

The Alexander Local Board of Education held a Regular Board Meeting on September 6, 2023, at the Alexander Library. Members present at roll call were: Mr. Aaron Ramsey, Mr. Josh Collins, Mrs. Lucy Juedes, Mr. Regan, and Mr. Jay Barnes.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Regan.

23-09-01: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mrs. Juedes to adopt the agenda with the three items on addendum.

Vote: Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mrs. Juedes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes; Mr. Regan, yes. Motion carried.

Reports and Comments

A. Superintendent's Report

1. Guest – Heather Wolfe, Superintendent of Athens-Meigs ESC and Gary Dicken board member of the Athens-Meigs ESC and the Alexander Representative Board Member on Tri-County Career Center. **Heather** just wanted to introduce myself and explain what the ESC does and how we work with the schools. **Mr. Regan** – Do you guys partner with industries at all with your career coaching? **Heather** – We don't but we could. We do have businesses and industries give us feedback on things they would like to see when it comes to career connected learning.
2. Attendance – At the start of last year our attendance rating for chronic absenteeism was 31% and that met the state average, after the work that was done over the past school year we're at 19%. Stacy Crook has done a remarkable job of getting those kids to school, changing some habits, making connections and building relationships.
3. OCR Update – The Civil Rights complaint that's been levied against us and 50 plus other districts about girls' athletics. We are in process of collecting our data. We've developed survey and we will start collecting data from kids next, former athletes and current athletes, once we get all that data we will talk about resolutions to the issues that have been presented.
4. Track – the base coat of the track has been put down and next will be the insulation of it, so they will be sealing it with polyurethane, then the actual running surface. Toby (our Sod guy) says 21st of September it will be ready to play on. Track access with some guidelines, boundaries and expectations for our public, we can give some access to the tack.
5. Homeless students – This year we have about 13 families that are homeless and 30 students, we work with them to try to get them resources and try to get them to school.
6. Soccer GPA – Our boys soccer team last year had one of the highest GPA's in the state, I believe we were third in the State of Ohio. We are very proud of them.
7. Goals – report card – We will be getting the results of our state testing in the next couple of weeks and at the next board meeting Mrs. Carr will speak about the results. **Mr. Ramsey** – when I look at the performance indexes on the Ohio report card on their website is that the sort of thing that will be reflected. **Mr. Hampton** – yes **Mr. Ramsey** – I was looking over it and thinking about the levy that's on and thinking

about what this community gets for the dollars they spend. When you look at what Alexander spends per pupil, there's one other school district in the county that spends less per pupil than we do, but our performance index is the highest in the county. A lot of people think Athens is but our performance index is actually better than Athens. I hope when people start thinking about the levy, they think about what they're getting for their money and what these teachers and the staff is doing actually spending less per pupil than almost every other school district in the county. Like you're talking about these soccer kids, I'm so proud to be a part of what is going on here and I know for me and just personally thinking about it you know we're getting a great return on what we're putting in. I hope that we continue to support our kids and our teachers, they're doing so much and I don't want to cut their legs out from under them. **Mr. Hampton** – Yes, there is a lot of really good work that is being done here and I wish we had more teachers, paras and custodians here to pat them on the back and tell them how much we appreciate it. I think our community does appreciate the work that is happening here. I think there is a lot of support in our community. I know it is hard to pay taxes, but this is not anything new we're not asking for any new money when it comes to this income tax levy, it has already been in place. We are asking for the continued support. We question money when it is being spent and we do our best to be efficient.

8. Inclusive Playground Project – Is up and running, with a website. We want to get the word out. They are trying to raise every dime outside of school, trying to do that with donations, grants, hard work and just shaking trees.

