

School Board Meeting – December 5, 2023 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 December 5, 2023, at the John Glenn Administration Building. Board members present were Bob Borlik, Jared Egger, Ryan Knowlton, Christian Mattix, Todd McGaughey and Carissa Smith. Christine Carson was absent. Superintendent Christopher Winchell and thirty observers were present through consent agenda, fifteen observers were present through the business portion of the meeting.

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

Walkerton Elementary School

➤ Donations

- | | | |
|---------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|
| • Polygon | | Supplies for Fish Fry |
| • NL VFW | | Poppies for Veteran’s Day |
| • Pine Creek | | Coats/Pants for students in need |
| • School Store Commission | \$674.20 | |

➤ Fundraiser

- | | | |
|-------------|--|----------|
| • Art Class | | Artsonia |
|-------------|--|----------|

Urey Middle School

➤ Donations

- | | | |
|---------------------|-------|-----------|
| • McMahan Insurance | \$100 | Wrestling |
|---------------------|-------|-----------|

John Glenn High School

➤ Donations

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------------------|
| • John Glenn Theatre Boosters | \$20 | Drama |
| • Ginger Valley Farms | \$700 | FFA |
| • SAL Squadron Post 189 | \$100 | Baseball |
| • SAL Squadron Post 189 | \$300 | Girls Golf |
| • Catherine Reese | \$100 | Wrestling |
| • Brian and Therese Schmeltz | \$100 | Drama |
| • Schweitzer Engineering | \$100 | Student Activities |

Mr. Ryan Knowlton made a motion to approve Donations and Fundraisers and Mr. Jared Egger seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

Mr. Winchell welcomed Senator Mike Bohacek to the meeting. Senator Bohacek has been instrumental in bringing the Greene Township annexation to fruition and is a big supporter of our Fallween Festival. During Fallween, Senator Bohacek donated an E-Bike for the Fallween Scholarship raffle booth. When registering, students has to note if they were under 18 so that we could ensure their parents were okay with their child receiving a bike that goes 22 mph. The winner of the bike was Tanner Tropp. Senator Bohacek noted that it is so nice to see the school corporation become so much a part of the community, it was really fun to be a part of Fallween and to represent us in the General Assembly.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public made comment at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS #1 – 4

1. Approve Minutes – November 7, 2023 – Regular Session
2. Approve Voucher #'s 101722 through 101909
3. Approve Employee Recommendations

Retirements/Resignations

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| a. Dave Lichtenbarger | Boys Track Coach, Urey Middle School |
| b. Patrick Houser | Percussion Instructor, John Glenn High School |
| c. Anthony Hatton | Assistant Wrestling Coach, John Glenn High School |
| d. Taylor Kalucki | Head Volleyball Coach, John Glenn High School |
| e. Lexia Pearish | Freshman Volleyball Coach, John Glenn High School |

Appointments

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| a. Patrick Wolff | E-sports Coach, John Glenn High School |
| b. Brandon Brown | E-sports Coach, Urey Middle School |
| c. Joanna Celmer | E-sports Assistant Coach, Urey Middle School
Girls Golf Coach, Urey Middle School |
| d. Heather Thompson | Cheer Sponsor, Walkerton Elementary School |
| e. Karen Keeling | Cafeteria Staff, John Glenn High School |
| f. Sarah Rosbrugh | Cafeteria Staff, John Glenn High School |
| g. Jennifer Stout | Winter Event Supervisor, Urey Middle School |
| h. Christopher Lawler | Wrestling Assistant Coach, Urey Middle School |
| i. Chasity Adkins | Girls Basketball Coach, Urey Middle School |
| j. Mason Stepp | Wrestling Assistant Coach, Urey Middle School |
| k. Paul Dewitt | Wrestling Assistant Coach, Urey Middle School |
| l. Tresa Hammond | Part-time Director of Special Education, John Glenn School Corporation |

4. Approve Transfer Student Requests

To date we have had 115 new out-of-district student requests for the 2023-24 school year, including the most recent request tonight, to bring the current out-of-district student count to 623.

Mr. Winchell noted that since we are only having one meeting in December due to the holiday, we added a few middle school coaching position recommendations as well as a recommendation for the Part-time Director of Special Education were added to the consent agenda after the initial board packet was sent out on Friday afternoon. You have hard copies of these recommendations. Even though we typically wait until the next meeting to bring additional recommendations before the board, it is appropriate to add items to the consent agenda and well within the open door laws. It is good to get these coaches approved since practices will be starting soon, even though the board has retroactive approval authority. He made special note of the Part-time Director of Special Education and reminded the board that this position will assist with the transition with the continued dissolution of JESSE. This position is one day a week from January 1st through June 30th, which is 26 weeks and will be paid a daily rate with no other benefits.

Mr. Todd McGaughey made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 1 – 4 and Mr. Jared Egger seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve Seven-Semester Graduate Request

Mr. Winchell explained that board approval is necessary for any student who would like to graduate in less than four years or eight semesters. There are times we have three year or seven semester graduates. Mr. Manering shared that Kaylee Hensler has completed all her graduation pathways, had a great SAT score and is working to finish her class requirements this semester. She plans to attend Indiana University to major in Business. Mr. Ryan Knowlton made a motion to approve Seven-Semester Graduate Request and Ms. Carissa Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

