

School Board Meeting – January 11, 2022
Regular Session, Board of Finance Session, and Executive Session

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL – 7:07 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 January 11, 2022, at Walkerton Elementary School. Board members present were Bob Borlik, Bill Groves, Christian Mattix, Ryan Knowlton, Dan Drotar, and Dennis Holland. Jared Egger was absent. Christopher Winchell, Superintendent, and 21 observers were also present.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

PRESIDENT Ryan Knowlton

Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to nominate Mr. Ryan Knowlton for President, and Mr. Bob Borlik seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

VICE PRESIDENT Christian Mattix

Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to nominate himself for Vice President, and Mr. Bob Borlik seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

SECRETARY Jared Egger

Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to nominate Jared Egger as Secretary, and Mr. Bob Borlik seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

Note – This slate of officers was approved in one motion made by Mr. Christian Mattix, and seconded by Mr. Bob Borlik.

TREASURER Tom Bendy

Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to approve Tom Bendy as Treasurer, and Mr. Dan Drotar seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

DEPUTY TREASURER Carol Kuzmicz

Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to approve Carol Kuzmicz as Deputy Treasurer, and Mr. Dan Drotar seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

LEGISLATIVE LIAISON Ryan Knowlton

Mr. Bill Groves made a motion to nominate Ryan Knowlton as Legislative Liaison, and Mr. Christian Mattix seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

JGSC TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE Christian Mattix

Jared Egger

Mr. Bill Groves made a motion to nominate Mr. Christian Mattix and Mr. Jared Egger to the JGSC Technology Committee, and Mr. Christian Mattix seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six zero.

JGHS ATHLETIC COUNCIL

Bill Groves

Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to nominate Mr. Bill Groves to the JGHS Athletic Council, and Mr. Dan Drotar seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

HIGH ABILITIES COMMITTEE

Dan Drotar

Mr. Bill Groves made a motion to nominate Mr. Dan Drotar to the High Abilities Committee, and Mr. Dennis Holland seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

REGULAR MEETING DATE AND TIME

First and Third Tuesday of Every Month, 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to keep the meeting date and time on the first and third Tuesday of every month, at 7:00 p.m. and Mr. Bill Groves seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

BOARD SALARY

\$2,000 Annually

Mr. Bill Groves made a motion to keep the School Board salary at \$2,000 annually per member, and Mr. Christian Mattix seconded the motion. The motion was carried with a vote of six to zero.

SCHOOL ATTORNEY

Newby, Lewis, Kaminski and Jones, LLP

Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to keep the law firm of Newby, Lewis, Kaminski and Jones, LLP, as legal counsel for the John Glenn School Corporation, and Mr. Bill Groves seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

DESIGNATION OF NEWSPAPER/S FOR
PUBLISHING LEGAL NOTICES FOR
SCHOOL CORPORATION

Plymouth Pilot

South Bend Tribune

Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to designate the Plymouth Pilot and the South Bend Tribune for publishing required legal notices for the John Glenn School Corporation, and Mr. Dan Drotar seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

AUTHORIZATION OF SUPERINTENDENT TO EMPLOYEE SUBSTITUTE PERSONNEL

Mr. Bill Groves made a motion to approve the Authorization of the Superintendent to Employee Substitute Personnel, and Mr. Dennis Holland seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

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

Walkerton Elementary:

➤ Donations

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| ○ Box Tops | \$51.90 |
| ○ Lifetouch | \$1998.47 |
| ○ Casey's Gas Station | \$35.60 |

John Glenn High School:

➤ Donations

○ Brass Rail Bar and Grill	\$50	Baseball
○ Falcon 500	\$250	Baseball
○ Falcon 500	\$300	Choir
○ Richard and Gina Snyder	\$50	Aerial
○ SAL Squadron Post 189	\$100	Baseball

➤ Fundraisers

○ Junior Class	1/31-2/11/22	Carnation Sale
○ Softball	1/3-3/7/22	T-shirt Sale

Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to approve the above named donations and fundraisers, and Mr. Dennis Holland seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Four members of the community addressed the Board to share their thoughts and opinions regarding COVID protocols and medical freedoms. Raquel Snyder, Erica Franklin, Krystal Fairchild and Naomi Nelson all spoke in favor of medical freedom and parental choice.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS #1 – 5

1. Approve Minutes – December 14, 2021– Regular Session
2. Approve Claims – 1655 - 1712
3. Approve Personnel Recommendations

Retirements/Resignations

- a. Stevie Jackson Instructional Aide, Walkerton Elementary School
- b. Gavin McNeeley Head Girls Tennis Coach, John Glenn High School
Head Boys Tennis Coach, John Glenn High School

