

School Board Meeting – October 19, 2021

Regular & Executive 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 October 19, 2021 at the Walkerton Elementary School Cafeteria. Board members present were Bob Borlik, Dan Drotar, Jared Egger, Bill Groves, Dennis Holland, Christian Mattix, and Ryan Knowlton. There were 33 observers present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Groves noted his appreciation for the community's involvement in tonight's meeting. Mr. Groves added that the Board looks forward to hearing input from the community knowing that they put much thought and consideration to their comments.

Six members of the community addressed the Board to share their thoughts and opinions regarding COVID protocols. Krystal Fairchild, Erica Franklin, Sarah Greisinger, Angelica Griffin, Ashley Nelson and Raquel Snyder all spoke in favor of parental choice.

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

Walkerton Elementary School

➤ Donations

○ School Store (Gift Cards)	\$1220	Second Grade Teachers
○ School Store	\$986.47	Walkerton Elementary

North Liberty Elementary School

➤ Donations

○ VFW Post 1954	\$2000	NLES Student Needs
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Urey Middle School

➤ Donations

○ Vermillion Systems	\$150	Business Club
○ Liberty Sound & Electronics, Chad Radandt	\$300	Volleyball

Mr. Ryan Knowlton made a motion to approve the donations and fundraisers as listed, and Mr. Christian Mattix seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS #1 – 3

1. Approve Minutes – October 5, 2021
2. Approve Claims – 1279 - 1370
3. Approve Personnel Recommendations

Retirements/Resignations

- a. Ron Brown Assistant Wrestling Coach, John Glenn High School

Appointments/Transfers

- a. Kim Philson 7th Grade A-team Volleyball Coach, Urey Middle School
- b. Randy Romer 6th Grade Boys A-team Basketball Coach, North Liberty Elementary School
- c. Chris Smith 6th Grade Boys B-team Basketball Coach, North Liberty Elementary School
- d. Jeff Timm Transfer from 6th Grade Girls B-team Basketball Coach to 5th Grade Boys A-team Basketball Coach, North Liberty Elementary School
- e. Brandon Lockhart Assistant Football Coach, Urey Middle School
- f. Jared Pearish 8th Grade Boys A-team Basketball Coach, Urey Middle School
- g. Kody Lowery 8th Grade Boys B-team Basketball Coach, Urey Middle School
- h. Roger Dittmar 7th Grade Boys B-team Basketball Coach, Urey Middle School
- i. Rhiley Hellyer 5th Grade Boys B-team Basketball Coach, North Liberty Elementary School

Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to approve Consent Agenda items 1-3 and Mr. Jared Egger seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Adopt Resolution to Approve 2022 Budget as Advertised
 - a. Education Fund
 - b. Debt Service Fund
 - c. Retirement/Severance Bond Fund
 - d. Operations Fund
 - e. Rainy Day Fund

Mr. Winchell noted that the budget has been advertised in all the appropriate places. Details were shared during our last meeting when we held the public hearing. This is the final step in the annual budget process that began back in July. Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to adopt Resolution to approve the 2022 Education Fund, Debt Service Fund, Retirement/Severance Bond Fund, Operations Fund and Rainy Day Fund Budgets as advertised and Mr. Bob Borlik seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

2. Adopt Resolution to Approve 2022 Capital Projects Plan

Mr. Winchell noted that this is our annual plan, and it is always a work in progress because we always have things surface that we weren't anticipating. This is our best effort to project for the next year what sort of improvements and repairs we will need to do through the old Capital Projects Fund which now is a portion of the Operations Fund. This does not include projects that are funded through bond money. Mr. Jared Egger made a motion to adopt Resolution to Approve 2022 Capital Projects Plan, and Mr. Ryan Knowlton seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

3. Adopt Resolution to Approve 2022 Bus Replacement Plan

Mr. Winchell explained that similar to the Capital Projects Plan, this is one of the final steps of the budget process. It is our best plan for bus replacements, although it does remain fluid depending on the needs that surface from year to year. Generally speaking, this plan encompasses the lifecycle of a bus. For the 2022 budget year, we plan to purchase three buses. Mr. Ryan Knowlton made a motion to adopt Resolution to Approve 2022 Bus Replacement Plan, and Mr. Christian Mattix seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

4. NEOLA Special Update – Title IX Policy – Second Reading

Mr. Winchell again noted that this is not a new policy brought to us by NEOLA to address nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities. While Title IX is not a new federal law, this policy contains additional Title IX policies that have been added. Mr. Kaminski supports policy recommendations made by NEOLA. Mr. Winchell went on to note that we completed our first reading of this policy at our last meeting. Mr. Groves noted for public knowledge that it is pretty standard to regularly update our policies. We have hired NEOLA, and they monitor legislation and review our policies and make policy suggestions. That is how we keep our policies current. Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to approve NEOLA Special Update – Title IX Policy – Second Reading, and Mr. Dan Drotar seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

