

BOARD OF EDUCATION
The School District of Independence

12472

The Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday, January 10, 2023, 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
Mr. Greg Finke, Director
Mrs. Denise Fears, Director
Mr. Anthony J. Mondaine, Director

Member Absent: Mrs. Jill Esry, 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,
MSTA, 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 January 10, 2023 Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Blake Roberson and approved by the Board of Education as follows:

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

Mr. Knipp said that a patron had requested to address the Board of Education this evening. Mr. Knipp read Policy 0412 regarding the process when addressing the Board of Education. Mr. Knipp called on Dr. Jason Vollmecke. Dr. Vollmecke was not present but a member in the audience stated that Dr. Vollmecke was at the front door and could not get in as it was locked. Mr. Dennis Green, Safety Director, left the room to check on the issue with Dr. Vollmecke. The Board delayed proceeding for several minutes. The Board then continued with the Agenda items as listed.

Dr. Herl reported the January List of Bills total is \$8,915,405.72 which is about normal for this time of year. He said there are five additional items on the Consent Agenda: Approval to Let Bids for the Cafeteria, Media Center, Secure Entry Vestibule, and Gym Renovation at Three Tails Elementary School; Approval to Let Bids for Epoxy Floor Finishing at Project Shine Schools (Sugar Creek Elementary School, Sunshine Center, and William Chrisman High School); Approval to Let Bids for Restroom Partitions at Project Shine Schools (Sugar Creek Elementary School, Sunshine Center, and William Chrisman High School); Approval to Let Bids for Replacement of Interior/Exterior Doors at Project Shine Schools (Sugar Creek Elementary School, Sunshine Center, and William Chrisman High School); and Approval to Let Bids for Repair of Playground Surfaces for Project Shine Schools (Sugar Creek Elementary School and Sunshine Center).

Blake Roberson made the motion that the Board of Education approves the January 10, 2023 Consent Agenda as printed

1. Minutes – December 13, 2022
2. Approval of January 10, 2023 List of Bills totaling \$8,915,405.72
3. Approval of Personnel Recommendation #13 as follows:
 - A. Request to Assume Retirement Status Effective End of the 2022-2023 School Year.
 1. Elizabeth Hite, Second Grade/Christian Ott Elementary School
 2. Joel Sapp, Social Studies/Truman High School
 - B. Request to Resign (Certificated Staff) Effective End of the 2022-2023 School Year.
 1. Kara Ebeling, Fifth Grade/Abraham Mallinson Elementary School
 2. Avery Esquivel, Second Grade/Blackburn Elementary School
 3. Stephanie Plaskett, Third Grade/Christian Ott Elementary School
 - C. Employment of Certificated Staff Effective Start of the 2023-2024 School Year.
 1. Kayla Collins, Speech Pathologist
 2. Brandon Lindquist, Special Education Teacher

3. Chloe Miller, Speech/Language Pathologist
4. Kristen Nagel, Elementary Teacher
5. William Shearer, Metals Teacher
4. Approval to Let Bids for the Cafeteria, Media Center, Secure Entry Vestibule, and Gym Renovation at Three Trails Elementary School.
5. Approval to Let Bids for Epoxy Floor Finishing at Project Shine Schools (Sugar Creek Elementary School, Sunshine Center, and William Chrisman High School).
6. Approval to Let Bids for Restroom Partitions at Project Shine Schools (Sugar Creek Elementary School, Sunshine Center, and William Chrisman High School).
7. Approval to Let Bids for Interior/Exterior Doors at Project Shine Schools (Sugar Creek Elementary School, Sunshine Center, and William Chrisman High School).
8. Approval to Let Bids for Repair of Playground Surfaces for Project Shine Schools (Sugar Creek Elementary School and Sunshine Center),

The motion was seconded by Denise Fears and approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl said the Legislative Session starts January 4 and ends May 12, 2023. He said more than 310 Bills have already been filed and some of them are in regards to: school choice, charter schools, open enrollment, tax vouchers, parents bill of rights, tax cuts, etc. More Public Education issues will be coming as additional Bills are filed. Dr. Herl reported that applications for positions in the School District are up significantly. In comparison of October 1, 2021-January 10, 2022, the District had received 91 applications and this year October 1, 2022-January 9, 2023, the District has received 506 applications. In working on the 9, 10, 11, and 12 month employee calendars, for 2023-2024, Dr. Herl said he does not see people losing pay due to the four day instructional week.

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

Mr. Stutzer provided an update on the Bond Issue projects. He said that over Winter Break a number of materials came in allowing for work to be done on several projects. Secure Entries: Sugar Creek Elementary School - the store front system has been installed; and Hanthorn School – the missing casework was received so the entry has been completed. Performing Arts areas – a lot of the casework materials were received and installed. Pioneer Ridge's band room equipment will soon be put away and the percussion space is being completed. The choir area is a shared space in the band room. The work at Van Horn High School has been started as part of Phase 3. The Auditorium demolition work started after the last day of their fall play. Due to some asbestos materials that were found, the area was mitigated by a professional company. Work is currently being done on the dressing rooms, a restroom with ADA compliance, changing rooms, installing make up mirrors, etc. He stated there were a number of projects listed on the Consent Agenda tonight for the Board's approval.

