

School Board Meeting – April 8, 2025

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 March 18, 2025, at the John Glenn Administration Building. Board members present were Jared Egger, Christine Carson, Kathy Jaworski, Ryan Knowlton, Todd McGaughey and Carissa Smith. Christian Mattix was absent. Superintendent Christopher Winchell and 11 observers were present.

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

John Glenn High School

➤ Donation

- | | | |
|--|------|------------|
| ○ Falcon 500 | \$70 | Spell Bowl |
| ○ Case Donations from Drama Performances | \$50 | Drama |

➤ Fundraisers

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|---------------------|
| ○ League of Extraordinary Falcons | 3/20-5/9 | Nelson’s Port-A-Pit |
|-----------------------------------|----------|---------------------|

Mr. Jared Egger made a motion to approve the named donations and fundraisers as presented, and Mr. Ryan Knowlton seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment was made at tonight’s meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS #1 – 4

1. Approve Minutes – March 18, 2025 – Regular Session
2. Approve Vouchers – 104814 through 104968
3. Approve Personnel Recommendations

Retirements/Resignations

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| a. Nicholas Dehenes | JGHS Pit Crew #2, John Glenn High School |
| b. Katie Haddock | Part-time Cafeteria Staff, John Glenn High School |
| c. Hailey Casper | Band Camp Staff |

Appointments

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| a. Ben Dermody | Homebound Instructor, Walkerton Elementary School |
|----------------|---|

4. Approve FLMA Request

Mrs. Kathy Jaworski noted a change to be made in the minutes from March 18th. Donations of concrete materials were received by Orts Greene Meadows Farms and Smith’s Ready Mix. Mr. Winchell clarified that the concrete materials were donated for two projects. The most recent was donated by Smith’s Ready

Mix for the Civil Construction Class to lay a concrete pad for the softball batting cage. The other project was at Sumption Prairie Church. They had allowed us to use their parking lot as a bus stop in Greene Township. Due to the extra use of many vehicles, some repairs to the parking lot needed to be made. Ort's Greene Meadows graciously provided those supplies, and our Building Trades Students were able to complete the repairs.

Mr. Ryan Knowlton made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 1-4, and Mr. Todd McGaughey seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve Purchase over \$75,000 – Elementary Chromebooks from Secured Tech Solutions in the amount of \$282,622.50

Mr. Winchell reminded the board that any purchase over \$75,000 but under \$300,000 requires special board approval and requires us to collect three quotes. This recommendation is for the purchase of 675 Chromebooks for elementary school students, grades 3-6. Mr. Daniel Medesi, Director of Technology, explained his technology team's process when selecting the best device and provider in detail and noted that it was a unanimous decision. Selecting the best Chromebook and a company that would provide excellent customer service was important. The company also offers the option to host a community buyback program where Chromebooks we are finished using can be returned and sold to our community. Mr. Winchell added that this is an expense that we budgeted for when the budget was prepared and approved last October. While these three quotes are extremely competitive, we don't always automatically choose the cheapest option. Our goal is to get the most bang for our buck, and sometimes, when you know that a vendor provides an outstanding warranty and great partnership, they are worth the extra expense. Mr. Bendy added that we started our 1:1 technology ratio twelve years ago, so this is our third time making a large Chromebook purchase. This is the first year we could budget for the purchase rather than use bond funds. We are always analyzing this process to see how to break it up and make the large purchases easier. Mr. Ryan Knowlton made a motion to approve Purchase over \$75,000 – Elementary Chromebooks from Secured Tech Solutions in the amount of \$282,622.50 and Mr. Jared Egger seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

2. Approve Purchase over \$75,000 – Secondary Chromebooks from Secured Tech Solutions in the amount of \$198,882.50

Mr. Winchell noted that this is a very similar action item to the one above, only for purchasing 475 Chromebooks for secondary students in grades seven through nine. Mr. Todd McGaughey made a motion to approve Purchase over \$75,000 – Secondary Chromebooks from Secured Tech Solutions in the amount of \$198,882.50 and Mrs. Kathy Jaworski seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

3. Approve Resolution to Transfer Funds from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund in the amount of \$175,000

Mr. Winchell explained that this is our quarterly transfer of monies from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund. This is the amount of our monthly transfer that the Board approves quarterly. The legislature recommends that we do not transfer more than 15%, which is below that threshold. Ms. Carissa Smith made a motion to approve Resolution to Transfer Funds from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund in the amount of \$175,000 and Mr. Jared Egger seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

4. Second Reading of NEOLA Policies 1422, 2260.01, 3122, 4123

Mr. Winchell reminded the Board that we held the first reading, with no action, of these policies at our last meeting, per statutory requirement. We discussed these policies at length during the last meeting; all of these policies are related to our 504 process, a sector of Special Education Federal Law. Mr. Jared Egger made a motion to approve Second Reading of NEOLA Policies 1422, 2260.01, 3122, and 4123, and Mr. Ryan Knowlton seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

Mr. Winchell added that many of our policies are very specific and name staff members rather than list the positions. These types of policies can become outdated quickly with the turnover of staff. We have contacted Mr. Kaminski's office to see if they had a recommendation for someone who could perform an internal audit so that we can get these policies updated. While no one in Mr. Kaminski's office is a specialist in this sector, he did recommend CCHA (Church Church Hittle and Atrium), a firm we have used in the past to handle special education matters. We will report back once we contact them for a quote and timeline.

5. First Reading of NEOLA Policies 37-1 and 36-2 Special Update EDGAR/UGG

Mr. Winchell noted that this is the first reading of these policies; we will have no action on this item this evening. Policy update 37-1 proposed revision to seven policies, proposed two new policies, and proposed revisions to four administrative guidelines. The policies address student due process and help outline our statutory requirements for suspensions/expulsions. Special Update 36-2 EDGAR/UGG provides recommendations to update nine current bylaws/policies and suggests updates to three administrative guidelines. These policies address processes used in our business office in relation to federal grants. We recommend considering approving these policies at our next meeting following the second reading.

