The Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday, March 9, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the Board of Education Office, 201 North Forest Avenue, Independence, Missouri.

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

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

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. Denise Fears, and minutes of the meeting were recorded by the secretary, Ms. Annette Miller. Mrs. Fears welcomed those in attendance.

Eric Knipp made the motion to approve the March 9, 2021 Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Matt Mallinson and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl stated the Bills List totaling $51,461,135.86 included a Debt Service payment of $41,356,942.49 to UMB Bank Corporate Trust. He said that Debt Service payments are made twice a year. He reviewed the list of Let Bid Items: 1) Athletic Trainer Services; 2) District Waste and Recycling Services; and 3) Disaster Recovery Services. He said the District will also be investigating providing its own trash service.

Blake Roberson made the motion that the Board of Education approves the March 9, 2021 Consent Agenda as printed.

1. Minutes – February 9, 2021
2. Approval of March 9, 2021 List of Bills totaling $51,461,135.86
3. Approval of Personnel Recommendation #13
   A. Request to Resign (Certificated Staff) Effective June 30, 2021.
      1. Walt Alexander, ISS-Fuel Ed/Jim Bridger Middle School
      2. Casey Askins, Physical Education/William Chrisman High School
      3. Jesse Barton, Science/William Chrisman High School
      4. Jackie Becker, PLTW/Truman and Van Horn High Schools
      5. Brandon Browning, Music/Pioneer Ridge Middle School
      6. Michael Burns, Counselor/Truman High School
      7. Daphne Douglas, Special Education/Van Horn High School
      8. Michael Dye, ISS-Fuel Ed/Nowlin Middle School
      9. Hailey Green, ECSE/Hanthorn School
     10. James Hafley, ISS-Fuel/Independence Academy
     11. Kevin Hicks, Teacher/Thomas Hart Benton Elementary School
     12. Bre Kratzer, Math/George Caleb Bingham Middle School
     13. Kenneth Lineberry, LMS/John W. Luff Elementary School
     14. Ashlee Martin Artigas, Second Grade/Korte Elementary School
     15. Melanie Moehlman, Speech-Drama/Pioneer Ridge Middle School
     16. Samuel Morgan, ISS-Fuel Ed/Pioneer Ridge Middle School
     17. Sydney Robertson, Math/Jim Bridger Middle School
     18. Madison Shank, Elementary Alternative Teacher/Independence Academy
     19. Gretchen Sheely, Reading/Fairmount Elementary School
     20. Colin Sizemore, ISS-Fuel Ed/Truman High School
     21. Jacqueline Sweet, English/William Chrisman High School
   B. Request to Retire (Certificated Staff) Effective June 30, 2021.
      1. Rae Jean Aguero, Counselor/John W. Luff Elementary School
      2. Julie Davis, First Grade/Blackburn Elementary School
      3. Denise Kimbrough, Teacher/Santa Fe Trail Elementary School
4. Roberta Wright, Reading/Santa Fe Trail Elementary School
C. Request to Employ (Certificated Staff-Fellow) Effective 2021-2022 School Year.
   1. Sean Carlson, English Teacher
   2. Callie Fergen, Elementary Teacher
D. Request to Employ (Certificated Staff) Effective 2021-2022 School Year.
   1. Matthew Ambrose, English Teacher
   2. Taylor Arehart, Building Coach
   3. Janell Beilman, Building Coach
   4. Brett Gilio, Science Teacher
   5. Dalton Hutchings, Physical Education Teacher
   6. Taylor Jackman, Building Coach
   7. Morgan Lazar, School Psychologist
   8. Michaela Reynolds, Elementary Teacher
   9. Megan Schwindler, Library Media Specialist
   10. Robert Stough, Business Teacher
   11. Hannah Tolliver, Elementary Teacher
   12. Hannah Von Hagel, Special Education Teacher
   6. Approval to Let Bids for Disaster Recovery Services.
The motion was seconded by Jill Esry and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl reported that this is an important week in the Legislature. SB55 is an omnibus bill and is the worse public education bill as it includes ESA, virtual expansion for profit companies, and charter school expansion. He talked about how things have changed in a year as at this time last year COVID was the topic of discussion in regards to cleaning protocols but not shutting schools down then things quickly changed. Dr. Herl shared upcoming calendar changes: 7th graders will be coming back in-person on March 15 with no hybrid option but students can still be fully virtual; March 19 will be a teacher work day (with no student attendance) as COVID vaccine will be given to staff; April 5 will now be an instruction day; and April 9 will become a PD day due to scheduling the second vaccine shot if it is Pfizer but if it is Moderna then we will have to shift to April 16. Dr. Herl shared that the Bond Issue is being received well by the community and he is not aware of any organized opposition. He has made 26 presentations on the Bond Issue as of today and they are going well as people are appreciating that the Bond includes something for everyone.

Several items under New Business were presented for the Board of Education's consideration.

Dr. Herl said the Administration is recommending this as the second and final reading of Board of Education Policy 6180 changes/additions.

Jill Esry made the motion that the Board of Education approves this as the second and final reading of changes/additions to Board of Education Policy 6180 as presented. The motion was seconded by Eric Knipp and unanimously approved by the Board of Education. (Page 12082)

Dr. Stout said that as part of the Technology Department's plan to update the Chromebook fleet, the Administration is recommending purchasing 5,000 new Dell 3100 Chromebooks from CDW under the Education Plus (Missouri Schools) (018-A) Contract for a cost of $1,286,550.00. He said this will be paid through ESSER II funds. Some of the District's current Chromebooks will stop receiving Google updates in September 2021. Dr. Stout said that the District has a 5-6 year plan for replacing computers.

