

BOARD OF EDUCATION
The School District of Independence

12371

The Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday, July 12, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the Board of Education Office, 201 North Forest Avenue, Independence, Missouri.

Members Present: Mr. Eric Knipp, President
Mr. Blake Roberson, Vice President
Mrs. Carrie Dixon, Treasurer
Mrs. Jill Esry, Director
Mr. Greg Finke, Director
Mrs. Denise Fears, Director
Mr. Anthony J. Mondaine, Director

Also Present: Dr. Dale Herl, Superintendent
Dr. Lance Stout, Dr. Cindy Grant, Dr. Pam Boatright, Dr. Randy Maglinger,
Dr. Anthony Robinson, Mrs. Leslie Hochsprung, Mr. Dean Katt, Mrs.
Megan Murphy, Mrs. Sherry Potter, Mr. Todd Theen, Mr. Salum Stutzer,
INEA, PTA, interested patrons, staff, and Ms. Annette Miller.

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

Denise Fears made the motion to approve the July 12, 2022 Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Blake Roberson and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Mr. Knipp said several people had requested to address the Board of Education this evening. He read Policy 0412 regarding the process of addressing the Board of Education.

Anthony Mondaine made the motion to extend the thirty (30) minute public comment period time allocation for District residents and staff members. The motion died due to lack of a second.

Richard Liebau, 21614 East 4th Street South, Independence, MO 64056 addressed the Board of Education regarding a head lice issue and school safety. He stated that his daughters are getting head lice from their schools and are missing out on their education. He asked the Board to do something regarding the head lice issue. He said school safety is an important issue due to recent school threats. He said his kindergartener and second grade daughters were frightened after going through the ALICE drills. He said he was a former Raytown School District Resource Officer and former fire fighter. He belongs to a bikers club and asked that they be allowed inside schools to provide security. He said they can protect kids and mentor them. He stated that background checks should be done on participants. He stated that he is a single father and his kids are all that he has and he wants to keep them safe.

Wendy Baird, 2312 Viking Drive, Independence, MO 64057 said she has addressed the Board of Education four times since February 2021. She expressed concerns then about students being virtual and not receiving the same instruction/opportunities as in-person students. Since she had not received a response by one month and three days later she checked on this. Two months later a black student group spoke in executive session regarding their issue. She stated that kids have more freedom and choices as to who they are and how they express themselves. She said that due to this culture of secrecy by the District, it led her to create a Facebook page. She does not believe the Board is encouraging participation in District issues. Ms. Baird said she missed the Board's Budget meeting due to a child care issue. She said the meetings are not being broadcast and the minutes will not be posted until after tonight's meeting. She talked about approval of banning a book and she did not understand why this was recommended. She said that labels can change and people can be whatever they want. She asked the Board if they were going to change their process in being more open.

Arthur Smith, 3312 South Hardy, Independence, MO 64052 thanked the Board of Education for the opportunity to address the Board. He stated that he has a 2016 Van Horn graduate and a 16 year old. He said the gender identity issue did not reflect who she really was. He said that his non-binary child attended Prom and how it was handled made his respect for Van Horn High School grow that evening. He said his children are thrilled when they find themselves referenced in a book, movie, or TV. He said he did not want books removed from libraries because every book is a lifeline for his child and others and the book removal impacted kids. He stated that kids look up to people of authority and it hurts to learn that the book was removed when it describes them. He stated that he is requesting the Board of Education to rescind the banning of this book in elementary libraries and also implement diversity training for all staff and the Board.

Bruce Gibbs, 2235 South Leslie Avenue, Independence, MO 64055 thanked the Board of Education for the opportunity to serve on the Challenged materials Committee even though he was not aware of the subject matter. He said that it was in Chapter 9 when the information was introduced. He read from book and said he was not super smart as to the meaning of non-binary so he googled the definition and his initial response was that this is a very heavy subject and not appropriate for elementary students. Stereotyping children is not right and could play mind games with small kids. Mr. Gibbs said that he has had an outstanding experience with the School District and thanked the Board for acting quickly regarding the challenged materials book. He thanked the Board for approving the decision of the committee.

Susan Melin, 600 South Liberty, Independence, MO 64050 addressed the Board of Education regarding the recent challenged material book. She said that transgender activities change by the time children reach 18 years of age. She referenced the recent decision by the Lee's Summit School District for gender equity. She said the decision ends with the School Board. She said that people can like anybody but they cannot shove their opinions down the throats of little children. She asked the Board of Education to do what is right for the children in this District and she believes the Board of Education will do that.

Colleen Huff, 717 South Willis Avenue, Independence, MO 64052. She said as a parent and advocate for children, she appreciates the District and Board of Education for safeguarding the students. She said the parent who addressed the Board about his child being non-binary and the decision on gender identity is between students and their parents. She said parents should have the right to discuss with their children the materials that they are exposed to. Ms. Melin said that parents are the first educator for their children. She said the Board did not do anything disrespectful as parents should decide if they want this content shared with their children.

Mr. Knipp thanked each of the presenters for addressing the Board of Education regarding their concerns/suggestions.

Dr. Herl reported the July List of Bills total is \$20,030,637.87 which includes a number of payments on Bond Issue projects.

