

## Chillicothe R-II School District

### Members:

Tom Chapman, President  
Michael Leamer, Vice President  
Paul Thomas, Treasurer  
David Meneely, Member

Julie McCoy, Member  
Randy Constant, Member  
David Williams, Member

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### Regular Board Meeting December 15, 2009

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Chillicothe R-II School District was held at the Administrative Office, 1020 Old Highway 36 West, in the city of Chillicothe, state of Missouri, on December 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Tom Chapman, Julie McCoy, David Williams, Randy Constant, Michael Leamer, David Meneely, and Paul Thomas.

Also present: Dr. Linda Gray Smith, Wade Schroeder, Ron Wolf, Roger Wolf, Jayme Caughron, Tony Perry, Bryan Copple, Pam Fetter, Philip Pohren, Penny Kennebeck, Pam Brobst, Paula Grozinger, Jason Nibarger, Diane Nibarger, Jerry Nibarger, Adam Gaston, Chris and Barbie Cothorn, Sara Lovell, Jalaine Lamp, Rick Nobles, Paul and Betty Preston Steele, Robbie Skipper, Sheila Scott, Tammy Price, Terria Cox, Adam and Kelly Brandsgaard, Brandi Ellis, Linda Hauck, Julie Reeter, Gracie Bonderer, Jim Bonderer, Laurie Hardie, James Eden, Lisa Paulsen, Robin Westphal, Betty Sue Radcliff, Shelley Singleton, Anne Jeschke, Jane Schmitz, James Davis, Shawn Lamp, Bill Hayen, Laura Schuler (C-T), Tom Tingerthal (KCHI), and Kristi Newlin.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Board President Tom Chapman called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. He asked those present to participate in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mrs. McCoy made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Constant second. Motion carried 6-0.

### **WELCOME & PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Chapman welcomed all patrons and staff in attendance. He then opened the floor for public comments. Hearing none, he proceeded to the Report to the Board.

### **REPORT TO BOARD**

#### Student Recognition

Paula Grozinger, Field Elementary Principal, introduced four students that were being recognized by their classroom teachers as the Student of the Month. Reese Jazenboski, Maddie Lamp, Quinten Lovell, and Caitlyn Cothorn were recognized and presented with a certificate from Board President Tom Chapman.

#### Community Long-Range Facility Plan

Paul & Betty Steele, co-chairmen of the Community Facility Committee, presented to the Board the panel's proposal for the district's long-range facility master plan. After touring each school building, the committee unanimously approved three phases to a plan that will eventually result in a centralized north campus. The first phase of the plan, which would be financed partly by a bond issue in April 2010, involves building an early childhood education center housing PreK through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Federal stimulus money totaling \$1.4 million is available for the project, which would be paid back to the district in eight annual installments. These monies could be used to address maintenance issues at the district's other buildings. Then, maintenance monies in the bond issue could be used to complete phase 1 by retrofitting Dewey Elementary to house 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students, moving 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students to Field Elementary, and moving the administrative office and CACE students to Central Elementary.

Phase 2 of the plan calls for building an upper elementary facility around 2022, the time of the retirement of the present high school construction bonds. Phase 3 of the plan calls for building a middle school facility around 2030 or 2035.

Betty Steele did note concerns found in all buildings which included safety and security, electrical needs, water drainage issues, foundation and structural integrity, and climate control deficiencies in some buildings. She went on to suggest an annual facility review committee be instituted through board policy to ensure continuation of the facility needs process. Lastly, Mrs. Steele suggested that the Board should continually re-evaluate the facility design through each of the proposed phases as the delivery of curriculum through classroom activities changes quickly. Paul & Betty Steel then fielded several questions posed by the Board.

#### Patron Survey

Rick Nobles of Patron Insight, presented to the Board the results of the recent telephone study conducted with 400 patrons of the district to determine satisfaction with the district's performance, to test the appeal of a centralized campus, and to review the potential program and calendar changes. The results show a patron population that is generally satisfied with what takes place in the classroom, but has some measurable concerns about many of the buildings, and somewhat more modest issues with the way tax dollars are spent. When patrons were asked about their general level of support for a potential 2010 bond issue for either renovation or centralized campus, a combined 57% said they would either "strongly favor" or "favor" such a proposal, while 22% said they would "oppose" or "strongly oppose" it. Mr. Nobles reminded the Board of the "error factor" for this survey was +/- 5%, meaning the results achieved through this research are within 5% of what they would be if every registered voter in the district had participated in the survey. In closing, Mr. Nobles stated that the results of the survey suggest that while there is a general awareness of the shortcomings of many of the district's facilities, there are also many questions that remain unanswered about what the best choice would be for the district's future. A large percentage of patrons will want all the facts and figures at their fingertips so they can make an informed voting decision. (A complete copy of the Patron Survey is available for review at the Administrative Office.)