Appointments/Transfers

- a. Joe Stanley Transfer from 7th Grade Girls B-team Basketball Coach to 8th Grade Girls B-team Basketball Coach, Urey Middle School
- b. Melita Beeney Yearbook Sponsor, Half Pay, North Liberty Elementary School
- c. Traci Stewart Yearbook Sponsor, Half Pay, North Liberty Elementary School
- d. Mike Mulcahy Transfer from Girls Golf Assistant Coach to Girls Golf Head Coach, John Glenn High School
- e. Gail Crone Student Tutor, Walkerton Elementary School
- f. Robert Porter Transfer from Half Pay Boys Varsity Assistant Basketball Coach to Full Pay Boys Varsity Assistant Boys Basketball Coach, John Glenn High School
- g. Sarah Chapman Transfer from 5th Grade Girls B-team Basketball Coach to 6th Grade Girls B-team Basketball Coach, Walkerton Elementary School
- h. Joshua Simpson Temporary Social Studies Teacher, John Glenn High School
- i. David Kitchell Yearbook Sponsor, John Glenn High School
- j. Nancy Buford Instructional Aide, 35 hours per week, Walkerton Elementary School
- k. Roger Dittmar 5th Grade Girls A-team Basketball Coach, Walkerton Elementary School

4. Transfer Requests

We currently have 382 transfer students for the 2021-2022 school year, including the six students approved tonight.

5. FMLA Leave Requests – Employees #3296, 1746 and 3003

Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 1-5, and Mr. Bill Groves seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve Resolution to Transfer \$125,000 from the Operations Fund to the Rainy Day Fund

Mr. Winchell noted that this is part of our annual, end of year processes. We always try to have a little bit left at the end of the year, so that we can put it away for a rainy day. These are moneies that were already approved in our previous budget, and we have a little left over in our operations fund, and so we would like to transfer \$125,000 to the rainy day fund. Mr. Tom Bend, Treasurer, added that the significance of this dollar amount is to get our rainy day fund up to \$1,000,000. He noted that when he was hired in 2014, that was one of the goals that was set before him, and he is happy to report that we have reached it. Mr. Bill Groves made a motion to approve Resolution to Transfer \$125,000 from the Operations Fund to the Rainy Day Fund, and Mr. Christian Mattix seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

2. Approve Resolution to Transfer Funds from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund in the amount of \$141,666.67

Mr. Winchell informed the board that this is our normal process that began back in 2019 with the passing of HB 1009. We have certain monies that go into the Education Fund that cover operational expenses so we need permission from the Board to make these transfers. We bring this request to the Board on a quarterly basis, and ask to transfer \$141,666.67 per month for a total of \$1,700,000 for the year. Mr. Bendy added that this is a normal procedure since the passage of HB 1009. A corporation is permitted to transfer 15% of their education fund to the operations fund. The total of \$1,700,000 is the same amount that we have transferred over the last three years. We are currently transferring approximately 12% so we do have the ability to increase this transfer amount if it is necessary. Mr. Dennis Holland made a motion to approve Resolution to Transfer Funds from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund in the amount of \$141,666.67, and Mr. Bill Groves seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

3. Approve Resolution of Transfers

Mr. Winchell explained that similar to moving money to the rainy day fund, this is an end of year process that we do. We keep a very accurate ties on where we are spending our money and occasionally line items will run into the negative, even though we have the money allocated to spend. We run the items into the negative, so that we know how much we have spent throughout the year. In order to remain in good standing with the State Board of Accounts, we need to zero all of those negative line items out. Mr. Bendy added that this is a budget procedure that we execute each January. He went on to note that when you approve a budget, you approve a set dollar amount for each account. Within each account, there are many subaccounts and in order to make sure we know what our true spending is, these accounts will occasional go negative, but we cannot overspend on the entire account. This transfer is moving monies between accounts of the same category so that no individual accounts are left with a negative balance. Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to approve Resolution of Transfers, and Mr. Bill Groves seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

4. Approve Purchase over \$25,000 – Interactive Panels for \$93,320 from Empower Learning

Mr. Winchell noted that this is the next step in our ever changing effort to provide the best technology aided instruction to our students. Mr. Medesi, Director of Technology, has been working with Mr. Bandy to budget and plan for the next purchases in our plan. These are monies that have been properly budgeted for routine technology upgrades. Mr. Medesi explained that he has been working with the technology committees at each building to develop a detailed replacement cycle for each building so that we can keep new technology rotating throughout the building rather than picking and choosing where the new items go. He went on to explain that these interactive panels are essentially like a TV but it is a very thick glass with the technology to utilize as a touch screen or wirelessly. We will also have the technology to access these panels from the backend to send security or other messages to the classrooms easily. Mr. Medesi noted that installation of these panels should begin within the next few months. He assured the Board that there would be no learning loss throughout this process, as the teachers would still have access to all current technology while they are awaiting training on the new panels. After brief discussion, Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to approve Purchase over \$25,000 – Interactive Panels for \$93,320 from Empower Learning, and Mr. Dan Drotar seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

