

1st Regular Board Meeting
December 1, 2020
Board Conference Room

Call to Order:

President Jennifer Murray called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Library, whereupon roll was subsequently taken. Melissa Bartels, Leroy Duncan, Mark St. Peters and Jennifer Murray answered the roll call to establish a quorum. Absent: Missy Bell-Yates, Mike Redman, and Jamey Westbrook. Present were administrators and/or directors John Pearson, Kevin Gockel, and Gerry Mattix-Wand. No members of the public were in attendance.

Review of Agenda Items for the December 8, 2020 Board Meeting:

Hold On-Site Meeting on December 8, 2020: There was a consensus of the Board to hold the December 8, 2020 Regular Meeting in the Library.

Tax Levy for 2020: Dr. Pearson reminded the Board that it estimated the 2020 Levy with a 10% growth assumption in the district's equalized assessed valuation ("tax base") and the following amounts in the discretionary levies (which reflect last year's extensions): Tort - \$480,000; IMRF - \$70,098; and Social Security - \$160,172. He had no suggested changes in that estimate. The superintendent also reported that the "Truth-in-Taxation" notice was published in the Telegraph on 11/25/20, which reflected the Levy estimate dollar amounts as well as announced the Levy Hearing to be held next Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at 6:00 in the Library.

Purchase of Hillyard Equipment for Cleaning and Disinfecting the School: Supt. Pearson noted that Mike Moxey, Maintenance Director, will present a proposal to the Board that will allow the custodial staff to work more efficiently and to clean and disinfect the school with a deeper cleaning that the current equipment and methods will allow. Much of the equipment costs would come from the CARES Act Grant and would eliminate some high maintenance and repair costs on the old equipment. He also noted that Mr. Moxey is proposing new and more extensive floor matting than the school currently has AND can actually spend less on the one-time cost for the mats (approximately \$9,550) than it currently pays in a recurring cost every year (\$12,000) for the current mats.

Approve a Resolution Prohibiting Sexual Harassment: The superintendent noted that adopting this annual resolution fulfills a legislative mandate. The real change in the District's sexual harassment policy and procedures occurred earlier this fall with the adoption of the new Title IX Sexual Harassment policies, procedures, and 3-hour training requirements from the US Dept. of Education OCR Division.

Neely Kinkel Grant Award: Mrs. Kinkel, Special Education Teacher, announced today that her application for an \$8,000 grant from Scott Credit Union had been approved. She plans to use those funds to expand her class' used clothing operation by purchasing an installing a washer and dryer among other uses. Mr. Gockel observed that Mrs. Kinkel was a "go-getter" who will likely

use this grant opportunity for even more uses for her students' training and to help the school. Mrs. Kinkel has used previous donations, grants, and other support to build and operate the wonderful "Oiler Express Café."

Consider Community Service Requirement Suspension for the Class of 2021: Asst. Principal Kevin Gockel spoke with the Board about the desirability of suspending the Community Service Graduation requirement for the Class of 2021, given the dearth of COVID-safe community service opportunities for this year's seniors. This time of year, a lot of seniors seem to scramble for those last few hours needed to graduate, but the opportunities to do in a safe manner are hard to find during the pandemic.

Hear Report Concerning the District's e-Rate Application and Spending Uses: Mr. Mattix-Wand, Ed Tech Director, addressed the Board with new information about the District's allotment of e-rate funds for the next five years; how the funds can be utilized; and the priorities locally that need to be addressed. As with the past few years, e-Rate funding is focused towards connectivity (wired and wireless) and not on computer purchases. He discussed the specific need for replacing Network Switches and Wireless Access Points as these are the oldest components of our network, as well as looking at replacing the network cabling that was installed in 1996, which would support higher (faster) data rates.

Executive Session:

Motion by Mr. St. Peters; second by Mr. Duncan, to: a) Discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in an educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in an educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity; b) Discuss collective bargaining matters; c) Discuss individual student matters; d) Discuss pending or current litigation; and e) Discuss emergency security procedures. Aye: Mrs. Bartels, Mr. Duncan, Mr. St. Peters, and Mrs. Murray. Nay: None. Motion Carried. Motion Carried at 6:45 p.m.

Come Out of Executive Session:

Motion by Mr. Duncan; second by Mr. St. Peters, to come out of executive session. Aye: Mrs. Bartels, Mr. Duncan, Mr. St. Peters, and Mrs. Murray. Nay: None. Motion Carried. Motion Carried at 7:07 p.m.

Action Items:

Motion by Mrs. Bartels; second by Mr. St. Peters, to approve a \$12,000 post-retirement bonus payment for Dr. Pearson, payable on or about July 2, 2021. Aye: Mrs. Bartels, Mr. Duncan, Mr. St. Peters, and Mrs. Murray. Nay: None. Motion Carried. Motion Carried.

Adjournment:

Motion by Mr. St. Peters; second by Mr. Duncan, to adjourn. Motion Carried Voice Vote at 7:09 p.m.