9. OSBA – We will be hosting the Ohio School Board Association Southeast Region Fall Conference on September 28th.

Mr. Barnes – I want to say a couple things on the levy. I've been disappointed because I haven't seen any media coverage at all. It seemed like we had a lot of publicity with the levy the last go around when we tried to pass it, but it took six attempts six tries to get the thing passed by one vote five years ago, it seems like a lot of people do tune in to our Facebook broadcast, so I'm going to take a quick second to tell everybody what we're doing. The current levy doesn't expire until December 2024, all we are trying to do is renew it. Renewal is nothing that you haven't been accustomed to for the last years and that you're going to be accustomed to next year. All we're trying to do is get ahead of the curve and get it passed, so we can basically predict our future income after 2024. People are concerned since there is a little bit of an overlap, they were worried that they were going to have to pay 2% tax and that is not the case. This is absolutely a renewal that will be effective January 1st of 2025. It's just the 1%, we're are trying to continue with the 1% levy for 5 years. We're just asking for a continuation of our current 1% earned and I stress earned income tax levy. It still doesn't tax retirement, social security or investments. It's wages and self-employment income.

B. Public Participation for Agenda Items – None

Consent Agenda

23-09-02: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Collins to approve the consent agenda items as follows:

A. Approval of the minutes from the August 9, 2023 board meetings

B. Financial Reports

1. Approval of the financial statement for the months ending August 31, 2023

2. Approval of the following transfers:

\$366,087.13 from General Fund 001 to Schoolwide Pool 598-9123

\$33,521.13 from Title I 572-9123 to Schoolwide Pool 598-9123

\$5,338.94 from Title II-A 590-9123 to Schoolwide Pool 598-9123

\$2,964.67 from Title IV-A 584-9523 to Schoolwide Pool 598-9123

\$46,350.46 from IDEA-B 516-9123 to Schoolwide Pool 598-9123

\$745.25 from ECSE 587-9123 to Schoolwide Pool 598-9123

\$92,272.55 from General Fund 001 to Schoolwide Pool 598-9124

\$50,000.00 from General Fund 001 to Athletic Fund 300-9059

3. Approve the after-the-fact invoice for WORKS International in the amount of \$4,538

C. Personnel/Employment Recommendation

1. Approve the substitute teacher and aide lists as recommended by the Athens-Meigs ESC superintendent:

Teacher

Sophia Bailey

Jacqueline Bennett-Hanning

Katelyn Bonomini

Jo Cutright

Cynthia Dillinger

Josie Donohue

Tanner Esselburn

Jena Fulton

Grace Hake

Erin Hannah

Bryn Hendrickson

Paige Laskey

Alexandra Liggitt

Abby Lindsay

Sydney Liptak

Susan Mabry

Austin Mash

Jack Nagucki

Anna Nagy-Heinrich

Andrea Neutzling

Sean Phillips

Allison Poe

Serena Popoae

Beth Roell

Ralph Scarmack

Christine Snoddy

James Stamper

Ladona Stephens

June Tanner

Francis Tullius

James Weaver

Ana Arpita Tite

Julie Beaudry

Emily Finsterwald

Amber Walker

Aide

Haley Carpenter

Sarah Crawford

Beverly Fetty

Amanda McLean

Shelly Simmons

2. Employ the following supplementals for the 2023-24 school year, pending their meeting all state and local requirements:

