Dale Herl, Superintendent  
Dr. Dred Scott, Dr. Lance Stout, Dr. Brad MacLaughlin, Dr. Beth Savidge,  
Dr. Linda Gray Smith, Mrs. Cindy Grant, Mr. Blake Zachary, Mrs. Sherry  
Potter, Mr. Bob Robinson, 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 everyone.

Ken Johnston made the motion to approve the August 13, 2013 Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Matt Mallinson and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl introduced Mr. Rudy Summerville and the ACE Club students from William Chrisman High School. Mr. Summerville said the ACE Club is committed to giving back to the community. He said that as ambassadors of the Independence School District they are prepared to do their very best and they dress appropriately for each event. Stomping out bullying is one of their goals. Mrs. Phyllis Moore is the ACE Club Assistant Coordinator. The Club goes to each elementary school and talks about bullying and the effects that it has on people. The program is called *Enuf Bullying*. Each student (Mylisha Hurt, Dominic Walker, Harrison Lara, Aaliyah Rodriguez, Angela Littlefield, Michael Tonga, Alyssa Cromley, and Megan Theel) introduced themselves, gave their grade level, and said how being part of ACE Club has impacted their lives. Alyssa Cromley read a plaque that was presented to Mr. J. (Ken Johnston –developed the ACE Club at William Chrisman High School). They also presented a bear statue (with Mr. Johnston's name) that will be kept at William Chrisman High School. The ACE Club presented Dr. Herl with a plant in recognition of his support of the program. Mr. Summerville thanked the Board of Education for the opportunity to serve the School District and community in this capacity. A video was shown on the ACE Program. Dr. Herl presented a plaque to Mr. Summerville and Mrs. Moore in appreciation for their service and commitment to the ACE Program and the students.

Mr. Gene Hoppe, 16508 Crackerneck Road, Independence, MO, addressed the Board of Education. He asked for copies of Dr. Jim Hinson's contracts since June 2009 and also copies Dr. Jason Dial's contracts since August 2009. He also requested a copy of the "Administrators' Code of Ethics." He stated that he would provide the request to Mrs. Miller in writing following the meeting.

Dr. Herl stated that the administration was recommending approval of the Consent Agenda including the monthly list of Bills totaling \$6,166,406.39 and Personnel Recommendation.

Denise Fears made the motion to approve the August 13, 2013 Consent Agenda as printed.

1. Minutes of July 9, 2013
2. Approval of August 13, 2013 List of Bills totaling \$6,166,406.39
3. Personnel Recommendation #4
  - A. Employment of Certificated Staff for the 2013-2014 School Year
    1. Laylee Brown, Elementary Teacher
    2. Elizabeth McClernon, School Psychologist
    3. Gregory Millick, In-School Suspension
    4. Jason Keister, Communication Arts Teacher
    5. Amy Fanning, Business Teacher
    6. Julia Edgerton, Special Education Teacher
    7. Angela Goff, Library Media Specialist
    8. Brian Gant, Special Education Teacher

9. Allen Roberson, ROTC Instructor

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

Dr. Herl reported that he has shared information on HB 253 with District staff and patrons in the community as it is of great concern and everyone needs to understand the impact that it will have on public education. He stated that the District cannot expend money endorsing a particular issue or a candidate. He has sent information by e-mail as that is acceptable. HB253 will annually cut \$5.8 million in revenue to the School District. The State legislature will caucus on possibly overriding Governor Nixon's veto of HB253 on September 11, 12, or 13. He said that school districts across the state are expressing their concern about the affect this bill will have. It will require 109 yes votes by the Legislature to override the Governor's veto.

Dr. Herl said that the first day of school is tomorrow, August 14, and Kindergarten students will start on Thursday. District Administrators and Board members will be out in the buildings tomorrow and Thursday to greet parents, students, and staff. Dr. Herl reported that the Project Shine event went very well with almost 1,300 volunteers helping with the various projects at the five schools. He commended Bob Robinson and his staff for getting the buildings ready. The District and Board of Education extended a big "thank you" to all the volunteers. Dr. Herl announced that Head Start funding has been reinstated by Governor Nixon. This will allow the District to reinstate some of the slots that were eliminated due to previous funding cuts. He said there is a need and the District will not have difficulty filling the slots.

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

Jill Monroe provided an update on the Student Wellness Handbook. The document is designed to be used as a resource by staff and parents. The Student Wellness Advisory Council members are: Dr. Lance Stout, Mrs. Michele Crumbaugh, Mrs. Cory Himes-Drake, Mrs. Jill Monroe, and Mrs. Chelsea Zess. She stated that the District supports a healthy environment where children learn and participate in positive dietary and lifestyle practices as improved health optimizes student performance potential. The purpose of the Student Wellness Advisory Council is to develop and support Board of Education Policy 2750 by facilitating learning through the support and promotion of good nutrition and physical activity. The guidelines that have been developed will be communicated at the school level and will also be shared with parent groups, partnering groups, students, and their families.

Jana Waits made the motion that the Board of Education approves the Student Wellness Handbook for the 2013-2014 School Year as presented. The motion was seconded by Jill Esry and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl recapped information that was shared at the 5:45 p.m. Public Tax Rate Levy Hearing. He stated that the District is recommending \$4.43 Operating Fund and \$1.27 Debt Service Fund for a total Tax Levy of \$5.70 per \$100 Assessed Valuation for the 2013-2014 school year.

Ken Johnston made the motion that the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent, or his designee, to set the Tax Rate Levy at \$5.70 with the Operating Fund of \$4.43 and the Debt Service Fund of \$1.27, for the 2013-2014 school year and to authorize the Superintendent, or his designee, to submit the Estimate of Required Local Taxes to the Jackson County Clerk. The motion was seconded by Denise Fears and unanimously approved by the Board of Education. (Page 10655)

Dr. Herl explained that the School District has to readopt Board of Education Policy 0342 regarding conflict of interest every two years as required by the Missouri Ethics Commission. The Administration is recommending approval of this readoption.

