

BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA
MARCH 4, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Michael Byrnes, Mr. Michael Breeden, Mr. Colin Campbell, Mr. Scott Henderson, Mrs. Barbara Henry, Mr. Paul Shephard

ABSENT: Mrs. Patricia Krouse

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mrs. Sandy Anzalone, Superintendent; Mr. Thomas Murphy, Director of Finance; Mrs. Barbara Thomasulo, District Clerk

ALSO PRESENT: Mrs. Loran Carter, GLP Principal; Mr. Marc Graff, Eden Elementary School Principal; Ms. Rose Heckathorn, Director of Transportation; Mrs. Shawn Johnson, Director of Pupil Personnel; Mrs. Lucinda Karstedt, Director of Information Technology; Mrs. Kelly LaRosa, Director of Curriculum & Instruction and Staff Development; Miss Pat Menkiena, Jr./Sr. High School Assistant Principal

At 7:06 p.m., Mr. Byrnes called the meeting to order and asked those present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Called to
order**

At 7:07 p.m., Mr. Byrnes asked for comments from the public. There were no comments.

Comments

Mr. Campbell made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Henry that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **Beth Pastwik** be appointed as a Temporary Part-time Special Education Teacher Aide and a Substitute Teacher Aide effective March 9, 2015 through June 30, 2015. Salary is based upon **CSEA Contract, Level IV, Step 1**. Carried unanimously.

**Appointed
Temp. PT T.
Aide – B.
Pastwik**

*Start date changed from 3/5 to 3/9, because she got the flu.

Mr. Campbell made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Henry that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **Melissa Ciaravino**, who is initially certified in Students with Disabilities B-2 and 1-6 and Childhood Education 1-6, be appointed as an Extended Leave Substitute Teacher, replacing Mrs. Jacquelyn Bonfante effective approximately April 6, 2015 through June 26, 2015 or upon the return of Mrs. Bonfante. **Salary is \$95 per day**. Carried unanimously.

**Appointed
Ext. Leave
Substitute
Teacher – M.
Ciaravino**

Mr. Campbell made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Henry that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **Jessica Maiorana**, who is initially certified in Students with Disabilities 1-6 and Childhood Education 1-6, be appointed as an Extended Leave Substitute Teacher, replacing Mrs. Amy Steger effective approximately April 11, 2015 through June 15, 2015 or upon the return of Mrs. Steger. **Salary is \$95 per day**. Carried unanimously.

**Appointed
Ext. Leave
Substitute
Teacher – J.
Maiorana**

**Business
report**

Mr. Murphy reported the following:

- ◆ The Board of Education needs to discuss the bus purchase/lease replacement plan. A decision regarding how to stabilize the bus fleet must be made. Matthews Buses and Leonard Bus Sales have slightly different plans for the district. Matthews Buses has agreed to loan us three more buses for the remainder of the school year. Leonard Bus Sales has offered to lease or rent up to nine buses for the remainder of the school year. The Board of Education is charged with the task of determining a replacement plan for buses, not to choose which company to use. The company will be chosen by the bid process. The State will reimburse the district for about 74% of the cost. To purchase, the district can use surplus, capital reserves or bonds. Bonds are paid out over years. The capital reserve was increased to \$1 million, but it should not all be used on buses. It would be best to use a combination. It may be possible to purchase used buses from another district to help get us through this year. A seven to nine year replacement schedule was agreed upon by the Board. Matthews offered six free buses and Leonard offered four free buses for the remainder of this year. For immediate needs, a purchase/lease plan for the short term is acceptable. If the offer of free buses is accepted, there is an obligation to that company to purchase for the following year. The base price is about the same for each company. Stability is important. The option to pull out of a lease is important (flexible terms). In the whole financial package as of today, the second offer with Leonard priced buses at \$107,515. Matthews offered two different options. They had a lease scenario for the first year. One option was \$111,236 per bus, and one was \$120,003. Matthews was willing to lend us up to four buses. Leonard offered a combination of a lease/rent up to nine buses. Matthews came back with an offer to lend us six buses, and Leonard came back with an offer of four free if the remainder would be the option of the lease/rental. Seven buses are needed for the remainder of this year from now through June. Six buses are needed for next year, despite what we do for this year. A purchase/lease plan for next year must be made with whichever company gives us free buses for this year.