Blake Roberson made the motion that the Board of Education approves the quote from CDW under the Education Plus (Missouri Schools) (018-A) Contract to purchase 5,000 new Dell 3100 Chromebooks for a total cost of $1,286,550.00. The motion was seconded by Carrie Dixon and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl said the District used a construction manager at risk (CMAR) with the 2017 Bond Issue and that it worked very well. He said the CMAR guarantees the prices on the various Bond projects. Dr. Herl said the Administration is recommending approving a contract with Nabholz Construction Corporation for the District's 2021 Bond projects.

The motion was made by Matt Mallinson, second by Eric Knipp, that the Board of Education approves the construction manager at risk contract with Nabholz Construction Corporation for the 2021 Bond projects. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl said the Administration is recommending approving the contacts of Hollis+Miller Architects and DLR Group, Inc. for architect services for the 2021 Bond projects given the District's satisfactory relationships with both firms.
INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

Curriculum Services

English Language Learner (ELL)

The Board of Education is committed to identifying and assessing the educational needs of students whose native or home language is other than English. Once identified, the District will provide appropriate programs to address the needs of these students. Students entitled to considerations under this policy include:

1. Language Minority (LM) - students who come from a background where English is not the student's first language, or where the primary language of the home is not English or both.

2. Limited English Proficient (LEP) - Students whose English language skills are insufficient to lead to success in an English-only classroom.

The District will also take steps to ensure to the maximum extent practicable that the interests of ELL students are included in the development and implementation of District programs and services that are offered by the District to and for its student body.

School personnel enrolling ELL students are trained in the process of identifying, assessing, and providing services to these students.

To ensure that parents/guardians are properly notified of the ELL program, all new and enrolling students are to be given the Student Home Language Survey (Form 6180). The form shall be completed and returned to the school by the parents/guardians if they feel their child may be in need of such services.

Where the District has or may have in the future a low number of ELL students, the District may contract with a neighboring district for services until a qualified ELL teacher is employed. However, if the District serves twenty (20) or more ELL students, the District will employ a full-time certified ESOL teacher.

The Board designates the Director of Title Services to serve as the District's ELL Implementor.

REV. 3/21
Greg Finke made the motion that the Board of Education approves the contract for architect services with Hollis+Miller Architects and DLR Group Inc. The motion was seconded by Carrie Dixon and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl said the District let bids for interior and exterior door replacements at Thomas Hart Benton, Blackburn, John W. Luff and Sycamore Hills Elementary Schools and Van Horn High School as part of Project Shine. He said the Administration is recommending the bid from Omega Construction Services at a cost of $738,644.00.

The motion was made by Matt Mallinson, second by Jill Esry, that the Board of Education approves the bid of $738,644.00 from Omega Construction Services for replace of interior and exterior doors for District buildings. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl discussed the bid tab sheet for purchasing playground equipment and surface renovations for seventeen sites at a cost of $1,568,111.30 and said this is part of a contract that will be used only if the Bond passes. He also said it is a requirement that 35% of the equipment has to be ADA accessible.

Greg Finke made the motion, second by Carrie Dixon, that the Board of Education approves the purchase of Playground Equipment and Surface Renovations for seventeen District sites from PlayPower LT Farmington Inc. per the Sourcewell Contract #030117-LTS-3 for a total cost of $1,568,111.30. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl said the Administration is recommending purchasing a wheelchair accessible bus from Central States Bus Sales to replace a bus damaged in an accident. He said the District will pay the difference so it will be a propane bus.

Carrie Dixon made the motion, second by Matt Mallinson, that the Board of Education approves the proposal from Central States Bus Sales for the purchase of one 48 passenger conventional bus with wheelchair lift a cost of $126,937.00. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Stout stated the District is initiating a plan to replace the current bus fleet with propane buses as they have less emissions and the fuel is less expensive than diesel. He said the Administration is recommending approving the quote from Central States Bus Sales for the purchase of ten (10) 2022 Model year 71 passenger propane powered conventional school buses at $116,959.00 each. Dr. Stout said the District received a $196,650.00 grant from the Leonardo Academy and $2,000 per bus from the Missouri Propane Education and Research Council (MO PERC) towards this purchase for a total cost of $952,940.00.

The motion was made by Eric Knipp, second by Carrie Dixon, that the Board of Education approves the quote from Central States Bus Sales for the purchase of ten (10) 2022 Model year 71 passenger propane powered conventional school buses at $116,959.00 each.

Dr. Herl shared a list of items to be declared surplus as they are no longer needed for District operations. He said these lists are presented four times per year. (Page 12084)

Jill Esry made the motion that the Board of Education approves declaring for surplus the list of items, as presented, pursuant to Section 117.091 R.S.M.o. The motion was seconded by Carrie Dixon and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

There being no further information to come before the Board of Education, Greg Finke made the motion, second by Jill Esry, to adjourn the meeting and go into executive session for legal, real estate, and personnel issues at 6:27 p.m. The motion was approved as follows:

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

Nays:

[Signatures]

Secretary

President
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