

**BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE:** Wednesday, May 13, 2020  
**PLACE:** Meeting held remotely via Google Meet  
1:00 p.m.

**CONVENE:** 11:30 a.m.  
**ADJOURN:**

**ATTENDEES:** Paul Alic, Erik Allwood, Julie Batey, Doug Beeman, Kathy Breitenbucher, Dan Chase, T.J. DeAngelis, Karl Elsass, Andy Hill, Jim Lawrence, Tim Manion, Laura McDermitt, Bill Neiser, Brian Pinkerton, Glen Rutherford, Jason Venner, Mike Wagar, Laura Giermann

**ABSENT:** Adam Barton, Jim Gray, Linda Kramer, Robert Patrick, Daniel Slife

1. Approval of March BAC Minutes
  - a. Minutes will be distributed for review prior to approval
2. Updates/Feedback
  - a. April Board of Education Meeting
    - i. Perrin Asphalt Company was approved to complete the concrete work for the stadium parking lot (\$40,000 anonymous donation will help pay for the work).
    - ii. Harpst Becker law firm was approved which will allow for legal services to be rendered for the potential Central Intermediate School construction project (RFQ for the project was sent out Monday).
    - iii. Resolution to reduce instruction hours for the 2019-2020 school year was approved. There were six days that were used to formulate a plan for instruction when students were not being taught. The district is still well above the number of minimum hours of instruction required by Ohio Revised Code.
    - iv. The continued education of our students via web access (remote learning) and the ability to extend it through the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year was approved.
    - v. English/Language Arts textbook adoption was approved. Purchases will be made and training set up.
    - vi. The WEA contract (teaching staff) for 2020-2023 was approved.
    - vii. Summa Health was approved as a provider for new employee drug testing.
    - viii. Financial items - A resolution was passed to allow the district to continue to pay all regularly contracted employees and long-term substitutes that are currently assigned to work at home.

b. May Board of Education Meeting

- i. The WESPA contract (support personnel) was approved.
- ii. The Request for Qualifications Architectural and Design Professional Services for the new Central Intermediate School Project was approved.
- iii. Financial items
  1. The amended 5-year forecast was approved (implications of financial cuts announced by the Governor, approximately \$900,000 for our district, were taken into consideration).
  2. Project property tax revenue will decrease due to delinquencies associated with the current pandemic.
  3. We did have a 0% health insurance renewal.
  4. Staffing - scaled back on plans for new teachers to only those required for special education needs.
  5. Future funding is unclear, but we are saving on costs associated with substitute teachers, fuel, and utilities.
  6. We anticipate that a positive balance will remain until 2023.

c. Pandemic Response

- i. Remote learning has been provided since March 24.
- ii. First three weeks we provided enrichment work; new learning (virtually) has taken place since then.
- iii. We must make certain we comply with federal requirements, especially when it concerns education of special education students.
- iv. We have assigned everyone to work from home, unless a task is deemed essential and needs to be completed from the building.
- v. We held off initially (March and April) on custodians, so we had people checking on buildings/facilities. Custodians have now returned to work.
- vi. We have been distributing food weekly at six different locations. Initially, we were distributing (5) days a week, but have scaled back to (2) days a week. Distribution on those two days provides a week's worth of food. This will continue through June.

- vii. Devices are being distributed and exchanged (if not working) on Tuesdays and Thursdays from the administration building for students in K-6. Middle school and high school students had already been provided with devices at the start of the school year.
- viii. CityLink has provided an opportunity through the end of May for families who do not have Internet service to access the service free of charge for the remainder of the school year.
- ix. We are currently working with the Medina County Health Commissioner to make certain we are following proper procedures and guidelines.
- x. Commencement has been moved from the end of May to the end of June (perhaps situation will change) - Two back-up plans were voted on by seniors:
  - 1. Each family will remain in their car, and commencement will be held in the parking lot of the high school; or
  - 2. Small groups could walk the stage to receive a diploma (videotaped and compiled into one video presentation).

Students chose the parking lot scenario, but we will wait to see if the current situation changes that would allow for a more traditional commencement ceremony.

- xi. Prom has been moved to Friday, June 26, and Steve Moore is working with others to see what the prom format will look like.
- xii. Seniors are signing up (small groups) to go to the high school and empty their lockers; elementary schools will complete this the last week of May (perhaps utilizing curbside pick-up).
- xiii. Various parades have been going on, and while the Wadsworth Police Department is unable to participate, we are notifying them whenever a parade has been scheduled.

### 3. Looking Ahead to Next School Year

- a. Our current focus is on finishing this school year.
- b. One of the biggest challenges is not knowing what the future holds and not being able to answer questions about the future.
- c. Possible scenarios:
  - i. All students will return in the fall (implications of that return).

- ii. All students remain in remote learning (May 29 survey will be distributed to compile feedback on current remote learning experience).
  - iii. Hybrid model - Certain days of the week would be online instruction and the remainder of the week would be in the classroom.
- d. How do we deal with families that are not ready to have their students return to the classroom (health concerns, no vaccine available, etc.)? We don't want to see a mass exodus of students to online schools.
- e. We will distribute a survey and form an advisory committee (administrators, teachers, community members, and health professionals). The committee will work on developing plans associated with each of the above scenarios. It would be beneficial to have input from many. If any BAC member is interested in being a member of the committee, please let A. Hill know.

#### 4. Other

##### a. Strategic Plan

- i. Our current strategic plan will be expiring, and we do need to start the process of creating a new plan and gaining feedback from the community. Long-term planning is important. A survey has been created, and you are encouraged to provide input. Our goal is to have a plan to the board by December.

#### 5. Questions/Comments (Around the Room)

- a. A question was asked if our food service employees work year-round. They do not. As far as our food distribution during the pandemic, the majority of the work is being completed by volunteers. We are currently distributing approximately (200) bags each time.
- b. Are we confident that all students have Internet access? - We have followed up with families who do not have access, and the city is providing free service to those in need. There are still potentially some families without the Internet that we are not aware of.
- c. Grizzly Digital Academy could be a potential resource for those students who may not choose to return to the classroom when the time comes.
- d. Aides are paid hourly for the hours they are assigned. They work the student school year. We will check to see that our aides are working with our special education students to provide additional support (not all students have a one-on-one aide or attendant assigned).

- e. Extended School Year (ESY) services: Discussions will take place as to how we can best meet the needs of our students who would normally participate in ESY services.
- f. Survey for Strategic Plan: It has a narrative format, so it does not include as many multiple choice answers. This may limit the number of responses, but we encourage all to complete the survey.
- g. Many BAC members asked that we convey our thanks to the WCS staff for the wonderful job they are doing in the online environment.
- h. A question was raised about transportation for next school year. If current social distancing requirements remain in effect, we would only be able to accommodate (11) students to a bus. We would not be in a position to buy (100) new buses, nor would we have the ability to hire (100) new drivers. Some districts have expanded the radius for eligibility to ride the bus. Transportation will be a huge challenge.
- i. Pass/No Pass Grading Option: We did not want the current situation to negatively impact students, so we have adopted a pass/no pass policy (high school and middle school students taking high school classes may choose pass/no pass or may take the letter grade earned). The final grade for a full-year course will be based on the first three quarters, unless the student chooses otherwise. Letter grades will be provided on high school transcripts with the exception of CCP classes. Additional information will be provided regarding athletic eligibility.
- j. Sanitizing supplies: Many of the supplies we had on hand were donated to health care providers, and we are starting to replenish our supplies.
- k. Face masks for students: Requiring masks, especially for our younger students, may be a futile task. We will follow whatever guidance is provided.