5. Public Hearing for Tentative Agreement

Mr. Winchell noted that we are required by law to hold a public hearing on a tentative agreement for the teacher master contract. We are very happy to report that we have reached a tentative agreement. This is a two year contract. In general, we have agreed that teachers will receive differentiated raises between \$2,000 and \$8,000 based on years of service and degrees. Minimum salary for teachers will be \$41,000 and maximum salary will be \$76,175 for year one. Year two, teachers will receive differentiated raises of \$700 or \$775 with a minimum salary of \$41,000 and a maximum salary of \$76,950. We have added two ECA positions for middle school soccer and elementary yearbook, and the TLP portion of the contract will be removed. We have had a few years where we weren't able to offer teachers the raises that they deserve, this is a great year to be able to help catch them up to where they should be based on years of experience and degrees. Mr. Merrill, JGEA Co-President added that it was a great bargaining experience, and that the union greatly appreciates the cooperation of not only the administration, but also the board. Mr. Groves noted that the demands that the state has put on us in regards to the additional funding we received are difficult to achieve. We are in line, as close as we can possibly be at this time, with what the legislature has asked us to do, and that was a difficult task. The public hearing was opened at 7:44 PM and closed at 7:47 PM. Mr. Mattix spoke as a member of the community. He stated that it is very nice to see that the teachers union and the corporation has such a great, non-confrontational relationship. Many school corporations in our area are not as fortunate. It is nice to know that we are all working toward the same goal for the good of the kids. Mr. Groves added that being a teacher himself, he has always felt that it is important to reward our educators the best we can. For a while, the state system wasn't fair, but we are making great strides to get things corrected. This is an important step by the JG School community to pay a fair wage for all of our teachers. It is always hard to see senior teachers leave because a neighboring community school pays a higher wage. It is so nice to have a team approach.

REPORTS

1. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Winchell reported the following:

- I echo what everyone has said, we had a great bargaining season. We look forward to bringing the official contract back for formal approval at our next meeting.
- COVID Update – Thank you to our community members speaking tonight and being present at our meeting with Representative Teshka and Dr. Fox. It needs to be noted that Indiana Code 16 requires all Indiana citizens to follow the direction of the Indiana State Health Department. Those that are willfully negligent could possibly be found guilty of a Class B Misdemeanor. That may not mean a lot for many people, but as an educator holding a state issued license, we are legally bound to follow through with contact tracing and quarantining as defined by the health department. I know the masks are not popular, but we moved to a mask requirement so that we could reduce the amount of students that were quarantined. The week of October 3-9, we had 16 positive cases, many of whom were participants in ECA's. Those positive cases could have resulted in 159 quarantined students, but because of masking, it was only 66, which is still a high number. For the next week, we had 5 positive cases with 19 identified

close contacts. Due to masking, we only had to send 8 kids home. We are happy to report that the numbers are coming down. Mr. Mattix asked if the football game that had to be cancelled would be rescheduled. Unfortunately, it will not be rescheduled, but the IHSAA has granted us permission to hold our senior night festivities prior to the sectional game on Friday, October 22nd.

- There is some conversation surfacing again about a Greene Township Disannexation Bill. It is very early in the legislative session but there has been a comment made by our local legislators that this may surface. Nothing is official yet, but we will continue to monitor closely.
- With the holidays coming in November and December, it is customary that the Board only hold one meeting per month. As we wrap up the budget season, and bargaining seasons, it is likely that we will only hold one meeting the first Tuesday of November and one meeting the first Tuesday of December, unless something unforeseen arises.
- Mr. Groves asked that Mr. Winchell re-iterate that we are continuously monitoring COVID numbers with the hopes that we may be able to revert to more parental choice and that we are in weekly contact with local health departments. We are responsible for upholding the laws that are placed upon us.

BOARD COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

Mr. Groves noted that the ISBA Conference was very good with excellent educational meetings.

UPCOMING CALENDAR EVENTS

NEXT MEETING DATE: November 2, 2021 Walkerton Elementary School Cafeteria 7PM

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bill Groves called the meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session was held immediately following the Regular Session to discuss collective bargaining, the purchase or lease of real property and employee job performance. No other matters were discussed. Mr. Bill Groves called the Executive Session adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

PRES. _____

SEC'Y. _____