Certificated

Erik Arnett, AM/PM Duty

Bekah Ashcraft, Mentor

Sarah Bail, Elementary Yearbook

Jamie Blick, Mentor

Sam Booth, Co-Quiz Bowl & AM/PM Duty

Amrik Brar, Co-Quiz Bowl

Amy Braverman, Mentor

Randi Brooks, Mentor

Kerry Bullock, AM/PM Duty

Becky Busch, Co-Head & Co-Asst. Senior Class

Andrea Chimo, Co-Head & Co-Asst. Senior Class

Caleb Congrove, Spanish Club

Kevin Dael, Band Asst. & Co-Chess Club

Bryan Ford, AM/PM Duty

Kristi Ford, AM/PM Duty

Kim Harris, Mentor & AM/PM Duty

Dan Hendershott, Co-Chess Club & HS Science Olympiad

Jansen Jeffers, Jr. High Science Olympiad

Amanda Johnson, AM/PM Duty

Adrienne Kohli, Asst. Yearbook

Shauna Kostival, Mentor

Rosie Lamb, Asst. Cross Country

Jaime Lutz, AM/PM Duty

Lisa Matheny; Photography Club, Jr High Yearbook & High School Yearbook

Misty Montgomery, Mentor

Malinda Mowry, Peer Collaboration & Public Broadcasting

Jordan Myles, Head Varsity Baseball

Jenny Norris, AM/PM Duty

Carla Pratt-Harrington, AM/PM Duty

Julie Rice, LPDC Chair

Marideth Rock, Jr. High Student Council

Marilyn Scurlock, Mentor

Ken Slone, Thursday School & AM/PM Duty

Stephanie Stamper, French Club & LPDC Secretary

Erica Swart, National Honor Society & AM/PM Duty

Rachel Terry, AM/PM Duty

Non-Certificated

Cindy Bashore, Ticket Taker

Randy Crossen, Wrestling Volunteer

Jerry Crow, Event Manager

Katie Foster, AM/PM Duty

Olivia Gilliland, Wrestling Volunteer

Robert Graves, Football Volunteer

Stacey Haney, AM/PM Duty
 Matt Harris, Asst. Varsity Baseball
 Natasha Hayes, AM/PM Duty
 Dawn Jeffers, Thursday School
 Amy Mansfield, AM/PM Duty
 Shawna Moore, After Prom
 Heather Peterson, AM/PM Duty
 Cheri Swart, AM/PM Duty
 Keryn Swart, AM/PM Duty

3. Rescind the conditional offer of employment to Jennifer Daniels, Paraprofessional, effective August 19, 2023.
4. Employ Chandra Smyers, Substitute Custodian, effective September 5, 2023, pending her meeting all state and local requirements

D. School Operations

Approve the following addendum to the Student Handbook; Absence Reporting; page 14: Each student can have 8 parent notes for the year that are excused as long as an excusable reason

E. Policy Readings

Approve the following policies for inclusion into the Policy and Procedures Manual, as recommended by OSBA:

BDDG, Minutes
 EHA, District Records Commission, Records Retention and Disposal
 EHA-R, Data Records and Retention (rescind)
 JED, Student Absences and Excuses

(For Consent Agenda A-E)

Vote: Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mrs. Juedes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes; Mr. Regan, yes. Motion carried.

Items for Board Approval

- A. 23-09-03: Mrs. Juedes moved, seconded by Mr. Regan that the Board of Education employ Rachel Turner as a paraprofessional, effective September 6, 2023, pending her meeting all state and local requirements:

Discussion: **Mr. Regan** – Is this a replacement? **Mr. Hampton** – Yes, replacement

Vote: Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mrs. Juedes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes; Mr. Regan, yes. Motion carried.

- B. 23-09-04: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Collins that the Board of Education approve the Memorandum of Understanding with ALEA regarding the addition of the eSports supplemental.

Discussion: **Mr. Regan** – These are position that are being added to the supplemental due to the new Esports team being added to our offerings here at Alexander. **Mr. Hampton** – Yes, this was a popular club last year. Anytime you go to add a new supplemental first I want people to demonstrate an interest, some enthusiasm and a need. Right now, Esports is a hot ticket, kids are in it. There are multiple schools in Southeast Ohio that have Esports teams, it is very competitive. We had 29 or 31 kids that were after school about everyday practicing. This fits the need for a different kid and gives them a group and a place to fit. I think when you do that, it just builds a community within our school. It gives them an opportunity to fit, compete and succeed.

Vote: Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mrs. Juedes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes; Mr. Regan, abstain. Motion carried.

Business Initiated by Board Members – None

Board Reports - None

Public Participation – None

The Boards next regular scheduled meeting is Wednesday, October 11, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

23-09-05: Mr. Collins moved, seconded by Mr. Regan that this meeting be adjourned.

Vote: Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mrs. Juedes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes; Mr. Regan, yes. Motion carried.

Time: 7:33 P.M.



Board President



Treasurer