RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Crestwood Board of Education Meeting

Held January 2 20 17

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF THE CRESTWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION HELD MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 2017 AT 6:50 P.M. AT THE CRESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY.

The public hearing was called to order at 6:50 P.M. by the President, Mrs. Debra Soltisz, with the following members in attendance: Mr. Todd Monroe, Mr. David Becker, Mrs. Bonnie Lovejoy and Ms. Karen Schulz.

A public hearing relative to the 2017-2018 school calendar.

Mr. David Toth, Superintendent, updated the Board of Education on the proposed 2017-2018 school calendar.

- The Teachers would begin August 14, 2017.
- All Other Staff would begin August 16, 2017.
- The Students would begin August 17, 2017.
- The last Student day of school would be May 24, 2018 – prior to Memorial Day.
- Getting students started earlier would let the district identify students sooner that need intervention services before the high stake tests.
- 3rd Grade Guarantee reading assessment if students do not pass will be retained. The test is given in October and May. The calendar as proposed allows the District to intervene on these students and gives more instructional days before the high stake tests.
- The calendar as proposed gives the District more instructional days before the high stake tests for high school. These tests are required for the students to graduate. There are seven end course exams, College Readiness Tests like the ACT or a Work Keys assessment that are given. These tests are all administered February through the First Week of May.
- The calendar as proposed, allows the District to end the semester before the long winter break with a more equal amount of instructional days in the first semester and second semester.
- Ending the school year in May allows the District to have less instructional days and down time after the State Assessments.
- The last two years there have been a number of days missed due to the weather. This would allow the District to have more instructional days before bad weather begins.

Accommodations for the County Fair Students will occur, as in the past, by excusing their absences and having them complete vacation forms in the same manner all students do throughout the school year. The students can get assignments in advance. The Students have as many days as they are out to make up the assignments.

Intervention services have been expanded in all of our buildings to assist any student struggling academically.

The District values the experience of the fair and the students that attend and believe we can accommodate them.

The Board of Education heard concerns from the audience:

Ms. Kristen Cavanaugh addressed the Board of Education regarding opposition to the calendar as proposed.

- Ms. Cavanaugh felt having the semester and exams end before winter break was not a valid reason to start school early. This is due to snow days and exams being pushed back until after the break if there are any snow days.
- Coming back to school in mid-August is too early for the heat and the Middle School and High School do not have air conditioning.

- Kids are also missing out on swimming time if they have their own pools.
- Due to the Drug issues in the community, the students should be encouraged to attend the fair with the fair students and it will help keep the kids out of trouble and not doing drugs.
- Within farming families it is hard to balance farm work, such as plowing the fields, with homework and dinner. Farming families work very late into the evening.
- The Crestwood District is the 3rd largest district that in the fair, behind Southeast and Waterloo. The District needs to stop standing alone and fighting this issue and begin the school year after the fair.

Mrs. Soltisz recessed the public hearing at 7:01 PM.

Debra Soltisz, President

Jill A. Rowe, Treasurer/CFO