REPORTS

1. Director of Learning Report – Mr. Tim Davis

Mr. Davis reported the following:

- The Employee Assistance Program is a program that has been available to our full time employees for some time. Due to a recent expansion in the program, we will not only be able to offer assistance to our full time employees but also part time employees as well as a much more robust list of services. This program includes a wide range of topics to assist employees free of charge. Programs regarding addiction, anxiety, depression, financial counseling, family and marital counseling, childcare issues, estate planning and many others are offered. We hope that more teachers and staff will take full advantage of these programs that are free of charge to employees. More information will be provided to staff within the coming weeks.
- A huge congratulations and thank you to Ms. Irish for working so diligently with the students over Christmas Break. With her dedication, and the student's efforts, students were able to gain 26 credits over the two week break. These are students who are most at risk for not graduating, and for them to combine to finish 26 credits in two weeks is amazing. Mr. Winchell added, to put it into perspective, to earn a high school diploma, you must have 45 credits. Essentially, these students completed one half of a diploma.
- Head Start – While we are all very excited to get the Head Start classes moved over to St. Pat's, we've had to delay the transition due to some illnesses. Tuesday, January 18, 2022, will be the first day classes will be held in the new location. The school has been updated and classrooms are set up and ready for students. We hope to invite the Board to St. Pat's for a tour in the very near future. Mr. Winchell added that we have doubled the number of kids that we are services, for double the time compared to what we provided last year. By moving the groups over to St. Pat's, we have freed up valuable classroom space at WES. There is still room available at St. Pat's that would allow for future expansion. Mr. Davis has done a great job coordinating this project.

2. Superintendent's Report – Mr. Christopher Winchell

Mr. Winchell reported the following:

- We have had a great start to the second semester of the school year. WE have been fortunate to dodge some of the yucky weather that is typical this time of year. It seems that all students and

staff have hit the ground running in 2022. Unfortunately, we have seen some high COVID numbers as we have returned from break. The week of January 2nd, we had 38 positive cases which resulted in a total of 138 close contacts. 65 of those close contacts were able to remain in school, and 73 required quarantining. This is the most positivity we have seen in one week since back in August when we switched to the required masking. In my weekly meeting with the Marshall County Superintendent's and Health Department, we were made aware that one of our neighboring school districts is dangerously close to having to shut down and switch to virtual learning due to their current positivity rate and contact tracing. There have also been some frustrations in neighboring districts among parents who have had their students close contact quarantined for up to six, non-consecutive weeks, part of the reason this has happened is that this particular school is not requiring masking.

- It has been mentioned that I attended the Marshall County Council meeting earlier this week. The comment was made that I said that I represent 30% of our constituency who is in favor of masking, when I actually said that 30% of our constituency resides in Marshall County, as we are made up of three counties, Marshall, St. Joseph and Laporte. I was at this meeting in support of the Marshall County Health Department and Dr. Holm. They are seeking grant money because they are understaffed. I was there to show my support for this request, as they have been very supportive in keeping John Glenn School Corporation doors open for our students throughout this pandemic. We have not necessarily received the same, ongoing weekly support from the other counties.
- We will adjourn this meeting, and then after a brief break, we will call to order the Board of Finance Meeting. Following the Board of Finance Meeting, there will be a short Executive Session.

2. Conference Requests

- a. Glenda Smith
- b. Laine Vincent
- c. Jane Hostetler x 2
- d. Kyle Voegel

BOARD COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

NEXT MEETING DATE: February 1, 2022 7:00 P.M. WES Regular Session

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Ryan Knowlton called the meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING

The Board of Finance Meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Mr. Ryan Knowlton.

1. Organize Board of Finance by Electing a President, Secretary, and Review of 2021 Investments

President Ryan Knowlton Secretary Jared Egger

Mr. Bill Groves made a motion to approve the appointment of Mr. Ryan Knowlton as President, and Mr. Jared Egger as Secretary for the Board of Finance, and Mr. Dennis Holland seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

Mr. Tom Bendy provided an in depth review of the 2021 financial information. All DUAB indicators show that the district is in a strong financial situation. Mr. Ryan Knowlton adjourned the Board of Finance meeting at 8:32pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive session was called to order at 8:35 p.m. to discuss the purchase or lease of real property and to discuss confidential records. No other items were discussed and the executive session was adjourned at 9:35pm.

PRES. _____

SEC'Y. _____