Jana Waits made the motion, second by Jill Esry, that the Board of Education approves the Board of Education readopting Board Policy 0342 regarding Nepotism, Conflict of Interest, and Financial Disclosure Statement for the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 school years. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education. (Page 10656)

Dr. Herl stated, based on the determination of the Court case last year, that the Board of Education needs to approve the District non-resident tuition rates for students from unaccredited school districts for the 2013-2014 school year as presented. These are the same rates approved last year.



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION  
 DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES - SCHOOL FINANCE SECTION  
**ESTIMATE OF REQUIRED LOCAL TAXES**

(Submit to county clerk of each county where district has assessed valuation on or before September 1)

To County Clerk (Name): **Mary Jo Spino**

Name of County: **Jackson**

County District Code: **048-077** District Name: **Independence School District # 30**

Mailing Address: **201 N. Forest  
 Independence, MO 64050**

Telephone Number: **816-521-5300** Fax Number: **816-521-2999**

In compliance with Section 164.011, RSMo, we the undersigned, hereby submit an estimate of the amount of school money necessary to maintain the public school for a term of **12** months, and certify that the data shown are correct.

Name of President of Board of Education: **Ann Franklin**

Signature of President of Board of Education: *Ann Franklin* Date: **8/13/13**

Name of Secretary of Board of Education: **Annette Miller**

Signature of Secretary of Board of Education: *C. Annette Miller* Date: **8/13/13**

Assessed valuation in this county as certified in accordance with Section 137.245, RSMo, or amended prior to September 1. **\$ 926,434,885**

Year Beginning July 1, **2013** Year Ending June 30, **2014**

Length of school term authorized is: Number of days **174** and **1,145.00** hours in session.

A separate vote was cast in accordance with Sections 164.121, 164.131, 164.141, 164.151, RSMo, to provide for a bond issue (where applicable). Yes No

**Tax Rate <sup>a</sup>**

Fund	Tax Rate Ceiling	Unadjusted Levy <sup>b</sup>	Actual Tax Levy (Adjusted Levy <sup>c</sup> )	Prop C Roll Back
1. Incidental <sup>d</sup>	\$ 4.4300 443.00 ¢	\$ 4.4300 443.00 ¢	\$ 4.4300 443.00 ¢	\$ -
2. Teachers	0.00 ¢	\$ - 0.00 ¢	\$ - 0.00 ¢	\$ -
3. Debt Service <sup>e</sup>	\$ 1.2700 127.00 ¢	\$ 1.2700 127.00 ¢	\$ 1.2700 127.00 ¢	N/A
4. Capital Projects	0.00 ¢	\$ - 0.00 ¢	\$ - 0.00 ¢	N/A
<b>Totals</b>		\$5.7000 570.00 ¢	\$5.7000 570.00 ¢	\$ 52,806,788.45

a. Pursuant to Section 137.073, RSMo.

b. Unadjusted levy is equal to the tax rate ceiling less a voluntary reduction. It is not reduced for Proposition C Rollback.

c. Adjusted levy - Reduced by Proposition C, Section 164.013, RSMo.

d. Operating Funds tax rate ceiling.

e. Debt Service fund ceiling.

**Estimated Revenue from M & M Surcharge Tax in this county: \$ 875,000**

**Estimated Revenue from State Assessed Railroad and Utilities in this county: \$ 2,015,000**

Article X, Section 11(C), Constitution of Missouri provides that in any school district where the Board of Education is not proposing a higher tax rate for school purposes, the last tax rate approved shall continue and the tax rate need not be submitted to the voters.

**ORGANIZATION, PHILOSOPHY AND GOALS****Policy 0342  
(Regulation 0342)  
(Form 0342)****School Board Organization****Nepotism, Conflict of Interest and Financial Disclosure**

Board members shall not debate or vote upon the employment of any person to whom they are related within the fourth degree. (See Form 0342.) Provided the Board member relative does not debate or vote upon the employment issue, the Board may employ a person related to a Board member. However, the Board may not under any circumstances employ one of its members.

Members of the Board of Education will conduct themselves in a manner which complies not only with the letter of conflict of interest laws, but also in the spirit of those provisions. Board members will at all times make good faith efforts to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest. If a situation arises which involves the potential for a conflict of interest, the individual Board member will declare his interest and will refrain from debating or voting upon the question of engaging or using the business entity in question.

Matt Mallinson made the motion that the Board of Education approves the recommendation to set the non-resident tuition rates for students from unaccredited school districts for the 2013-2014 school year as follows:

Elementary - \$9,309.73; Middle School - \$9,356.61; and High School - \$10,254.56. The motion was seconded by Greg Finke and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl stated that the District annually sets the Tuition Rate for students from accredited school districts whose parents/guardians own property in the Independence School District but live outside the District. The tuition rate is determined from the ASBR (Annual Secretary of the Board Report).

The motion was made by Denise Fears, second by Ken Johnston, that the Board of Education approves the recommendation to set the 2013-2014 tuition rate at \$9,279 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

There being no further information to come before the Board; Greg Finke made the motion, second by Jana Waits, to adjourn the meeting and go into executive session for legal and personnel issues at 6:40 p.m. The motion was approved as follows:

Ayes: Ann Franklin  
Matt Mallinson  
Jill Esry  
Jana Waits  
Ken Johnston  
Denise Fears  
Greg Finke

Absent:

*C. Annette Mella*

Secretary

*Ann Franklin*

President