

The Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday, May 9, 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  
                                 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. Randy Maglinger, Dr. Anthony Robinson, Mrs. Leslie Hochsprung, Mr. Dean Katt, Mrs. Megan Murphy, Mrs. Sherry Potter, Mr. Todd Theen, Mr. Salum Stutzer, MSTA, PTA, 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.

Blake Roberson made the motion to approve the May 9, 2023 Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Denise Fears and approved by the Board of Education as follows:

Ayes: Eric Knipp Blake Roberson Carrie Dixon Greg Finke Jill Esry Denise Fears Anthony J. Mondaine	Nays:
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Dr. Herl reported the May List of Bills total is \$8,254,099.37 which is a little higher than usual but not out of the range of past bills.

Greg Finke made the motion that the Board of Education approves the May 9, 2023 Consent Agenda as printed

1. Minutes – April 11, 2023
2. Approval of May 9, 2023 List of Bills totaling \$8,254,099.37
3. Approval of Personnel Recommendation #21 as follows:
  - A. Request to Resign (Certificated Staff) Effective End of the 2022-2023 School Year.
    1. Stephanie Dimmitt, Building Coach/Abraham Mallinson & Sugar Creek Elementary Schools
    2. Katherine Eagan, Kindergarten/Sycamore Hills Elementary School
    3. Holly Ellis, First Grade/Sycamore Hills Elementary School
    4. Benjamin Holland, ELL/Nowlin Middle School
    5. Rance Melton, ELA/Jim Bridger Middle School
    6. Kelley Peacock, Second Grade/Glendale Elementary School
    7. Ashley Timmerman, Fourth Grade/Randall Elementary School
  - B. Employment of Certificated Staff Effective Start of the 2023-2024 School Year.
    1. Kevin Boren, English Teacher
    2. Jessica Brewer, ELA Teacher
    3. Kari Burandt, Science Teacher
    4. Macee Caldwell, Elementary Teacher
    5. Rebecca Dollins, LMS
    6. Audra Dowty, Foundation Pre-K Teacher
    7. Kirsten Green, Building Coach
    8. Anna Heist, Math Teacher
    9. Shelley Jones, ELL Teacher
    10. Amanda Kilts, Pre-K Prep Teacher
    11. Samantha Langford, Elementary Teacher
    12. Kate Marak, Special Education Teacher
    13. Alyzabeth Munsterman, Music Teacher
    14. Kimberly Perrone, ELL Teacher
    15. Lauren Rankin, Music Teacher
    16. Deborah Shumate, Elementary Teacher

17. Jamie Stark, Elementary Teacher
18. Danyelle Strider, Building Coach
19. Breanne Teran, Elementary Teacher
20. Jaedon Tesarik, Music Teacher
21. David Toese, Physical Education Teacher
22. Erin Torres, Art Teacher
23. Mary Vaughn, Foundation Formula Teacher
24. Alesha Weedon, ELA Teacher
25. Brandon Weis, Physical Education Teacher
26. Jessica Woods, Elementary Teacher
27. Kenneth Yunker, Business Teacher

C. Employment of Certificated Staff (Fellow) for the 2023-2024 School Year.

1. Timothy Berg, Middle School Alternative Teacher

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

Ayes: Eric Knipp

Abstain: Blake Roberson

Carrie Dixon

Jill Esry

Greg Finke

Denise Fears

Anthony J. Mondaine

Dr. Herl said this is the last week of the Legislative session for the year. In recapping the State Budget, he said the Legislature had until last Friday and they were able to complete it at 5:15 p.m. The Budget includes fully funding the Foundation Formula at the adequacy target of \$6,375 per student which is the same amount as the last four years meaning no increase; agreed to fund 100% of the 75% mandated by state statute of transportation costs for the miles transporting students to and from instruction sites; \$81 million for expanding Pre-K which may include all 4 year olds at the adequacy target of \$6,375 per student; \$69 million for Career Ladder Program; and \$50 million for school safety grants and the District's application did not receive approval in the first round. The Governor does have the power to veto line items, so these Budget items are not set in stone. Dr. Herl said that SB75 deals with retirement increasing to 2.55%; and the critical shortage portion allows for retirees (teachers, bus drivers, etc.) to return to work and this is based on 1% of all staff or 5 positions, so this could mean as many as 24 positions for the District. SB253 could be the Omnibus Bill (open enrollment) and it's not known yet if it might include the 4 day week language regarding charter counties and cities with 30,000 or more population being required to conduct a vote for approval of 4 day school weeks beginning with the 2024-2025 school year. The District will be adding E-Sports at all three high schools next year. The Summer Success Program starts May 31st and currently over 4,300 students are enrolled. Graduations are as follows: Friday, May 19 - Van Horn at 6 p.m.; Saturday, May 20 - William Chrisman at 5:00 p.m. and Truman at 6:30 p.m. These events will be held outside on each of the high schools' football fields.

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

Dr. Herl introduced Mr. Dave Johnson, CBIZ representative, to share information the District's health insurance renewal options. Mr. Johnson said he appreciated working with the School District on the health insurance plans. He said the medical plan last year stayed the same with a slight increase in funding from the District. Two core plans are offered to employees at no cost. Mr. Johnson said the objectives this year were to continue the 100% cost for the core plans by the District; for the District to contribute to the health savings account plan at \$1,000; and increase utilization of the on-site clinic. He cautioned employees regarding prescription drug costs that have increased approximately 11%. He said employees will receive a letter providing information on how to reduce prescription drug costs by comparing generic drug costs. Mr. Johnson explained that due to a statutory change there has been a slight increase in the deductible amount from \$2,800 to \$3,000. He also said that the other health insurance option plans cost have increased about 3%. The buy-up plans 1 and 2 will increase between 4.1%-5.8% for employees selecting those options.