Dr. Pam Boatright shared information on the District curriculum that is based on current and sound educational research findings. She said that the curriculum follows the frameworks provided by DESE to ensure alignment and to meet State mandated curriculum standards. She referenced the District's Four Pillars: Literacy, Math Computation and Problem Solving, College and Career Readiness, and Increasing Student Attendance. The following beliefs guide the curriculum work: learning is the core purpose, trusting relationships and commitment to the core values, effective teaching is essential in student learning, and ensuring that every student learns and succeeds. There are five guiding principles: equity, curriculum, teaching and learning, assessment and feedback, and professional development. Dr. Boatright said the Instructional Team collects data, determines the areas of need, revises the curriculum documents, and then the team provides training during Cross-District meetings. She also referenced SB 681 which provides for family choice options and shared how parents can go on the District's website and view updates for Pre-K-12 grades curriculum.

Dr. Randy Maglinger presented the 2023-2024 Program of Studies overview. He said that the teachers and departments reviewed potential course changes that have been requested. Dr. Maglinger reviewed the course name changes, the course adjustments, and the course changes as they are reflected on the Academy charts under each of the Pathways: Arts & Education, Business, Industrial Technology, Public Service, and STEM. He also shared information on the CORE 42 Sequence which includes core classes that transfer to public colleges and universities in Missouri. These courses can be taken in addition to the courses that correspond to the ISD Academy Pathways. These course changes meet the MSIP 6 and SB681 requirements for public education courses.

Dr. Herl said the Administration is recommending approval of the curriculum changes and the *2023-2024 Program of Studies* as presented for 2023-2024.

Carrie Dixon made the motion, second by Blake Roberson, that the Board of Education approves the curriculum changes and the *2023-2024 Program of Studies* which outlines the changes for the 2023-2024 school year. The motion was approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl stated that currently the School District uses Board Policies and Regulations services provided by the Missouri Consultants for Education. The Administration and Board of Education have discussed changing the service provider. This has been discussed with EdCounsel as they also provide Board Policies and Regulations services. Currently, Ed Counsel also serves as legal counsel for the ISD. There would be a one-time cost of \$21,500 and \$4,500 per year after that. EdCounsel will provide training and ensure the Policies and Regulations would meet State and Federal mandated statute changes. Dr. Herl said that if approved, hopefully, the new Policies and Regulations would be in place by July 1, 2023.

The motion was made by Greg Finke that the Board of Education approves an Agreement with EdCounsel to provide Board of Education Policies and Regulations services as presented. The motion was seconded by Denise Fears and approved by the Board of Education. (Pages 12475-12477)

Mr. Mondaine made a motion to amend the Board of Education Agenda to add the item of having legal counsel in closed sessions. Mr. Knipp explained that the Agenda had already been approved and the meeting was finished. Mr. Mondaine asked that a courtesy be extended on his request to amend the Agenda. Mr. Knipp stated that since the meeting was concluded that Mr. Mondaine could request that having legal counsel attend closed sessions be included as an Agenda Item on the February 14th Board of Education meeting.

There being no further information to come before the Board of Education, Greg Finke made the motion, second by Denise Fears, to adjourn the meeting and go into executive session for legal §610.021(1), RSMo, real estate §610.021(2), RSMo, and personnel §610.021(3), RSMo issues at 6:50 p.m. The motion was approved as follows

Ayes: Eric Knipp

Absent: Jill Esry

Blake Roberson

Carrie Dixon

Greg Finke

Denise Fears

Anthony J. Mondaine



Secretary



President

EDCOUNSEL GUIDE SERVICES AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into this 10th day of January, 2023, by and between the BOARD OF EDUCATION OF INDEPENDENCE 30 SCHOOL DISTRICT ("BOARD" or "DISTRICT"), a public governmental body, and EDCOUNSEL, LLC ("EDCOUNSEL"), a Missouri limited liability company.

