

# School Board Meeting – July 20, 2021

## Regular Session

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL – 7:00 P.M.

### ESTABLISH A QUORUM AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board of School Trustees of the John Glenn School Corporation met in regular session at 7:00 P.M. on July 20, 2021 at the John Glenn Administration Building. Board members present were Bob Borlik, Dan Drotar, Jared Egger, Bill Groves, Dennis Holland, Ryan Knowlton and Christian Mattix. There were seven observers present.

### DONATIONS & FUNDRAISERS (WES, NLES, UMS, JGHS)

There were no donations or fundraisers presented at this meeting.

### CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS #1 – 4

1. Approve Minutes – June 23, 2021 – Regular Session
2. Approve Claims – 741 - 854
3. Approve Personnel Recommendations
4. Approve Administrative Leave for Employee # 2165

### Retirements/Resignations

- |    |                |   |
|----|----------------|---|
| a. | Kelsey Buysse  | Virtual Teacher, John Glenn School Corporation  |
| b. | Gavin McNeeley | Social Studies Teacher, 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Team Leader, Urey Middle School                         |
| c. | Jamie Beeney   | Before and After Care Aide, John Glenn School Corporation   |
| d. | Judy Moore     | Media Center Aide, Urey Middle School   |
| e. | Lisa Vukovits  | Science Teacher, Urey Middle School   |
| f. | Adam Tein      | English Teacher, Assistant Varsity Boys Basketball Coach and Yearbook Sponsor, John Glenn High School |

### Appointments/Transfers

- |    |                    |   |
|----|--------------------|---|
| a. | Rebecca Kretchmer  | Head Start Bus Monitor, John Glenn School Corporation   |
| b. | Alexandria Sharp   | 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade A-team Volleyball Coach and Spell Bowl Coach, Urey Middle School                  |
| c. | Sophie Flora       | Speech Language Pathologist Assistant, John Glenn School Corporation                                    |
| d. | Stephanie Reynolds | Transfer from Guidance Teacher, John Glenn School Corporation to Guidance Counselor, Urey Middle School |
| e. | Katelynn King      | Full-time Technology Aide, Urey Middle School   |
| f. | Heather Nimon      | 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Science Teacher, Urey Middle School   |
| g. | Madeline Smith     | 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Teacher, Urey Middle School  |

Mr. Ryan Knowlton made a motion to approve Consent Agenda items as presented and Mr. Christian Mattix seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

Mr. Gregg Goewert took the opportunity to introduce Mrs. Heather Nimon and Ms. Madeline Smith to the Board as new teachers at Urey Middle School and welcome them to the John Glenn Family.

## NEW BUSINESS

### 1. Approve Resolution to Transfer \$141,666.67 from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund

Mr. Winchell reminded the Board that this resolution is passed quarterly to allow the transfer of funds that we receive in tuition support to the Operations Fund. These funds are used to cover expenses that used to be budgeted in the old general fund that moved to the operations fund in HB1009. He added that the requested amount is approximately 13% of our total educational budget, which is under the recommended guidelines to transfer no more than 15%. Mr. Bendy added that this percentage is something the State Board of Accounts watches very closely as we have to submit these numbers to them quarterly. Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to approve Resolution to Transfer \$141,666.67 from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund and Mr. Jared Egger seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

## REPORTS

### 1. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Winchell noted the following:

- Staffing – There was a question at the last board meeting if we were at a full staff capacity and I was happy to report that yes, we were fully staffed at that moment. As is customary, we have had a few additional resignations and retirements over the past few weeks. As of tonight's meeting, we are once again nearing a full staff, with the one exception being the English Teacher at the high school. As a reminder, these recent staff additions only bring our staff back to match what it was prior to COVID. We still hope to add several teaching positions to help with learning loss, and reduce class sizes through the extra cares act monies. There was a time when you would have 50 applicants for one position, unfortunately the candidate pool is not quite as robust as it once was, but we are dedicated to finding staff members who will best fit our student's needs.
- Head Start Expansion – In past years we have offered one half-day Head Start class, twice a day, at Walkerton Elementary School. During COVID, we offered one group, nearly full day services. Our goal with the expansion of Head Start to St. Pat's is to host two classes of twenty students for full day learning. Our area is currently lacking in child care services. There are approximately \$180,000 worth of improvements that need to be completed at St. Pat's in order for it to be licensed for Head Start use. The majority of these costs will be covered by the Head Start Consortium through CARES ACT monies, with the exception of a roof repair that will be covered by St. Pat's and a small asbestos situation that we will help cover for approximately \$5900. Once we get these Head Start services expanded, we hope to expand general preschool services as well. For those of you that don't know, I also serve as chairman of the Head Start Consortium, this definitely helps move this expansion along. Mr. Davis has been heading up this expansion project and doing a great job. Mr. Egger asked if this space would be ready for the school year in August. Mr. Winchell noted the original plan was to make this expansion in 2022 but due to needs and great team work, we are on schedule for August 2021.
- Boys and Girls Club – Again, Mr. Davis is working very hard on the redesign of our before and after school care program. In the past, this group has somewhat struggled with what curriculum to offer and funding. Mr. Davis has been working with the Boys and Girls Club of St. Joseph County (BGC) who would like to come in and provide services for our students at each elementary school. If this partnership were to take place, they will hire our staff members, train them and provide competitive salaries. The BGC has received the third largest grant from the IDOE for their program STRIVE, which focuses on learning loss catch up for students through an after school tutoring program. More details will be coming regarding this transition. Mr. Groves asked if the cost of the BGC would be similar to the cost of what families are currently paying for B&A Services and yes,