The motion was made by Blake Roberson that the Board of Education approves Blue Cross/Blue Shield to provide Health Insurance coverage to the Independence School District becoming effective on October 1, 2023. The District will also continue to provide an annual Health Savings Account contribution of \$1,000 to participants in the Qualified High Deductible Healthcare Plans. The motion was seconded by Greg Finke and approved by the Board of Education.

Mr. Stutzer provided an update on the Bond Issue projects. He said the focus was on Van Horn High School's auditorium progress. He said the door frames are in, walls are done, with the flooring and lighting still needs some work. He showed the demo work that was done on the ceiling and where they are working on the heating and

plumbing. He said the ceiling is now complete with wood treatments installed and work has started on polishing the floor. The new seats arrive next Monday and will be installed. He also pointed out the sides of the auditorium also have wood treatments. Work has started on the stage area with the rigging system first and then the curtains will be installed. Recessed projectors have been placed into the ceiling and the make-up/dressing/changing room areas are also under construction. He said that overall he is very happy with this project even with some of the challenges that were encountered. The completion date is scheduled for June 7<sup>th</sup>. He said the summer project will be at Three Trails Elementary School.

Dr. Herl explained that the District uses a software program to manage finances, human resources, payroll, and benefits called Keystone. The Administration is recommending a five year renewal option with Keystone at a cost of \$555,000 which provides a substantial savings to the District.

Denise Fears made the motion that the Board of Education approves renewing Keystone Support for a five year contract as presented. The motion was seconded by Jill Esry and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl said that PowerSchool is a software program the District uses for tracking student performance and attendance. The Administration is recommending approving the quote from PowerSchool Support and Licensing for the 2023-2024 school year at a cost of \$90,416.67. This represents a saving of \$2,000 compared to last year.

Carrie Dixon made the motion, second by Blake Roberson, that the Board of Education approves the quote from PowerSchool to renew the student information system for the 2023-2024 school year for a total cost of \$90,416.67. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl shared that the District had received a grant from the Child Care Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Funds that will allow adding twenty Head Start slots at William Southern Elementary School and to make some renovations at Hanthorn School. The Administration is recommending approval to purchase new classroom furniture, materials and playground equipment and basement renovations for Hanthorn School and also to purchase new classroom furniture and materials for William Southern Elementary School.

The motion was made by Jill Esry, second by Denise Fears, that the Board of Education approves purchasing the new classroom furniture, materials and playground equipment for Hanthorn School from Lakeshore per the Greenbush ESC-Learn2018 contract for \$125,132.91 and Constructive Playthings per the TIPPS 210902 Contract for \$46,347.19; basement renovations provided by DB Flooring LLC. through Regents Flooring for \$15,898.00; and purchasing new classroom furniture and materials for William Southern Elementary School from Lakeshore per the Greenbush ESC-Learn2018 contract for \$54,214.18 for a total cost of \$241,592.28 using CRRSA Grant funds. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl said that the Missouri Securities Investment Program (MOSIP) invests excess funds and Bond funds for school districts. Their annual meeting is scheduled for June and the Administration is recommending that the District elect to participate in the MOSIP meeting by granting its proxy to the MOSIP Board of Directors to vote on its behalf. The District has done this in the past.


Blake Roberson made the motion that the Board of Education approves the District to elect to grant its proxy to the Missouri Securities Investment Program (MOSIP) Board of Directors to vote on its behalf. The motion was seconded by Greg Finke and unanimously approved by the Board of Education. (Page 12501)

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 issues, and personnel §610.021(3), RSMo issues at 6:44 p.m. The motion was approved as follows

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

Nays:

  
Secretary

  
President

# Authorization of Voting Delegate, Proxy, Ballot for the 2023 MOSIP Annual Meeting of Participants

All entities participating in the Missouri Securities Investment Program are eligible to participate in the election of directors and other business at the Annual Meeting of Participants.

Pursuant to Section 6.2 of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement, participants may be represented at the Annual Meeting by registered delegate or proxy. Alternatively, the delegate may participate by conference call.

(Please select and complete only one column)

The \_\_\_\_\_

The Independence 30

The \_\_\_\_\_

elects to participate in the  
MOSIP Annual Meeting by registered  
delegate via in-person attendance, virtual  
attendance or via conference call. The  
delegate is

School District  
hereby grants its proxy to the MOSIP  
Board of Directors to vote on its behalf in  
the election of Directors and upon any  
other matters that may properly come  
before the body at the 2023 MOSIP  
Annual Business meeting.

\_\_\_\_\_ hereby  
casts its vote as follows:

**ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**  
*Note: Terms expire June 30, 2026*  
Vote for two (2)

**Charles Quinn**  
BOE Member, Waynesville

For ☐ Against ☐

(name)

And they will participate:

\_\_\_\_\_ in-person

\_\_\_\_\_ virtually

\_\_\_\_\_ via conference call

**Dr. Anthony "Tony" Rossetti**  
Superintendent, Webb City

For ☐ Against ☐

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
President or Chief Administrator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

[Type here]

Must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. CDT, Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Attn: Mike Parnell

Fax: 573-445-9981 or email [parnell@mosba.org](mailto:parnell@mosba.org)

Mail: MSBA, 2100 I-70 Drive SW, Columbia, MO 65203