

Work Session Poland Board of Education held November 8, 2023

A Work Session of the Poland Board of Education was held on Wednesday, November 8, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., in the Dobbins Board Room, 3030 Dobbins Road, Poland, Ohio.

President, Dr. Dinopoulos called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Members present for roll call and answering their names were Mrs. Dominic, Dr. Dinopoulos, Mr. Polis, Mrs. Elia, and Mr. Warren.

Janet Muntean, Treasurer/CFO

- 2024 Election Dates and Deadlines – Treasurer Muntean provided the 2024 Election Dates and Deadlines.
- Levy Renewal Schedule - Treasurer Muntean provided the Board with an updated Levy Renewal Schedule. She explained the districts next renewal will be on the March 2024 ballot. The first resolution will be on November 15, 2023, Board Agenda and the necessary second resolution will be adopted at the December meeting in order to meet the Board of Elections timeline.

Craig Hockenberry, Superintendent

- POST BOND DISCUSSION – Superintendent Hockenberry, the Board, and Administration all participated in a lengthy Post Bond Discussion. The following were some of the talking points and/or comments:
 - Superintendent gave a recap of the pre-bond journey.
 - Superintendent gave a recap of the bond election.
 - Superintendent explained the guidelines/criteria going into any decision moving forward. Including
 1. Never move again.
 2. Never commandeer any space ever again.
 3. Never adjust grade spans ever again.
 4. Use 100% of district properties.
 - Currently, 600 students are in McKinley (150 students over capacity)
 - Extremely large potential of preschoolers currently in Poland
 - KDG to Dobbins – Pre-K and KDG fit at Dobbins and would never move again. (216 students)
 - We have no elementary school that will fit 600 kids: result is opening another elementary.
 - Union Elementary would contain Grades 1 and 2 (299 students)
 - McKinley would contain Grades 3-5 (400 students) – Never commandeer again.
 - PMS would contain Grades 6-8 (429 students) Never commandeer again.

- PSHS Grades 9-12 – Approximately 576 students. The current 7th and 8th grade space would create several educational opportunities in the future.
- Bus Terminal has been discussed for several years and the district has been setting aside PI money to pay for a new bus garage. The bus garage/terminal does fit at the North property. There will be more discussion regarding the bus garage location.
- The central office has moved 4 times – If the kindergarten moves to Dobbins, the BOE offices would go to North and never move again.
- Should another Bond try happen? Renewals are crucial to the financial stability of the district. Another bond try would probably result in a bond levy and renewal levy being on the same ballot in the future.
- Mr. Polis stated he doesn't agree with putting money into North. Would like to find another location for Admin.
- Matt McKenzie provided colored coded maps of each building to show adequate space for every grade level and other educational spaces' needs.
- Treasurer Muntean provided life birth and enrollment data trends for the district.
- Mrs. Elia stated she is sad for our student but thankful for the work going into coming up with the best solution for students.
- Dr. Dinopoulos asked about the timing of moving Kdg. to Dobbins- which year?
- The current 7th and 8th grade classes have approximately 30 students per class. Would like to add two teachers for 7th and 8th Grade but need to find a place for them in the current Seminary?
- Union discussion – Grades 1 and 2 – Should bathrooms be added?
- Dr. Dinopoulos – Should the seminary be remodeled to adequately accommodate the 7th and 8th grade? Moving the 7th and 8th grade results in opening Union.
- Superintendent stated there were approximately 166 pre-bond meetings and the primary focus stemmed on North and Union properties and what the district is doing with them?
- Superintendent explained there are 460 school districts in Ohio which all have new schools, and some didn't need to use OFCC assistance.
- McKinley 3-5 – Reduces a lot of students, which would be more manageable. Currently, the largest problem at McKinley is overcrowding.
- Dr. Dinopoulos asked the question regarding transportation regarding routes with this plan.
- The Superintendent expressed how many special teachers (Art/PE/Music) would be needed in this plan would be challenging due to travel and bell scheduling.
- Where does the Board office go? The kindergarten move can't happen until BOE moves. North Option for admin offices would utilize the space and create possible options for further growth.
- Superintendent explained that the basement at PMS for Central office was vetted and the space is not adequate for offices nor parking.
- Mr. Polis suggested PSHS for central office. The Superintendent explained the administration would be taking up valuable learning space for students.
- Mrs. Elia shared both the pros and cons of grade alignments and collaboration.
- The Superintendent explained we could possibly partner with outside groups such as Village or ESC to occupy other space at North.

At 7:32 p.m., Mr. Polis moved, and Mrs. Dominic seconded with all members present signaling aye to enter executive session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal of a public employee or official and matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or rules or state statutes.

Reconvene and Adjourn Work Session

At 8:57 p.m., Mr. Polis moved, and Mrs. Dominic seconded with all members present voting aye to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

Meeting adjourned.

Treasurer

President

11/8/2023