

BOARD OF EDUCATION
The School District of Independence

The Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday, February 10, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. in the Auditorium at Fairmount Elementary School, 120 North Cedar, Sugar Creek, Missouri.

Members Present: Mr. Blake Roberson, President
Mr. Ken Johnston, Vice President
Mrs. Ann Franklin, Treasurer
Mrs. Susan Jones, Director
Mrs. Jana Waits, Director
Mr. Ira Anders, Director

Also Present: Dr. Jim Hinson, Superintendent
Dr. Henry Russell, Dr. Brian Mitchell, Dr. Ed Streich, Mr. Dred Scott, Mrs. Molly Johnson, Mrs. Nancy Lewis, 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. Blake Roberson, and minutes of the meeting were recorded by the secretary, Mrs. Annette Miller. Mr. Roberson welcomed Nathan Perry, Blue River Community College student, who was auditing the meeting as a course requirement.

Ira Anders made the motion to approve the February 10, 2009 Agenda as printed. The motion was seconded by Ann Franklin and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

The motion was made by Susan Jones to approve the February 10, 2009 Consent Agenda as printed.
Minutes - Board meetings January 8, January 13, and February 3, 2009 as printed
Approval of February 10, 2009 List of Bills totaling \$9,100,237.03
Personnel Recommendation #35.

- A. Request to Assume Retirement Status Effective End of the 2008-2009 School Year.
 - 1. Kerry Burns, Fifth Grade/Christian Ott Elementary School
 - 2. Cindy Blakemore, Speech-Language Pathologist/Early Childhood
- B. Resignation of Certificated Staff Effective End of the 2008-2009 School Year.
 - 1. Eden Shirk, Fourth Grade/Randall Elementary School
- C. Employment of Certificated Staff for the 2009-2010 School Year
 - 1. Rebecca Reddell/Elementary Classroom Teacher
 - 2. Melanie Powell, Elementary Classroom Teacher
 - 3. Nicholas Younts, Elementary Classroom Teacher
 - 4. Samala Smith, Elementary Classroom Teacher
 - 5. Kelly Roehrick, Elementary Classroom

- 4. Approval of Preliminary Budget for Ordering Supplies for the 2009-2010 School Year.

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

Dr. Hinson shared that encumbering funds for ordering supplies for the 2009-2010 school year allows the District to order and receive classroom supplies, textbooks, and department supplies in a timely manner for the new school year.

Under the Superintendent's Report: 1) Ira Anders commended Dr. Gloria Stephenson and the technology staff for an outstanding Technology Fair and said he gained a tremendous amount of information; 2) Janet Gibbs, principal - Santa Fe Trail Walk-A-Thon, and Janet Richards, principal - Spring Branch Spell-A-Thon, presented two power point presentations on fund raising activities at their schools that allowed all students to participate and all of funds to remain at the schools; and 3) Dr. Hinson discussed proposed legislation and stated that HB 591, filed by Representative Sutherland, would allow voters to petition for

an election to lower the tax rate ceiling of a political subdivision which takes the ability to set a tax levy away from Boards of Education.

Ron Bruch, chairperson of the Fund Raising Task Force, introduced members (25 members total) of the Task Force that were in attendance: Ken Johnston, Ann Franklin, Lori Halsey, Eric Holm, Jennifer Walker, and Dan Ogle. He shared and reviewed information in the Fund Raising Report including: their charge; current District policies, philosophy, and procedures; concerns that had been discussed; and recommendations based on equitable and consistent principles. Members of the Task Force said that it had been an eye-opening experience for them. They focused on providing guidance to clubs, organizations, and groups as they approached fund raising activities/events that would carry the School District's name or logo. The Board expressed appreciation to members of the Task Force for working together on this issue and reaching consensus on what was included in their report to the Superintendent. Dr. Hinson said the report would be shared for additional comments/suggestions prior to the Board of Education's approval.

Dr. Hinson discussed the proposed 2009-2010 School Calendar. He reviewed the calendar and indicated that the State's attendance requirements and the Metropolitan Community Colleges schedule impact the District's calendar. Based on the End of Course Exams that are now required, they may also affect the calendar. He cited that last year the District lost \$40,000 because of students' absences for Take Your Child to Work Program and suggested that moving the program to the summer would be a better solution.

A motion was made by Ira Anders for the Board of Education to approve the 2009-2010 School District Calendar as presented. The motion was seconded by Ken Johnston and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Mitchell stated that the District had solicited bids for construction management services on future projects with a base bid of 2-3% fee for hard construction cost. Following the administration's review of the bids that were submitted, the recommendation was made to accept the bid from J. E. Dunn Construction.

Jana Waits made the motion that the Board of Education approves accepting the bid of J. E. Dunn Construction for construction management services on future projects for a cost of 2-3% for hard construction cost. The motion was seconded by Ken Johnston and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Mr. Roberson stated that due to Dr. Robert Clothier's recent death, the Board of Education was announcing their intention to fill the vacant Director position. He read Board Policy #0324:

"Whenever a vacancy occurs on the Board of Education, the remaining members of the Board will, by majority vote, appoint an individual to fill the vacant position until the next school election, at which time the position shall be filled by election to complete the unexpired term.

If the vacancy occurs less than six (6) months prior to the next school board election, the Board may use its discretion whether to fill the vacancy.

In filling the vacancy, the Board will inform the community and will solicit qualified community members to apply for the vacant position. The vote taken to fill the vacancy will occur in an open session meeting of the Board."

The consensus of the Board of Education was to post the position vacancy information on the District's web page and publish it in *The Examiner* newspaper. The posting will be open from February 11 to February 24, 2009. Interested patrons should contact Annette Miller (521-5300) at the Board of Education Office, 3225 South Noland Road, for application packets.

The Board of Education will review the written applications and determine if interviews need to be conducted. Based on the Board's screening of applications, a determination of the selected applicant to fill the Director position could be announced at the Board meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2009. If the Board determines that interviews are necessary, they may be held on Tuesday, March 3, or at a later date. The vote by the

Board of Education, to appoint an applicant to fill the Director position, will be held during an open Board meeting.

Ken Johnston made the motion, second by Susan Jones at 7:24 p.m. to adjourn the meeting and go into executive session for legal, real estate, and personnel issues. The motion was approved by the Board of Education as follows:

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

Secretary

President