

The Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 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. Pam Boatright,
Dr. Anthony Robinson, Mr. Dean Katt, Mrs. Leslie Hochsprung, Mrs.
Sherry Potter, Mr. Todd Theen, Mr. Greg McGhee, Mrs. Megan Murphy,
MSTA, INEA, 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.

Blake Roberson made the motion to approve the January 9, 2024 Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Greg Finke and was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Mr. Knipp said there were no requests to address the Board of Education this evening.

Dr. Herl reported the List of Bills for the month of January totals \$8,590,338.25 which is typical. He shared that there are six items under the Consent Agenda to Let Bids for: 1. Asphalt and Concrete Repair; 2) Replacement of Interior/Exterior Doors at Project Shine Schools (Hanthorn and Truman High School); 3) Restroom Partitions at Hanthorn, a Project Shine School; 4) Painting of Small Gyms at Truman High School and William Chrisman High School; 5) Carpet, Stair Tread, Cove Base, Rubber Tile Landings, LVT and VCT at Project Shine Schools (Truman High School and Hanthorn); and 6) Epoxy Floor Finishing at Project Shine Schools (Glendale Elementary School, Hanthorn, Truman High School, and William Southern Elementary School).

Denise Fears made the motion that the Board of Education approves the January 9, 2024 Consent Agenda as presented:

1. Minutes – December 12, 2023
2. Approval of January 9, 2024 List of Bills totaling \$8,590,338.25
3. Approval of Personnel Recommendation #14
 - A. Request to Resign (Certificated Staff) Effective End of the 2023-2024 School Year.
 1. Brushana Hunsaker, Teacher/John W. Luff Elementary School
 - B. Request to Hire (Certificated Staff) Effective January 2, 2024.
 - 1, Holly Bainter, Art Teacher
 - 2, Logan Light, Math Teacher
 - 3, Jonathan Schanuel, Elementary Alternative Teacher

The motion was seconded by Greg Finke and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl reported a number of statistics including: the District's APR increasing from 70.2% last year to 76.4% - one of only two school districts in Jackson County to increase their APR, and the largest increase of any large school district in the state; the Free and Reduced meal rate is 69.1%; mobility rate is 31.1%; and the average ACT score is 19.6. He also shared statistics on the District's MPI results listing various increases for ELA, math, science (decrease of 0.9 but subgroup increased 0.2), and social studies indicating significant growth. He said that due to the weather conditions, the State Board of Education meeting was postponed. He shared information from a study conducted by DESE on the four day school week (before the pandemic and afterwards) and the results showed no academic impact or negative building growths. Dr. Herl shared information on the number of applications that the District had received: October 1-January 10, 2022 – 91; October 1-January 9, 2023 – 506; and October 1-January 6, 2024 – 646.

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

Mrs. Leslie Hochsprung, Dr. Melissa Carver, and Dr. Ronnee Laughlin presented information on the Leader in Me Program. They said the Leader in Me program is the first part and starts at the elementary level, then AVID is the

second part for Middle School students, followed by The Academies for high school students. The program starts with adults (principals) learning and modeling leadership skills. Then they create a culture of leadership for the students consisting of physical and social-emotional environment and sharing leadership events. The Academic piece develops individual goals, team goals, and aligns with school goals. All of these practices develop students who are engaged and equipped to lead their own learning process. This program is developed from The 7 Habits (by Steven Covey) which consists of 1. Be Proactive; 2. Begin with the End in Mind; 3. Put First Things First; 4. Think Win-Win; 5. Seek First to Understand Then to be Understood; 6. Synergize; 7. Sharpen the Saw; and 8. Find Your Voce and Inspire Others to Find Theirs. Mrs. Hochsprung, Dr. Carver, and Dr. Laughlin expressed their appreciation to the Board of Education for their support of the elementary schools implementing the Leader in Me Program. The Board of Education said this is an outstanding program that is building students' skills and will impact the future leaders of our community.

Dr. Maglinger shared the proposed changes to the *Program of Studies* and the Curriculum Courses. He said the changes align with the District's CSIP Goals. He stated that the review process starts the first week of November with feedback from students, parents, teachers, and departments. This information is then shared with the Review Committee (counselors, Academy Coordinator, CTE Coordinator, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Human Resources, and Public Relations department). The changes approved by the Review Committee are then shared with the Board of Education through an annual presentation. Dr. Maglinger highlighted the new courses, course name changes, and course adjustments. When these changes are approved, they will then be reflected in the five Academies listings. Following the presentation, the Board of Education expressed appreciation to Dr. Maglinger, the Review Committee, and the staff for their hard work in developing these recommendations to provide students with so many opportunities during their high school education.

Mr. Knipp said that he would entertain a motion to approve the curriculum changes and the *Program of Studies* as presented.

Denise Fears made the motion that the Board of Education approves the curriculum and 2024-2025 *Program of Studies* which outline the changes for the 2024-2025 school year. The motion was seconded by Carrie Dixon and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl said the Board of Education has to certify (approve) the list of candidates for the April 2, 2024 School Board Election. He said there are seven (7) candidates and they are as follows:

Eric Knipp
Wendy Baird
Carrie Dixon
Zac Harmon-McLaughlin
Jason Vollmecke
Brandi Prunte
Dennis Green

Greg Finke made the motion, second by Anthony J. Mondaine, that the Board of Education approves the following people as candidates for the April 2, 2024 School Board member election:

Eric Knipp
Wendy Baird
Carrie Dixon
Zac Harmon-McLaughlin
Jason Vollmecke
Brandi Prunte
Dennis Green

The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl said the Administration is recommending approval of the bid from Royal Construction Services for the renovations at James Bridger Middle School, Nowlin Middle School, and Truman High School at a cost of \$3,346,140.00.

A motion was made by Blake Roberson that the Board of Education approves the bid of \$3,346,140 from Royal Construction Services for the renovations at James Bridger Middle School, Nowlin Middle School, and Truman High School. The motion was seconded by Greg Finke and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Stout said that Nutrition Services issued an RFP for beverage and snack vending services starting with the second half of the 2023-2024 school year. He said that Allied Refreshment Company was the only bidder and the Administration is recommending approval to award the contract for an initial timeframe of two and one half-years

with renewal options for a third, fourth, and fifth year to Allied Refreshment Company. He said this is a reputable company that has been in the refreshment vending services business for a long time.

Carrie Dixon made the motion, second by Blake Roberson, that the Board of Education approves awarding the District's Beverage and Snack Vending contract to Allied Refreshment Company for an initial timeframe of two and one-half years with renewal options for a third, fourth, and fifth year. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl said the District is needing to replace a dump truck that was stolen. He said it was used to spread salt/sand during bad weather. The District bought the dump truck in 2008 for \$19,950. He said that all but \$25,000 (District's deductible) will be covered by insurance on the purchase of the replacement truck. Dr. Herl said the Administration is recommending purchasing a 2024 Freightliner M2106 4x2 Dump truck for \$106,499.

The motion was made by Blake Roberson, second by Denise Fears, that the Board of Education approves the purchase of one (1) 2024 Freightliner M2106 4x2 Dump Truck at a cost of \$106,499 from Custom Truck One Source. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

There being no further business 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 §610.021(1), RSMo, real estate §610.021(2), and personnel §610.021(3), RSMo issues at 7:02 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