BOARD OF EDUCATION
The School District of Independence

The Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday, November 13, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the Board of Education Office, 201 North Forest Avenue, Independence, Missouri.

Members Present:  Mr. Greg Finke, President
Mrs. Denise Fears, Vice President
Dr. Matt Mallinson, Treasurer
Mrs. Jill Esry, Director
Mr. Blake Roberson, Director
Mrs. Carrie Dixon, Director
Mr. Eric Knipp, Director

Also Present:  Dr. Dale Herl, Superintendent
Dr. Lance Stout, Dr. Cindy Grant, Mr. Dean Katt, Dr. Janet Richards, Mr. Randy Maglinger, Ms. Prissy LeMay, Mrs. Sherry Potter, Mr. Salum Stutzer, Mrs. Jana Corrie, INEA, PTA, interested patrons, staff, and Ms. Annette Miller.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Greg Finke, and minutes of the meeting were recorded by the secretary, Ms. Annette Miller. Mr. Finke welcomed everyone attending the meeting including a student from Blue River Community College and a student with the Pathways to Education class. Dr. Herl shared a video on the Independence Arts and Technology program. Hannah Noel and Josh Dixon, students at A & T discussed how the program is helping them with their pathway career choice. The A & T building houses several career academies: broadcasting, digital marketing area, robotics team area, screen printing area for the All Things Independence Store, and an art gallery for students to display and sell their work.

The motion was made by Matt Mallinson, second by Eric Knipp, to approve the November 13, 2018 Agenda as presented. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Mr. Finke asked if anyone wished to address the Board of Education. No one responded.

Dr. Herl explained that it was a short agenda for this evening and that the Bills ($9,953,071.72) amount is starting to diminish as the District is nearing the end of the Bond Issue projects. The last Bond project will be remodeling the science classrooms at Truman High School this coming summer.

Denise Fears made the motion to approve the November 13, 2018 Consent Agenda as printed.
1. Approval of October 9, 2018 Minutes
2. Approval of November 13, 2018 List of Bills totaling $9,953,071.72
3. Personnel Recommendation #7
   A. Request to Retire (Certificated Staff) Effective End of the 2018-2019 School Year
      1. Ron Patch, Vocal Music/William Chrisman High School
      2. Katherine (Libby) Sparks, Math/William Chrisman High School

The motion was seconded by Blake Roberson and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl reported that the District will not receive the APR results until the first of February at the earliest. He said that the State is still establishing cut scores for math and reading that were given this past year. He said the District hosted AVID site visits at Nowlin and Jim Bridger Middle Schools. He said the program is going very well due to the commitment of the staff and students. He has received comments that the District is far ahead of other districts that have been doing this for several years. The Van Horn High School soccer team has qualified for the state final four and will play Fort Zumwalt South this Friday, November 16, in Fenton. The have never had a state title and this is their first time in the final four since coming into the Independence School District.

Mr. Stutzer presented updated Bond Issue information. Van Horn High School should pass occupancy requirements today so that project will be finished. Cassell Park - curbs and gutters have been poured and sidewalks are done; asphalt for the driveway areas has not been done due to the inclement weather conditions; interior is moving along as the casework has been installed in all the classrooms on first floor; bulletin boards/white boards have been hung; lights have been installed in the drop ceilings and will do the same on second floor next week; starting to hang classroom doors; glass side panels will be installed afterwards; kindergarten rooms have self-contained restrooms and a large storage space; reading nooks have been built-in in the media center; with ceiling grids in place the lights will be installed this weekend; the PLTW room and cafeteria walls have been painted; preparing the kitchen floor now for epoxy coating; kitchen equipment arrives next week; restrooms are progressing with tile work being completed; lights will be dropped; ready to hang partitions; gym equipment is installed; lights to be installed; flooring will be the last thing; the primary classroom on second floor still need to
Several New Business items were presented for the Board of Education’s consideration and approval.

Dr. Herl shared information on the proposed boundary adjustments. The adjustments will effect more than just Cassel Park Elementary School. Six issues were considered in developing the adjustments: establish Cassel Park attendance area (Neal Johnson will be the new principal and he was in attendance); reduce the number of students attending Korte, Fairmount, and Three Trails Elementary Schools; allow for potential growth in the ISD; safety of transportation routes; right size of the school for efficiency; and clearly distinguishable boundaries through the use of major roads. Students from Korte and Three Trails Elementary Schools make up Cassel Park Elementary School. It will accommodate 310 students with 16 sections and will house the ELL Program that is currently at Sycamore Hills Elementary School. The size of the school will allow some room for growth in the future at Cassel Park. Dr. Herl said that students/families would be grandfathered but that transportation would not be provided.

Blake Roberson made the motion that the Board of Education approves changing the attendance boundary areas as presented effective the fall of 2019. The motion was seconded by Jill Esry and unanimously approved by the Board of Education. The Board expressed appreciation for the thought that went into this attendance adjustment process.

Dr. Herl explained that due to the 2017 hail damage to the roofs on many of the schools, that the District is still getting repair work done. For Phase Two roof repair, the Administration recommends accepting the bid from KAW Roofing for $245,000.00.

Eric Knipp made the motion that the Board of Education approves the bid of $245,000 from Kaw Roofing for Phase Two Hail Damage Roof Repairs. The motion was seconded by Carrie Dixon and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl discussed the proposed Legislative Platform Issues for 2019. He said the nine issues listed are of the greatest importance to the ISD in the upcoming legislative session. The Platform issues will be communicated to legislators that represent the ISD. They are similar to last year but the Pre-K funding issue was removed as it was approved this past year and is now funded through the Foundation Formula.

Denise Fears made the motion, second by Eric Knipp, that the Board of Education approves the Legislative Priority Position Platform as presented for the 2019 Legislative Session. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education. (Page 11609)

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, Eric Knipp made the motion, second by Jill Esry, to adjourn the meeting and go into executive session for real estate, legal, and personnel issues at 6:32 p.m. The motion was approved as follows:

Ayes:  Greg Finke
Denise Fears
Matt Mallinson
Jill Esry
Blake Roberson
Carrie Dixon
Eric Knipp

Nays:

C. Annelle Miller
President
Legislative Priority Positions

In the interest of public education in the Independence School District, we ask members of the Missouri General Assembly to:

1. Support the full funding of state mandates in accordance with the Missouri Constitution.

2. Support providing appropriations for fully funding the Foundation Formula.

3. Support maintaining the integrity of the current Foundation Formula and avoid adjustments that would significantly alter the manner in which the Formula is distributed.

4. Oppose legislation that would divert revenue to non-public educational entities.

5. Oppose transferring students out of unaccredited school districts as it is not in the best interest of all students and will not lead to improvement of unaccredited districts.

6. Support local school district authority to make the decisions about matters such as: open enrollment; employee compensation and working conditions; class sizes; curriculum and instruction materials; professional development; program and employee evaluation; and school calendar.

7. Support a consistent set of standards and tools to measure the progress of students and meet their educational needs while allowing districts to respond and implement these changes without further disruption to state standards or tests.

8. Support a change in the bonding capacity for school districts from 15% to 20% of the district's assessment valuation.

9. Oppose charter school expansion as law currently exists. All local tax funds should be under the control of a publicly elected board.

President, Board of Education