1. **SERVICES.** The BOARD hereby employs EDCOUNSEL to perform the services enumerated in this agreement for the purpose of providing the DISTRICT policy manual, board operating manual, administrative manual, employee manual and student/parent handbook (hereinafter "GUIDE DOCUMENTS") on a continuous basis to the DISTRICT. Such services include:

- a. Provide form GUIDE DOCUMENTS to DISTRICT including but not limited to policies, a board manual, an administrative manual, an employee manual, and a student/parent handbook.
- b. Customize the provided form GUIDE DOCUMENTS to best suit the DISTRICT's needs and collaborate with DISTRICT regarding revision and development of the GUIDE DOCUMENTS.
- c. Review and edit district-originated revisions and additions to GUIDE DOCUMENTS and provide written recommendations.
- d. Provide editing, coding and formatting of draft copies of recommendations of policies and procedures, revisions or additions resulting from services.
- e. Provide transition services to assist the DISTRICT in the installation of the DISTRICT's GUIDE DOCUMENTS and replacement of current policies, procedures, manuals and handbooks.
- f. Train the DISTRICT's Board of Education and administration regarding EdCounsel Guide Service, its content and usage.
- g. Monitor changes in state and federal law and, within a reasonable time, customize applicable DISTRICT GUIDE DOCUMENTS to incorporate changes.
- h. Advise DISTRICT on policy interpretation and organization.
- i. Maintain a current copy of DISTRICT's GUIDE DOCUMENTS on a continuous basis;
- j. Maintain a public-accessible web posting of DISTRICT's policies and student/parent handbook(s);

- k. Maintain a web posting of DISTRICT's GUIDE DOCUMENTS as requested by District; and
- l. Other services reasonably necessary to complete the foregoing, services, including all clerical assistance, printing, and duplicating as required.

2. DISTRICT OBLIGATIONS.

- a. Collaboration and Cooperation. The DISTRICT agrees to collaborate and cooperate fully with EDCOUNSEL in the development, modification and implementation of the GUIDE DOCUMENTS. This collaboration includes, but is not limited to, providing timely information, critical feedback and clear communication regarding the needs and desires of the DISTRICT regarding any GUIDE DOCUMENTS or related training or installation. The DISTRICT agrees to operate within EDCOUNSEL's standard division of District Policies, Board Manual, Administrative Manual, Employee Manual and Student/Parent Handbook.
- b. Fees. EDCOUNSEL's fees for services will be charged at the following rates:
 - i. Year 1 of Service: \$21,500.00
 - ii. Year 2 of Service: \$4,500.00
 - iii. Year 3 of Service: \$4,500.00
 - iv. Year 4 of Service: \$4,500.00
 - v. Year 5 of Service: \$4,500.00
- c. Billing and Payment. Invoices will be sent annually and are payable within thirty days after the invoice dates.
- d. Maintenance of Legal Services. The DISTRICT agrees to select and maintain a relationship with EDCOUNSEL as the DISTRICT's primary legal service provider throughout the life of this contract and the use of the GUIDE DOCUMENTS. In the event EDCOUNSEL does not remain the primary provider of legal services during the term of this agreement, the contract will immediately terminate, and the fees paid under this contract will be retained by EDCOUNSEL as liquidated damages, the parties hereby agreeing that actual damages will be difficult to calculate in such circumstances.

3. COMMUNICATIONS. EDCOUNSEL will keep the DISTRICT reasonably informed of material developments in the law impacting the DISTRICT'S GUIDE DOCUMENTS. The DISTRICT will keep EDCOUNSEL reasonably informed of material developments impacting the assessment, interpretation or implementation of the DISTRICT'S GUIDE DOCUMENTS.

4. TERM. The initial period of the contract shall run for five (5) years beginning on July 1, 2023 and ending on June 30, 2028. The contract may be renewed for two consecutive 5-year terms by mutual written agreement of the DISTRICT and EDCOUNSEL.

5. TERMINATION. The DISTRICT and EDCOUNSEL may terminate or cease its relationship under this agreement at any time for a material failure of the other party's obligations under this contract. Prior to termination for a material failure to meet obligations, a party to this agreement must provide written notice of the failure and provide a 60 day period to cure the failure to meet obligations under the contract.

6. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY. The DISTRICT GUIDE DOCUMENTS are provided, revised and promulgated for the exclusive use of the DISTRICT and its stakeholders, including making such documents available to the public as required by law. The DISTRICT recognizes and will honor EDCOUNSEL'S ownership and copyright of the non-customized provisions of the DISTRICT GUIDE DOCUMENTS and will not directly or indirectly infringe on EDCOUNSEL's copyright or ownership interests.

7. LAW GOVERNING. This Agreement shall be subject to, governed by, and construed according to the laws of the State of Missouri.

8. SEVERABILITY. Any provision or part of the Agreement held to be void or unenforceable under any law or regulation shall be deemed stricken and all remaining provisions shall continue to be valid and binding upon EDCOUNSEL and the DISTRICT, who agree that the Agreement shall be reformed to replace such stricken provision or part thereof with a valid and enforceable provision that comes as close as possible to expressing the intention of the stricken provision.

The undersigned have authority to enter into and be bound by the provisions of this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

EDCOUNSEL, LLC

By: 

Duane A. Martin

BOARD OF EDUCATION, INDEPENDENCE 30 SCHOOL DISTRICT

By: 

President, Board of Education

By: 

Secretary, Board of Education