Greg Finke made the motion that the Board of Education approves the July 12, 2022 Consent Agenda as printed

1. Minutes – June 14 and 28, 2022
2. Approval of July 12, 2022 List of Bills totaling \$20,030,637.87
3. Approval of Personnel Recommendation #1 as follows:
4. Request to Hire (Certificated Staff) for the 2022-2023 School Year.
 1. Deniece Ackerman, Elementary Teacher
 2. Sage Bennetts, Spanish Teacher
 3. John Biddle, ROTC Instructor
 4. Robert Caton, Art Teacher
 5. Decoda Hoover, Art Teacher
 6. Carl Jiabia, Business Teacher
 7. Cathie Juarez, FACS Teacher
 8. Judith Richardson, Special Education Teacher
 9. Angela Sullivan, SLP
 10. Margaret Wallisch, Elementary Teacher

The motion was seconded by Jill Esry and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl reported that Summer School went exceptionally well with approximately 4,300 students attending the session. He said the Assessed Valuation will determine the District's levy amount. The FY2022 was \$1,214,144.871.23 with \$3,739,459 in new construction which is an increase of \$58,531,170 (4.8% increase). \$ 6.7 million is in Tax Increment Financing. If the Assessed Valuation goes up, the Hancock Amendment will cap the District's revenue increase to that of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) so the District may have to roll the levy back. He said that \$3.7 million in new construction is a really good year. Governor Parson approved the State's budget for the fiscal year with the Foundation Formula being fully funded as well as Transportation being fully funded.

Mr. Stutzer shared an update on Bond Issue projects including some challenges with supply chain issues. He said one of the primary challenges has been with labor at this time as the sheet metal workers were on strike this past week. They have now returned to work with a week to make up. There has been a delay on doors and door hardware for the storage facilities. William Chrisman's building is close to being finished as the roof materials should arrive by Friday. Truman High School - had some vandals steal some of the contractors' equipment which has caused a delay. Nowlin – work is underway to complete the track area and the pad site is now ready for their storage building. Randall – a storage facility is being constructed on site. Van Horn's Cafeteria work is underway. Their office space turned into classroom and a new entry area is being created. Sugar Creek - the secure entry area work has had some delay due to sheet metal work issues. Mill Creek - creating a new entry area/vestibule by

using the stage area in the all-purpose room. Mr. Stutzer showed interior work areas for the performing arts: - Van Horn High School: working on instrumental and band rooms. Pioneer Ridge – remodeling the previous science room into areas for the orchestra and band programs. He said that the projects continue towards completion with several more to come: Van Horn's auditorium will be priced out later; cafeteria and secure entry at Three Trails; Korte and Nowlin window replacements; and the industrial arts area at Truman High School. The Board of Education expressed excitement to see how the Bond Issue projects are improving the schools and they expressed appreciation to those in the audience for supporting the Bond Issue.

Several new business items were presented for the Board of Education's consideration.

Dr. Herl stated that the Cash Management Resolution is an annual item of business that allows District funds to be invested and to best utilize interest rates. Due to changes in personnel and Board of Education officers, this document is being submitted for the Board's approval.

Denise Fears made the motion, second by Jill Esry, that the Board of Education approves the renewal of the Cash Management Resolution with the updated positions. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education as follows: (Page 12374)

Ayes:	Eric Knipp	Abstain:	Blake Roberson
	Carrie Dixon		
	Jill Esry		
	Greg Finke		
	Denise Fears		
	Anthony J. Mondaine		

Dr. Stout explained that due to an accident, the age of a 53 passenger propane fueled bus, and the cost of repairs, the Administration is recommending replacement of the bus. The replacement cost is \$141,052.00 of which the District is responsible for \$25,000.00 and \$7,095.00 in upgrades.


A motion was made by Blake Roberson, second by Carrie Dixon, that the Board of Education approves the quote from Central States Bus Sales for the purchase of one (1) 53 passenger propane fueled conventional bus at a cost of \$141,052.00. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl stated the School District is required to schedule a Tax Levy Hearing annually prior to setting the Tax Levy Rate. The Administration is recommending scheduling the Public Hearing on August 9th, at 5:45 p.m.

Greg Finke made the motion that the Board of Education approves Tuesday, August 9, 2022 at 5:45 p.m. for a Tax Rate Levy Hearing. The motion was seconded by Denise Fears and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

There being no further information to come before the Board of Education, Anthony Mondaine made the motion, second by Jill Esry, to adjourn the meeting and go into executive session for legal, real estate, and personnel issues at 7:05 p.m. The motion was approved as follows:

Ayes:	Eric Knipp	Nays:
	Blake Roberson	
	Carrie Dixon	
	Jill Esry	
	Greg Finke	
	Denise Fears	
	Anthony J. Mondaine	


Secretary


President

CASH MANAGEMENT RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: The Board President, Superintendent and/or Deputy Superintendent of the School District of the City of Independence, Missouri ("the District") is authorized to enter into agreements for deposit accounts, collateral accounts, investment accounts, funds transfer instructions, ACH services, positive pay services, purchase card services, dial-up/internet cash management services, and other cash management services as needed.

FURTHER RESOLVED: The positions in Attachment A are authorized to initiate transactions as designated:

FURTHER RESOLVED: The Board President, Superintendent, and/or Deputy Superintendent of the District may from time to time designate who may otherwise give instructions on behalf of the District with respect to said agreements and who may on a temporary basis initiate said transactions.

FURTHER RESOLVED: This authorization replaces all other authorizations in effect and shall remain in force until written notice of its revocation is received.

CERTIFICATION: I certify that: (i) I am the Board Secretary of the School District of the City of Independence, Missouri named above; (ii) the foregoing resolution is a complete and accurate copy of the resolution duly adopted by the District's Board of Education on July 12, 2022; (iii) the resolution is in full force and has not been revoked or changed in any way; and (iv) the persons on the attached list are the position holders described in the above resolution and it is their signatures.

By: C. Annette Miller Date: 7/12/2022
 Board Secretary's Signature

Corporate SEAL

Key for Attachment A:

- * Secondary authorization and security by login on web mailbox.
- ** Secondary authorization required.
- *** Third-party callback authorization required.