

MINUTES OF BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES MEETING  
October 17, 2016

The Board of School Trustees met in regular session on Monday, October 17, 2016, at the Education Support Center. The following members were present: Mrs. Rebecca Gardenour, President; Mrs. Jessica Knable, Vice-President; Mrs. Donna Corbett, Secretary; Mrs. Jan Anderson, Member; Mr. George Gauntt, Member; Mr. D.J. Hines, Member; and Ms. LeeAnn Wiseheart, Member. Also present were the following administrators: Dr. Bruce Hibbard, Superintendent; Dr. Brad Snyder, Deputy Superintendent; Mr. Bill Briscoe, Assistant to the Superintendent for Administration and Operations; and Mr. Fred McWhorter, Chief Business Officer.

**A. CALL TO ORDER:**

Mrs. Gardenour called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**B. RECITE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Mrs. Gardenour asked everyone to join in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**C. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

The public was invited to address the Board on matters of educational importance. Oral complaints regarding specific students and/or personnel will not be heard. School employees are encouraged to contact their immediate supervisor to be heard on specific complaints relating to the terms and status of their employment prior to addressing the Board. Individuals were asked to confine their comments to no more than three minutes. There were sign up sheets near each entrance prior to the start of the meeting.

With no one coming forward, Mrs. Gardenour proceeded to the next agenda item.

**D. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

The following items were presented for approval:

- Approval of Minutes of September 12, 2016, Executive Session and Regular Session;
- Approval of Claims;
- Approval of Staffing Report;
- Approval to Renew Medicaid Billing Service Provider Agreement;
- Approval of Field Trip Requests from Floyd Central High School and New Albany High School;
- Approval to Declare Prosser Building Trades House Surplus;
- Approval of Driving Brilliance, LLC as Driver's Ed. Software.

Board members have received information regarding each item on the consent agenda; however, any member may request that any item be removed from the consent agenda and discussed separately. With no one requesting that items be removed, Mr. Hines made a motion to approve all items on the consent agenda as presented and recommended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gauntt and carried unanimously following a roll call vote.

- Minutes of September 12, 2016, Executive Session and Regular Session as presented.
- Claims beginning #63665 through and including 64166 and payrolls of 9-9-16, 9-23-16, and 10-7-16 in the total amount of \$12,097,200.97.
- Staffing Report as presented.
- Renewal of Medicaid Billing Service Provider Agreement as presented.
- Field Trip Requests from Floyd Central High School and New Albany High School as presented.
- Declare Prosser Building Trades House Surplus as presented.
- Driving Brilliance, LLC as Driver's Ed. Software as presented.

Mrs. Corbett stated, "I noticed on the staffing report that we are going to have a vacancy in an administrative position. In the past, the Board has discussed if that ever came about again that we would discuss the possibility of hiring an HR Director. So, I am wondering if this is a good time to re-evaluate how we are structured and to look at that." Mrs. Gardenour said "I am in agreement with that. I don't know if we can put it on the agenda to discuss the next time. I will talk with Dr. Hibbard about it and get back with you." Under that same element, Ms. Wiseheart commented, "I am selfishly upset that we are losing a very valuable administrator that has been just critical to the school corporation. Once again we are losing another valuable person and I wish that person well." The person they are referring to is Rhonda Roos. Mrs. Gardenour commented, "What an impact you had at Scribner, let alone the position you are in now. Rhonda, we do wish you immense luck in the future. We really do hate to see you go." Dr. Hibbard asked Dr. Roos, at a future meeting, to weigh in about the criticalness of the position of Director of Middle Schools.

#### **E. ACTION ITEMS:**

##### **Adopt the 2017 Bus Replacement Plan;**

On September 12, 2016, the Board of School Trustees held a public hearing regarding the 2017 Bus Replacement Plan and appropriately advertised the notice of the hearing. There were no objections at the public hearing, therefore, Mr. McWhorter recommended it be adopted as presented and advertised.

Upon motion by Mr. Hines, second by Mrs. Anderson, approval was given to adopt the 2017 Bus Replacement Plan as presented and recommended. Following a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

##### **Adopt the 2017 Capital Projects Plan;**

On September 12, 2016, the Board of School Trustees held a public hearing regarding the 2017 Capital Projects Plan and appropriately advertise the notice. There were no objections at the public hearing, therefore Mr. McWhorter recommended it be adopted as presented and advertised.

Mrs. Gardenour asked what happens to the money set aside for Green Valley, Slate Run, and Prosser if the referendum passes. Mr. McWhorter said that money is still slated for those buildings until the Board decides to change it at some future point.

Upon motion by Mr. Gauntt, second by Mrs. Corbett, approval was given to adopt the 2017 Capital Projects Plan as presented and recommended. The motion carried unanimously following a roll call vote.

##### **Adopt the 2017 Budget Resolution for Appropriations and Tax Rate;**

On September 12, 2016, the Board of School Trustees held a public hearing regarding the 2017 Budget and appropriately advertised the notice of the hearing. We believe the tax rate, in total, will drop slightly. There were no objections at the public hearing, therefore, Mr. McWhorter recommended it be adopted as presented and recommended.

Mrs. Gardenour had the following questions regarding the budget:

- Who is benefits consultant who is paid \$140,000? Mr. McWhorter said this is The Hartfield Company. The Board uses them as an independent evaluation of health plans.
- Last year the alternative program (extended day) was \$0 and now it is \$85,000. Have we hired more people or is program different? Mr. McWhorter said it was combined with other programs in the past and now it is separated out.
- Gifted and Talented salaries is \$44,000 less. Do we have fewer teachers? Mr. McWhorter explained we have a Gifted and Talented grant that supplements this as well. Also, teachers this year could be on different pay level than teachers last year. It is the same program with same number of teachers as last year.