6. Approve Overnight Field Trip – JGHS Basketball Summer Trips

Mr. Winchell noted that our basketball coaches have a nice tradition of planning summer trips for competition and team bonding. We appreciate their willingness to plan and execute these trips while taking time away from their busy schedules. This year, both the boys' and girls' teams will travel to Cedar Point for a tournament. As a point of order, school board approval is required for all overnight field trips. Since this is not an IHSAA activity, this does not fall under the yearly blanket approval that the school board approves at the beginning of each school year for IHSAA, ISSMA, and FFA overnight events. Mr. Jared Egger made a motion to approve Overnight Field Trip – JGHS Basketball Trips, and Ms. Carissa Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

REPORTS

1. Director of Learning Report – Dr. Patrick Fuller

Dr. Fuller reported the following:

- Preliminary IREAD -3 results are in. Our unofficial goal is to have 65% of second-grade students pass the IREAD-3. We had 64% overall as a corporation pass as a second-grade student, which is fantastic. This is the first year that we must test second-grade students. The second-grade students have the same opportunity to re-test during the summer testing window as the third-grade students. We have been working as a team to determine the best way to accomplish this while setting our students up for maximum success. If a student is not passing, we are required by the IDOE to offer remediation. We plan to have students who did not pass retake the test prior to the end of the school year before they leave for summer. Our goal is to get 75% of those students to pass at that time.

For third grade, we aim to have 95% of our students pass. Keep in mind that only students who did not pass in second grade take this test as third graders. The students who did not pass have two opportunities to retake this test. We plan to test them again before summer, and then if they

do not pass, they will hopefully attend summer school and pass during that time. As a reminder, the new IDOE mandate is that any student who does not pass this test in third grade must retest every year through sixth grade. We offer after-school tutoring to students for remediation, and we have increased title intervention throughout the school day. We have seven weeks of school left to remediate students before the end of the school year.

- Grades 3-8 and 10 ILEARN testing window opens next week. Grades 3-8 will test in Math, ELA, Science, and Social Studies. Grade 10 students test in Biology. Students and teachers have been working extremely hard this school year, and we wish them all the best during testing.
- Mrs. King, Mr. Bendy, and I met with our NEOLA representative last week to discuss and review policies. NEOLA is preparing an update that will include information on AI. With that, the building principals, their handbook teams, and Dr. Fuller will begin discussions on potential handbook language for the 2025-2026 school year.
- Mr. Romer and Dr. Fuller attended the Indiana School Safety Specialist Training in Indianapolis. With the shuffling of different departments within Indiana, Governor Braun has recommended that School Safety be moved away from the Indiana Department of Education and to the Department of Homeland Security. While we have been reassured that there will be minimal changes to the overall safety, procedures, and funding at the district/building level, we await more guidance if/when this becomes official.

2. Superintendent's Report – Mr. Christopher Winchell

Mr. Winchell reported the following:

- Legislative update – Governor Braun has noted that he wants all his reporting departments to fall under eight leaders. Dr. Jenner is now responsible for all education, Preschool through college (P-16) rather than just K-12.
- We are closely watching the proposed legislative actions, particularly the budget. They have been talking a lot about the property tax portion of the budget and not as much about the per-pupil budget, which can be concerning because the first run of it would not produce any increase in funding. We are also watching Senate Bill 1 closely as it is the rest of the budget. They are debating property tax reform, and this bill has changed significantly since it was first proposed in January. The latest update was released late this afternoon and we are still breaking it down and will be able to provide feedback soon. At first glance, they are going to change how we can bond and they are going to cap our growth. We are also watching the partisan school board bill and the moving of referendums to fall elections only. There are a lot of changes proposed and we will continue to monitor closely and report back.
- We held our pre-bid meeting last week with a large crowd. We hope this is a good sign that we will receive a lot of bids that will be competitive. Bid opening will be held on April 16th and hope to bring a recommendation to the Board at the April 22nd meeting.
- As mentioned, we are working with NEOLA on current policies and working with Mr. Kaminski to arrange an internal audit of our policies.
- Mr. Manering and Mr. Winchell met with IUSB. One new initiative they are trying to start is partnering with local high schools to provide direct admission to JGHS students. We will have an MOU for approval with the details, but once a student and parent opt in, we will share information with IUSB to eliminate some of the red tape with college admission that our students could face. More details to come.
- You may be familiar with the Marshall County Leadership Group. Mr. Manering and Mr. Romer are currently members of Cohort 30. They have a new program called Emerge, and we have several students who were invited to attend. Mr. Manering added that the previous students of Emerge driving force behind the parking lot painting project. Dr. Yaeger, the Marshall County Leadership Group leader, has worked to develop a new curriculum called Courage Keepers. It focuses on the science of bravery. This may be a program we consider at the middle school.
- You are familiar with the Brainware Software that we use. Dr. Jenner and her staff asked us to pull our data about our students, not only how they responded while using brainwave but also how

they have continued to grow. Dr. Fuller worked to pull the data that the IDOE wanted to see. After reviewing that data, the DOE has opened a cognitive enhancement software grant. We will apply for that grant to cover our expenses with Brainware and hope that other corporations will also take advantage of it.

- Tomorrow, we will host the Urey Middle School National Honor Society Inductions.

3. Conference Requests

- a. Joe Stanley

BOARD COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT MEETING DATE: April 22, 2025 7:00 P.M. NLES Regular Session

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Christine Carson called the meeting adjourned at 8:12 P.M.

PRES. _____

SEC'Y. _____
