

The School District of Independence

The Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday, November 10, 2009, 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, Vice President
 Mrs. Ann Franklin, Treasurer
 Mrs. Susan Jones, Director
 Mrs. Jana Waits, Director
 Mr. Ira Anders, Director
 Dr. Matt Mallinson, Director

Member Absent: Mr. Blake Roberson, President

Also Present: Dr. Jim Hinson, Superintendent
 Mr. Dred Scott, Mr. Dale Herl, Dr. Gary Hogue, Mr. Jason Dial, Ms. Sandi Kiehne, Dr. Beth Savidge, Dr. Gloria Stephenson, Ms. Cindy Konomos, Mr. Bob Robinson, Mrs. Nancy Lewis, Ms. Molly Johnson, Ms. Kelly Evenson of *The Examiner*, PTA, interested patrons and staff, and Mrs. Annette Miller.

The meeting was called to order by the Vice 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 10, 2009 Agenda as printed. The motion was seconded by Matt Mallinson and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

The motion was made by Jana Waits to approve the November 10, 2009 Consent Agenda as printed.

Minutes - Board meeting October 13, 2009 as printed
 Approval of November 10, 2009 List of Bills totaling \$9,052,375.36
 Personnel Recommendation #8.

- A. Employment of Certificated Staff for the 2009-2010 School Year.
 - 1. Cole Amaya, AP English Teacher

The motion was seconded by Ann Franklin and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Under the Superintendent's Report, Dr. Hinson reported that the schools were hosting various Veterans' Day programs this week. He also stated that attendance has improved with apparently no large outbreak of the flu in the District.

Dr. Hinson talked about the Board meeting in June and Dick Bartow explaining the Bond proposal and the opportunity for interest free bonds. He expressed his appreciation to everyone that supported and worked for the successful passage of the Bond Issue during the election. He thanked the Board for attending the numerous meetings regarding the Bond Issue and showing their support for the election. He presented the results that were provided by the Jackson County and Kansas City Board of Election Commissioners for the Board's certification.

Susan Jones made the motion, second by Jana Waits, that the Board of Education approves the November 3, 2009 Bond Issue election results as follows:

	<u>Jackson County</u>		<u>Kansas City</u>		<u>Total</u>	<u>Percent</u>	
	<u>Approved</u>						
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Bond	7678	3517	95	42	7773	3559	68.59%

The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Hinson discussed the proposal for implementation and maintenance of a fiber wide area network to all school sites at a cost of \$3,417,086. He said the District has applied for e-rate funding to help cover part of this cost which would then make the District's portion to be \$1,500,000.

The motion was made by Matt Mallinson that the Board of Education approves the proposal from The City of Independence for implementation and maintenance of a fiber wide area network for thirty-three (33) School District locations for a cost of \$3,417,086.00. The motion was seconded by Ira Anders and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Around November 30th the District will receive the final APR information for the 2008-2009 year. The preliminary APR looked really good. This continues the trend the trend that the District's results have been showing. The disaggregated MAP assessment showed a good report but there is still room for improvement. Some of the sub groups' results indicate that improvement is needed, so there is still work to do. The MAP test changes constantly but the results have remained positive. The District continues to work through the effect that the transition rate causes when students take the MAP test. He said that cultural experiences do affect responses to test questions also. There is a 70 % difference from the beginning of the school year to end of year due to the student mobility rate and that the State does not have anything that takes this into consideration on the test results. All children need stability and it makes a difference in the life of a child. It's difficult to measure achievement when students are not with the District on a consistent basis. Mr. Anders questioned that if the MAP test changes from year to year, how do you know that it is testing the same materials from year to year. Dr. Hinson said the State contracts with a company that is responsible for the validation and reliability of the tests. Mr. Anders asked if the State is looking at tracking students individually. Dr. Hinson replied that MOSIS does create this possibility now. Mr. Anders commended the staff for their efforts in teaching students and questioned if students learn at the same rate due to their varied backgrounds. Dr. Hinson said that the demographics do impact the School District in numerous ways.

Dr. Hinson discussed some the various Bond Projects. There are six schools that will have additions and the process is to have a task force at each building, composed of Administrators, teachers, and parents, to work with the architects. It's important that the architects receive input from the staff and parents when designing these additions. The construction of the two new schools will have similar groups that will work with the architects to provide ideas and suggestions. Discussions have already started regarding possibly selling some of the Bonds in January even though the zero interest bond amounts will not be known until May. There are projects that can be started in the next few months that will benefit people out of work. The District will need to start projects that will not interfere with services at the schools. Dr. Hinson said he wants to be sure that things are done right as the results of these projects will be here for many decades. Based on the economic situation we need to make sure that the District gets the most for every dollar spent on these projects. Individuals can purchase the bonds and they may be sold in \$5,000 increments. How many districts will pass Bond Elections by April 2010, is still unknown. The District's \$85 million is in the top percentage of Bond Issues in the state at this point.

The Board commended Dr. Hinson for the work that he did in presenting information on the Bond Issue to various community and school groups. The Board agreed that taking the proposal to the community for their input was the right thing. Dr. Hinson stated that a lot of people worked behind the scenes supporting the Bond Issue.

The School District will conduct an election on April 6, 2010 to elect three Board of Education Directors. Two of the positions will be for six year terms and one of the positions will be for a four year (to complete Dr. Robert Clothier's term).

Ira Anders made the motion to approve the Board of Education Election Guidelines and Procedures for April 6, 2010 as presented. The motion was seconded by Susan Jones and unanimously approved by the Board of Education. (Page 10305)

Matt Mallinson made the motion, second by Susan Jones at 6:35 p.m. to adjourn the meeting and go into executive session for legal, real estate, and personnel. The motion was approved by the Board of Education as follows:

Ayes:	Ken Johnston	Absent:	Blake Roberson
	Ann Franklin		
	Susan Jones		
	Jana Waits		
	Ira Anders		
	Matt Mallinson		