Mr. Davis is currently working to gather data for the BGC, and they are very sensitive to the need to keep the costs of care affordable.

- United Way – It is amazing how one partnership leads to possible partnerships with similar entities. United Way is looking to partner with the schools and the Town of Walkerton to possibly build a community center. As part of their continued outreach, they are wanting to build centers in the four corners of the county. It is our hope that they would be able to help provide childcare services for kids, infant-3 years, then those students will be able to transition to St. Pat's for preschool services ages 3-5, and finally enroll in kindergarten at one of our elementary schools.
- Building Projects
  - UMS Bathrooms – They have all of the bathrooms torn out and prepped. They are installing commodes and it appears that this project will be complete as expected.
  - WES – this project is moving right along, despite the slight setbacks we have experienced. There is a small issue with office furniture being on back order, as we had to order new due to the old one not fitting in the space. One comment that we have heard is that the new siding on the building does not match the metal flashing around the top near the roof. We had originally tried to color match what was there, but it was a custom color that would have resulted in delays and additional costs to match. We looked into replacing it now, or possibly painting it, but both options were cost prohibitive. Instead this color difference will be addressed in the future when the roof is replaced and the flashing will be black.
  - NLES – at this moment we are slightly concerned with the completion date. All of the classroom HVAC units were due to be delivered this past Monday, but they have not been received yet. D.A. DODD is a trusted partner who has been working very hard to make sure that all the prep work is completed, so that when units do arrive, they will be able to install them immediately. We do have a Plan B to fall back on if the units are continually delayed and will be ready to welcome students back on campus, with air conditioning, on August 11<sup>th</sup>. There is a slight issue with the window framing in the gymnasium, they are looking into the best solution. We have to give credit to Barton Coe Vilamaa and Brown and Brown. When you hear of all the horror stories of costs of materials and lengthy delays, they have done a great job of keeping us on schedule and mostly on budget. They are great, long term partners.
  - Fuel – We are still moving forward with the fuel project. The town leadership is eager to review an MOU/inter local agreement. The tanks have been ordered with a lead time of approximately 10 weeks. Once the MOU is prepared by Mr. Kaminski, we will bring it for formal approval.
  - Corporation Calendar – as you may recall, we approved and published two calendars back in December so that we are continually planning 18 months in advance. For the upcoming school year's, we had planned a Sunday afternoon graduation ceremony. After the success of the outdoor ceremony this past May, we would like to change the graduation ceremony date to Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, with a rain date of Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Drotar suggested just hosting the ceremony on Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup> regardless of the weather situation. We can host indoors in the event of inclement weather. Mr. Winchell will discuss this idea with the high school leadership team and we will bring a formal request to the Board for approval.
  - COVID – as we have previously reported, positive cases in our immediate area continue to be low. As we discussed and approved at our last meeting, the current recommendation is that masks are optional while on campus with the exception of being required on school buses. We have ordered masks and we are prepared to hand them out daily if necessary. We will continue to have assigned seats in classrooms, lunchrooms, and buses. We will continue to contact trace and quarantine for anyone who is not fully vaccinated.

Mr. Holland asked if we are going to offer virtual learning for our students. Mr. Winchell explained that it is our goal to have everyone on campus to provide 100% in person learning but we do have it listed as an option on our registration documents. That being said, in less than 24 hours since registration has been open, we have had almost 600 students register. Only 14 of those students have shown interest in a virtual format, but when followed up with, eight of them changed their mind.

Mr. Groves said that the summer seems to be going smoothly. He noted that he recently walked the North Liberty pathway and it is almost complete. It is a great walk for those in the community and our grounds are looking nice.

UPCOMING CALENDAR EVENTS

Online Registration - July 20, 2021

In Person Registration – July 27, 2021

NEXT MEETING DATE: August 3, 2021      John Glenn Admin Building      7PM

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bill Groves called the meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM.

PRES. \_\_\_\_\_

SEC'Y. \_\_\_\_\_

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