- The special education aides salaries line item is \$136,000 more than last year. Mr. McWhorter said they have combined different categories which caused the line item amounts to change.
- Homebound salaries has increased \$80,000. Mr. McWhorter said that has increased due to increased services to homebound students.
- Who is curriculum development salary of \$30,000? Mr. McWhorter said this is bits and pieces of stipends for teachers and curriculum department personnel.
- What about the educational television of \$130,000? This is the two radio stations at the high schools.
- Staff relations and negotiations? This is Mr. Briscoe.
- Public information services in the amount of \$90,000? This is money we use for advertising.

Upon motion by Mrs. Corbett, second by Mrs. Knable, approval was given to adopt the 2017 Budget Resolution for Appropriations and Tax Rate as presented and recommended. The motion unanimously carried following a roll call vote.

#### **Consider Employee Benefits Renewal for 2017:**

Dr. Snyder said the corporation has negotiated renewal rates with our current insurance carriers. For health insurance with Humana, our rates will increase 3% for all four of our currently offered plans. Delta Dental gave us a renewal offering of 0% for the next two years. CompDent rates will stay the same. He shared copies of the 2017 employee payroll rates and recommended approval.

Dr. Snyder explained the open enrollment process. All employees are required to meet with a representative to enroll or waive coverages. Mr. Hines asked at what point (in increase) do you look at other providers? Dr. Snyder explained it is not only about percentage of increase, but they also look at network providers and then look at the numbers and ask if taking a low number is worth losing certain providers. Mrs. Corbett asked if Humana's pharmacy plans will coordinate benefits with other policies. Dr. Snyder said Humana is making a number of changes as it relates to their pharmaceutical plan. Therefore, there will be some disruption in this area for our employees. There will be information available about these changes for employees prior to enrollment. In regard to coordination of benefits, he will look into that because he feels they should be doing that. Also, employees can contact Humana's customer service or Deena Burks.

Upon motion by Mr. Gauntt, second by Mrs. Anderson, approval was given to the employee benefits renewal for 2017 as presented and recommended. Following a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

#### **F. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

##### **First Reading of Replacement Policy 2462 "Service Animals"**

Mr. Briscoe shared copies of a proposed replacement policy regarding service animals. Our attorneys are suggesting this replacement policy. Highlights include: definition of what a service animal is has been changed, prior to bringing service animal to school a form must be completed, the corporation is not responsible for the care or supervision of the service animal, the handler must maintain control of the animal and care of the animal, the owner is liable for any damage, harm, or injury caused by the service animal, and service animals are subject to local animal control public health requirements. He will bring back to the next meeting for final approval.

##### **Update on Enrollment:**

Mr. McWhorter shared that our official enrollment is 11,363, up 24 students from last year. This is the third year in a row with increased enrollment. Elementary enrollment is down 56 students, middle school up 119 and high school down 39.

In regard to transfer students, we receive approximately \$5,800 in revenue to the district for each student that we bring in. This current school year, we have 684 transfer students, up 138 from last year. These 684 students bring in a little over \$4 million to our district, which is an equivalent to 61 teachers in our district.

Ms. Wiseheart asked Mr. McWhorter to provide the Board with data on the reasons people say they are transferring to our district. Mr. Duffy said most are coming to our schools because they feel we have the best schools in the area. Several, at the elementary level, come for child care reasons. Mrs. Knable asked if the district has data on the number of transfer requests within the district. Mr. McWhorter said they will compile this information for the Board.

**Discussion of a Proposed Parking Lot on Prosser Property:**

Mr. Hines, representing the Monticello Group, LLC. They own the office building at 4206 Charlestown Road. He is a member of the LLC. The building houses Schuler Bauer Real Estate, Kemp Title, Fifth Third Mortgage, and Kochert Insurance and sits adjacent to Prosser. They would like to explore putting a 12 space parking lot on Prosser property. The cost is approximately \$12,000-\$13,000, excluding the finished paving. Option 1 would be Monticello Group (Schuler Bauer) would construct a parking lot as approved by the school corporation at Schuler Bauer's cost (approximately \$15,000). Schuler Bauer would gift the lot to the school corporation. Schuler Bauer would be permitted to use the lot as it is available. If the lot needs to be displaced because of construction at Prosser then Schuler Bauer would lose its investment and those parking spaces. Option 2 would be that Schuler Bauer would construct the lot as noted above and lease it from NAFC School Corporation. The school corporation would give Schuler Bauer credit for the cost of construction (approximately \$15,000). The credit would be diminished at a rate of \$120 per month until the construction credit is depleted. After that time, the lease would continue on a month to month basis. At any point the monthly rate would be subject to change if an appraisal shows the market rate for parking spaces is different from the rate that is being proposed of \$10 per space, per month. This parking lot could also be used by Prosser. Mr. Taylor did confirm this would not interfere with possible construction at Prosser.

Mrs. Gardenour asked if any attorneys have looked at this. Mr. Hines said there has not, but that would be his next step. Once the Board says which way they would like to go, he would get an attorney to write something up. Mrs. Wiseheart said she would ask that Mr. McWhorter and school corporation attorney look this over, but she feels one of these options would be beneficial to both parties. Following discussion, it was decided to seek guidance from attorney and bring back to the Board.

Under miscellaneous, Ms. Wiseheart asked the Board to consider having a discussion at the next board meeting regarding having work session with a consultant on diversity from the Detroit Public Schools. The purpose would be to share with the Board what they have done in Detroit to hire more minorities and to help with the national problem of diversity in the school corporation.

With no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce A. Hibbard, Ph.D., Superintendent