

Kenton Ridge High School

April 12, 2017

## A. AGENDA

A1 Northeastern Local Board of Education met in Special session on Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017, at Kenton Ridge High School, Auditorium. The purpose of the Special Meeting was to hold a School Improvement/District Operations/Facilities Committee meeting. Christopher James, President, called the meeting to order at 6:04 P.M.

A2 Roll Call: Mr. Christopher James, Present  
 Mr. Jeff Caivano, Present  
 Mr. Joel Augustus, Present  
 Mrs. Jill Parker, Present  
 Mr. Steve Schwitzgable Present

Others present were John P. Kronour, PhD, Superintendent; Denise Robinson, Treasurer; Shawn Blazer, Assistant Superintendent; Steve Linson, Director of Pupil Personnel; John Schmid, Director of Technology; Randy Phares, Director of Operations; and approximately one-hundred twenty visitors.

A3 The pledge of allegiance was led by President, Christopher James.

## B. MEETING ORGANIZATION

B1 At this time, Dr. Kronour, Superintendent of NELSD, introduced Mr. Mike Ruetschle of Ruetschle Architects. He had a PowerPoint presentation for the Board and audience of Milton-Union Exempted Village Schools, Northmont City Schools, and Fairmont High School (Kettering City Schools). Each district was a client of Ruetschle Architects and had Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) new school building projects completed for them.

The presentation included pictures of several different rooms including science labs, music rooms, cafeteriums, auditoriums, regular classrooms, common areas, administrative offices, foyers, hallways, all-purpose rooms, and gymnasiums.

Mr. Ruetschle also showed his estimated costs for each of the proposed plans. Two preK-12 buildings would have a local cost of \$77.5 million with a state share of \$38.5 million. Two preK-8 buildings and one high school would see a split of \$83.5 million local and a \$40 million state share.

He said that if the Board decides to place a levy on the November 2017 ballot, his firm could start the design/planning in early 2018 and construction would begin in the year 2019.

Dr. Kronour took over the presentation to discuss the results of the survey of the district residents. He went over key findings such as support for the two plans, survey takers views on the direction of the district, quality of education, facility views, athletic facility views, and survey takes thoughts on a location for the one high school plan. Dr. Kronour reminded the audience that the full results of the survey are on-line at the nelsd.org websit.

Dr. Kronour now asked for public comment or questions from the visitors. There were several comments and questions to include STEM school discussion, declining student enrollment, explanation of OFCC study on student enrollment trends, timing of a levy, operating costs of the two different plans, geo-thermal options, water collecting systems (to flush waste), special education rooms, college level course offerings/college credit plus, locally funded initiatives to include athletic facilities, purchase of land, and staffing levels.

Dr. Kronour asked for Board member comments at this time.

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Mr. Caivano said that he felt the best option was one of the original ideas presented which was two PreK-6 buildings and 7-12 building. He felt this would be a better configuration because college credit plus is being offered for 7-12 grade kids, however, since this option is not available he supports the three campus plan of two preK-8 buildings and one high school. He feels that education has become very competitive (STEM, open enrollment, etc.) and he feels that consolidating high schools would be the best option for the students educationally.

Mrs. Parker likes the two preK-12 building option. She believes that the voters would support this plan based upon the input she has received from residents (many residents she has spoken to do not want to give up the small school atmosphere). She knows there are several pros to a combined high school but feels the two preK-12 buildings are best at this time.

Mr. Schwitzgable is also in support of the two preK-12 building option because of voter support. He believes one high school is best for the kids competitively, however, the district is in need of new buildings and the Board needs to put something on the ballot that will pass.

Mr. Augustus supports the two preK-12 building option. He said he has heard from parents who are concerned about the traveling distances for one centrally located high school. He said that is a big concern, so he prefers to keep two high schools.

Mr. James echoed Mrs. Parker’s sentiment. He came to the district because of the small school atmosphere and feels the kids receive a good education within that atmosphere. He supports the two preK-12 building option.

C. EXECUTIVE SESSION.

**Item 125-2017.**

C1 Mr. Caivano moved and Mrs. Parker seconded that the Board of Education enter into Executive Session at 8:00 P.M. to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, and/or compensation of a public employee or official; and review negotiations with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment.

Roll Call: Ayes – Caivano, Parker, Schwitzgable, Augustus, James. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Mr. James reconvened the meeting at 8:12 P.M.

D. ADJOURNMENT

**Item 126-2017.**

Mr. Caivano moved and Mr. Augustus seconded to adjourn at 8:13 P.M., until the next regular meeting of the Board of Education. Roll Call: Ayes – Caivano, Augustus, Schwitzgable, Parker, James. Nays – None. Motion carried.

President, \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer, \_\_\_\_\_