BOARD OF EDUCATION  
The School District of Independence

The Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday, February 11, 2020, 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, Dr. Pam Boatright, Mr. Dean Katt, Dr. Janet Richards, Mr. Salum Stutzer, Mrs. Jana Corrie, Mr. Todd Theen, 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 those in attendance including several staff members working on their leadership certification and Andrew Hennessy, Boy Scot Troop 228, working towards his community citizenship merit badge.

The motion was made by Blake Roberson, second by Denise Fears, to approve the February 11, 2020 Agenda as presented. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl shared that the Bills List for the month of February totals $12,759,398.28. He reviewed the four motions to let bids for: school picture services; elevator and lift inspections and service; painting, carpet/cover base, stair tread, epoxy floor finishing, interior/exterior doors, and restroom partitions at William Southern, Christian Ott, and Glendale Elementary Schools, Nowlin Middle School, and Independence Academy; and guttering system replacement at William Southern and Christian Ott Elementary Schools.

Eric Knipp made the motion to approve the February 11, 2020 Consent Agenda as printed.

1. Approval of January 14 and 22, 2020 Minutes.
2. Approval of February 11, 2020 List of Bills totaling $12,759,398.28
3. Personnel Recommendation #14
   A. Request to Resign (Certificated Staff) Effective End of the 2019-2020 School Year
      1. Emily Morina, Music/Abraham Mallinson Elementary School
      2. Kathryn Osborne, Third Grade/Abraham Mallinson Elementary School
      3. Marisa Raimo, Fifth Grade/Bryant Elementary School
   B. Request to Retire (Certificated Staff) Effective End of the 2019-2020 School Year.
      1. Roger Bashoum, Science/William Chrisman High School
      2. Sandy Fetters, English/William Chrisman High School
      3. Lisa Siron, Third Grade/Blackburn Elementary School
   C. Employment of Certificated Teaching Staff for the 2020-2021 School Year.
      1. Julia Bradshaw, Special Education Teacher
      2. Lindsey Lewis, Elementary Teacher
      3. Janci Mills, Special Education Teacher
      4. Sarah Norman, Elementary Teacher
      5. Samantha Stevens, Instrumental Music
5. Approval to Let Bids for the Gym Additional Areas and Classroom Renovation at William Chrisman High School.

The motion was seconded by Jill Esry and approved by the Board of Education as follows:

**Ayes:** Greg Finke  
Denise Fears  
Matt Mallinson

**Nays:**
Dr. Herl said the Kansas City Chiefs won Super Bowl LIV and the District had a Red Snow Day on Wednesday, February 5th. He reported that the Jackson County Assessed Valuation is still an issue. Five lawsuits have been filed and multiple pieces of legislation have been introduced in Jefferson City. He expressed concern regarding the outcome and the impact it could have on the School District. Dr. Herl reported that the revenues are coming in very strong. The Governor is talking about setting aside $100,000,000 for a rainy day and a $100,000 for the State Transportation Department. The Foundation Formula recalibrates every 2 years, so to fully fund the Foundation Formula it will only need $10,000,000 which will not go very far with all the school districts throughout the state. Some of the excess funds may go to school transportation and also increase funding for early education, Pre-K. Dr. Herl said there is a lot of legislation regarding charter schools and education saving accounts. He, Jill Esry, and Carrie Dixon attended the MSBA Legislative Forum in Jefferson City on Monday, February 10th. Senator Cindy O’Laughlin was part of a roundtable and she has introduced a Bill for Charter Schools. She has not been in one but does plan to visit one. Dr. Herl suggested the Board of Education may need to contact legislators and reach out to people they know regarding these bills.

Several New Business items were presented for the Board of Education’s consideration and approval.

Dr. Herl introduced Mr. Brent Blevins from Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Inc. regarding refunding of Lease Certificates 2010 A and 2010 B. Mr. Blevins said this would strictly be interest saving. He said the dollars saved by refinancing these certificates would go into the District’s operating fund and currently the market is amazing. He said the certificates may be tax exempt. The refinancing of these certificates of $2,815,000 principal could result in a savings of $300,000-$366,000 for the District. Providing this information to the Board of Education at this time starts the process of getting documents ready for the sale to take place in March when he will share the final numbers.

Denise Fears made the motion that the Board of Education approves the following Resolution:
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE OFFERING FOR SALE OF A SERIES OF CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION TO REFUND $2,815,000 PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF LEASE PARTICPATION CERTIFICATES ISSUED IN 2010, TO BE ACCOMPLISHED PURSUANT TO AN ANNUALLY RENEWABLE LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT.

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

Dr. Herl said that based on the bid responses for the gym additional areas and classroom renovation at William Chrisman High School, the Administration is recommending approval of the bid from Herner Construction, Inc. for $187,159.00.

Matt Mallinson made the motion, second by Eric Knipp, that the Board of Education approves the bid of $187,159 from Herner Construction Inc. for gym additional areas and classroom renovation at William Chrisman High School. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl stated that the District’s Budget is usually amended two times a year due to additional grants that have been received. The Administration is recommending approval of the FY20 Budget Amendment as presented.

Jill Esry made the motion that the Board of Education approves the adjustments to the FY20 Budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Denise Fears and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl stated that the District is not allowed to expend funds from this year’s Budget for next year’s items. Therefore, the District has to encumber funds now in order to allow for ordering and delivery of the supplies and textbooks for the start of school and also for summer projects.

A motion was made by Blake Roberson, second by Matt Mallinson, that the Board of Education approves the preliminary budgets for the 2020-2021 school year for classroom supplies, textbooks, and department supplies as presented for the purpose of encumbering funds for the timely ordering of these items. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Stout explained that the District’s software solutions require yearly maintenance for support and upgrades. The Administration is recommending purchasing annual licenses for Microsoft products under the Education Plus (Missouri Schools) (018-A) Contract. He said the cost is up from last year because of adding another elementary school.
Eric Knipp made the motion that the Board of Education approves the quotes from CDW for $105,825.00 under the Education Plus (Missouri Schools) (018-A) Contract to purchase annual Microsoft licenses. Denise Fears seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Stout said that some of the current Chromebooks will not be able to run the District’s testing software as this feature expires after the Chromebooks reach a certain age. The Administration is recommending purchasing 2,488 new Chromebooks from CDW under the Education Plus (Missouri Schools) (018-A) Contract. Dr. Stout explained that the current Chromebooks can still be used in classrooms on some projects and will be recycled to other buildings as needed. Also, the ordering of Chromebooks will be put on a five year rotating basis for future planning and ordering.

The motion was made by Matt Mallinson, second by Jill Esry, that the Board of Education approves the quote from CDW under the Education Plus (Missouri Schools) (018-A) contract for a total of $511,756.72 to purchase 2,488 new Chromebooks. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, Eric Knipp made the motion, second by Carrie Dixon, to adjourn the meeting and go into executive session for real estate, legal, and personnel issues at 6:34 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. Annette Miles

Secretary

President