2. Approve Resolution to Approve Bus Donation to Tyner Odd Fellows

Mr. Winchell reminded the Board that we have an ongoing bus replacement plan and we generally try to keep buses for twelve years and then rotate the old ones out and new ones in. As we were working through our bus replacement plan this year our friends at the Tyner Odd Fellows reached out to see if we had any buses that may work as their new fish fry bus. After consulting with Mr. Kaminski and our reviewing our board policies, Board Policy 7310 states that the Superintendent is authorized to dispose of obsolete instructional or other property by selling to the highest bidder, by donation to appropriate parties or by proper waste disposal in accordance with Indiana Code. We were able to sell two buses at auction for more than we were going to receive from trading in three buses. We feel it is appropriate to donate the third bus to the Odd Fellows under policy 7310. It is important to note that the Tyner Odd Fellows are a local non-profit organization that supports a plethora of local groups and charities including WES and Fallween. This bus has already been declared surplus and I recommend this donation. Mr. Jared Egger made a motion to approve Resolution to Approve Bus Donation to Tyner Odd Fellows and Mr. Bob Borlik seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

3. Approve Amended Salaries for Certified Staff (Teachers), Central Office Staff and Administrators

Mr. Winchell noted that on the back end of settling the teacher contract, we presented the list of salaries for current teachers as well the compensation model for new teacher hires. We have multiple levels of internal auditing to ensure that there are no mistakes. The first round is done by excel spreadsheet, and then it is verified many times by central office employees as payroll is being set up. We found seven errors that were generated by the formula in the spreadsheet with employees that work part-time, or they work an extra period in their day. We are excited that the business office is ready to roll out the new salaries to the teaching staff with this coming payroll. It is appropriate for the board to reapprove this document so that three years from now the auditors will have a paper trail to follow at the time of an audit. Mr. Ryan Knowlton made a motion to approve Amended Salaries for Certified Staff (Teachers), Central Office Staff and Administrators and Mr. Todd McGaughey seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

REPORTS

1. Director of Learning & Student Services Report

Mr. Davis shared the following:

- All buildings are working on their School Improvement Plans.
- The middle school hosted their Envision the Future program for their 8th grade students today to help them see what their futures may look like depending on chosen careers, marriages and kids in their future lives. Hats off to Mr. Goewert and Mrs. Reynolds for a great learning opportunity.
- Walkerton Elementary has been selected to participate in a 2024 NAEP Standardized Testing Survey. The state informed us that our 4th grade students will take these test sometime between January and March 2024.

- The high ability program continues to grow. This week, six teachers from both buildings are attending a conference to work on implementing high ability in their everyday classroom.
- John Glenn was recently rewarded the Science of Reading Grant for \$150,000. This grant will be used to help students gain reading skills.

2. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Winchell shared the following:

- Congratulations to the Theatre Company for a fantastic Fall Play.
- There was great feedback received from local veterans following the Veteran's Day programs. Each building did a great job celebrating our local vets.
- We are excited that our winter activities are in full swing. Girls basketball is playing tonight at Mishawaka, the boys basketball team had a great win over the weekend at Northside Gym and wrestling has been busy and will next participate in the Harry Ganser Invitational that we host here at the high school this weekend.
- It has been a few years but we recently added the Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving as a scheduled day off. This was once again appreciated by our families and staff.
- We have been slow to bring a recommended 2024-25 Corporation Calendar due to waiting on confirmation of the dates of the Falloween Festival in 2024. Now that those have been solidified, we have discussed the calendar with the teacher union and will bringing the joint recommendation to the first meeting in January for consideration.
- Mr. Kaminski and I continue to work through the IDOE legal process for getting the paperwork in line for the school board reorganization on the heels of the Greene Township annexation.
- I also wanted to highlight the \$150,000 reading grant that we received. That is great work by Mrs. Amy Weiss. It was a team effort, but she does a lot of heavy lifting for this type of grant. This is a large chunk of money for the corporation to use to enhance our students. John Glenn is proud to be a little ahead of the curve when it comes to the Science of Reading. Mr. Romer and Mr. Davis along with the teacher team have already implemented a lot of the roots of the Science of Reading philosophies which places us several years ahead of some other corporations. We want to continue on this path and this grant will help us stay ahead of the curve.
- The Urey Middle school toy drive has been a help to the Walkerton Community Church and the First Presbyterian Church of Walkerton's Santa's Workshop. Parents are invited in, they get a Walmart Gift Card and they get to select toys for their families. Urey started their toy drive several years ago and is just another example of how our building level leadership encourages philanthropy, similar to the stuff the bus and food drives.
- Falloween will be rotating back to the third week of September for 2024.
- Since the Board approved the budget a few month ago, we have sent it to the DLGF (Department of Local Government Finance) for their final approval. We advertised a tax rate of up to \$1.34 and the tax rate that was approved was \$1.0052. Good news is that our budget was approved with a slight growth overall and there was not a large increase to our community. It is a good budget as a result of hard work by our business department. We can continue to live within our means and maintain our fiscal soundness. Mr. Bendy will provide a full financial picture of the district during the Board of Finance meeting in January. We are already excited to prepare our 2025 budget that will include Greene Township.

3. Conference Requests

- a. Scott Richie
- b. Glenda Smith
- c. Amber Lyskiewicz
- d. Jennifer Johnson
- e. Kelsey Buysse
- f. Tara Dome
- g. Sarah Cuskaden

- h. Alexandra Hendee
- i. Michele Weiss
- j. Gail Crone
- k. Randy Romer
- l. Amy Strong
- m. Dena Leodanski

BOARD COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

UPCOMING EVENTS

UMS Winter Concert – December 6th – JGHS

WES Winter Concert – December 7th

JGHS Sounds of the Holidays – December 17th – 2 & 4:30 PM

NLES Winter Concert – December 20th

Winter Break – December 22nd through January 7th – NO SCHOOL

NEXT MEETING DATE: January 9, 2024 7:00 P.M. Admin Building Regular Session

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Christian Mattix called the meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM.

PRES. _____

SEC'Y. _____