Supt. report Mrs. Anzalone reported the following:

- ◆ Mrs. Anzalone asked if any of the Board members would like to discuss changing the meeting night from the third Wednesday of the month to another night for 2015-2016. Mr. Byrnes asked if it could be moved to the second Wednesday of the month. Mrs. Anzalone asked the Board Members to keep the second Wednesday of the month open in case the meeting night is changed.
- ◆ Extra thought should be given to getting the word out regarding school funding. Mrs. Jennifer Horschel led a letter writing campaign to the State legislators and attended rallies for funding. The State Aid runs did not come out this year for the first time ever. More than 50% of the District's State aid is Foundation Aid. Not knowing what the State Aid is for next year makes the budget process very complicated.

Our GEA and Foundation Aid is frozen as of the current year's numbers, which is less than what we received in 2008-2009.

- ◆ There is frustration about the future of public education. There was a rally at West Seneca last week. Two more are scheduled; one at Lake Shore and one at West Seneca. Everyone is encouraged to attend those rallies. The Eden teachers are in the planning stages of a picket for March 18th. It will be a peaceful demonstration to build awareness of what public education means now. Focus will be on restoring GEA funding cuts, providing full State Aid funding, supporting public education and funding public school education. The teachers will not be picketing the District. Mrs. Anzalone thanked the teachers for working with her and their colleagues to get involved.

**Capital
project
presentation**

- ◆ Capital Project Presentation – Tom Caruso from Campus Construction, Shawn Wright and Mike McCarthy from Young & Wright Architecture, and Marc Graff, Academic Organization Committee (AOC) Chairman attended the Capital Project presentation.
- ◆ Mr. Graff summarized the results of the AOC meetings. The focus has been around what is the best case scenario for students.
- ◆ Mike McCarthy reviewed the four original plans. Out of the four scenarios offered, the AOC made recommendations to the architects. The architects came up with two hybrid options, which offered some flexibility for changing enrollment. Of those two options, the first would have PK-4 at GLP, 5-8 at Eden Elementary and 9-12 at the JSHS with the District Offices. The second option would have PK-2 at GLP with some lease space, 3-5 at Eden Elementary with the District Offices and 6-12 at the JSHS. The GLP could include space for a daycare, allowing children to attend a half-day Pre-K. Option one does not provide for lease space at GLP. The Elementary School would be crowded. Major renovations would be needed at Eden Elementary. The JSHS would be underutilized. Option two would require some renovation at the JSHS to allow for separate middle and high school areas.
- ◆ A December 2015 vote is being considered if everything moves accordingly.
- ◆ Mr. Breeden asked to see all options priced out, including asbestos abatement.
- ◆ Mr. Murphy suggested doing smaller projects, perhaps \$1- \$2 million at a time.
- ◆ One of the original options included closing GLP, which would require an addition of about eight to ten classrooms at the high school. Selling GLP would require that the debt of that building be paid off in its entirety. That amount would come off the sale price. In addition, it would have to be taken off the Co-gen plant, the gas wells would have to be separated, there would be easement issues, and we have services running through that property. It would not be a clean sell.
- ◆ Option one could cost about 15% more than option two. A question about leasing revenue came up. An estimation of revenue from

leasing cannot be given, as there are no guarantees that anyone would lease the property.

- ◆ It might be possible to close a building several years from now if enrollment continues to decline.
- ◆ Currently, the State Aid ratio is around 74%. The ideal situation would be to try to have a budget neutral project (calculate what tax neutral project would look like). There is a 15 year payback on State Aid. All of the work that needs to be done will not be able to be implemented in one project.
- ◆ Option two gives the most flexibility moving forward. Mr. Byrnes stated that closing GLP would not be a big selling point when attempting to attract families with small children to the District.
- ◆ The Infrastructure, Technology, and Building Conditions Committee will meet at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 14th in the JSHS Cafeteria (B). There will be a Community Budget Forum following the ITBC meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Future dates

- ◆ Budget Community Forum – Saturday, March 14, 2015 at 10:00 am.
- ◆ Regular Board of Education Meeting – Wednesday, March 18, 2015 – 7:00 pm JSHS Cafeteria

Adjourned

Mr. Campbell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shephard to adjourn. Carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara J. Thomasulo
District Clerk