#### District Website Update

Dr. Smith and Anne Jeschke updated the Board on the status of the district website. She stated that the web page has seen little outward change to this point, however many changes have been taking place behind the scenes in the form of a new template. The conversion to a new web template should provide a consistent layout for each building, make navigation and updating easier, and provide for building input into page content. Each building will be directly involved in the updating of each building web page to improve the input that staff has on the information available while improving the user experience. She went on to explain that teacher webpage numbers have more than doubled this year and they will all be linked to their building pages.

#### Program Evaluations

Dr. Smith reviewed with the board the evaluations of the PK-12 Curriculum Assessment, Homeless Program and Homebound Program. Each program received a satisfactory evaluation and was recommended for approval. Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the program evaluations as presented. Mr. Leamer second. Motion carried 6-0.

#### Middle School Achievement

Mr. Copple, Principal at CMS, updated the Board on the monthly review of operations and student performance for December. He also informed them that a new security door has been installed on the west side to increase security; a secretary has also been moved to the west side in the commons area.

#### Ag Building Update

Ron Wolf, Director at Grand River Technical, updated the Board on the progress of construction on the new vo-ag building. He stated that the project is on schedule with a projected completion date of March 2010.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### Policy IKFA: Early Graduation

Dr. Smith reviewed for the third and final time revisions to Policy IKFA: Early Graduation. The first paragraph is being changed to mirror the model from MSBA. After a brief discussion, Mr. Leamer made a motion to approve the changes to Policy IKFA: Early Graduation as presented. Mr. Constant second. Motion carried 6-0. (For a copy of the revised policy, see attachment A to these minutes.)

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Consent Agenda

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mrs. McCoy second. Motion carried 6-0. Items on the consent agenda included:

- 1) Minutes of the November 17<sup>th</sup> regular board meeting and executive session.
- 2) Payment of Bills totaling \$985,180.44
- 3) Administrative Reports
- 4) Transfer to Fund II from Fund I totaling \$459,011.69

### Financial Report

Dr. Smith reviewed with the board the Monthly Finance Statement that shows ending balances for the month of November 2009. Also included for comparison is the Monthly Finance Statement from November 2008. Ending balances for each fund are as follows:

Fund 1 -	\$670,729.83
Fund 2 -	00.00
Fund 3 -	89,788.55
Fund 4 -	<u>(467,428.69)</u>
Total	\$293,089.69

The board also reviewed current investments and bank account balances in the general fund and employee health care funds.

### Budget Revisions

Dr. Smith highlighted revisions that were made to the 2009-2010 budget. She stated that various revenue amounts were revised for a total increase of \$45,881. However, expenditures were also increased by \$31,557 by reviewing individual expenditure lines for variances. Dr. Smith informed the Board that many of the grants were "balanced" by aligning the revenues and expenditures for the Mentor, Serve & Learn, Even Start and Perkins Grants. The revised 2009-2010 budget now shows a combined ending balance of \$2,172,419 which reflects a decrease of \$199,025 from the previous years ending balance. After a brief discussion, Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the revisions to the 2009-2010 budget as presented. Mr. Constant second. Motion carried 6-0. (For a complete list of revisions, see attachment B to these minutes.)

### Technology Infrastructure Contract

Dr. Smith informed the Board that Quality Network Solutions, (QNS), was the successful bidder of the Technology Support Service bid. She presented to the Board a service contract with QNS for approval. After a survey of area school districts currently using their service, QNS has a reputation for providing quick and quality service. QNS would begin on December 16<sup>th</sup> by working with the district's technology staff to maintain the district's networks, maintain the functionality of the district's desktop computers, maintain administrative software, and provide technology consulting and purchasing services. QNS will provide onsite service as well as remote service at no additional charge to the district. The term of the contract will be effective from 12/16/09 through 6/30/10 at a total cost of \$35,700. After some discussion, Mrs. McCoy made a motion to approve the service contract with Quality Network Solutions as presented. Mr. Constant second. More discussion followed concerning long-term goals for technology. When all questions were satisfactorily answered, Mr. Chapman called for a vote on the motion, "To approve the service contract with Quality Network Solutions as presented". Motion carried 5-1 with Mr. Meneely opposing. (For a copy of the QNS Service Contract, see attachment C to these minutes.)

### Calendar

Dr. Smith presented to the Board a draft of the 2010-2011 school calendar. She stated that the calendar has been reviewed by the Communications Committee and other groups will be contacted for further input. The calendar has the staff development early dismissals on Friday rather than Monday. She stated that a public hearing will be held prior to the January regular board meeting at which time citizens may be heard on the proposed 2010-2011 calendar.

### Grant Funding Requests

Dr. Smith presented to the Board applications for grant funding. Included for consideration was; Learn & Serve, a \$50,000 grant for grades 6-9 to continue service learning through the summer. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant is a \$650,000 grant for after-school programming for tutoring, parent connections, and enrichment. Also included is an EPA science grant and a grant for Missouri Options classroom computers. After a brief discussion, Mr. Constant made a motion to approve the applications for the Learn and Serve, 21<sup>st</sup> Century, EPA science, and MO Options grants as recommended. Mrs. McCoy second. Motion carried 6-0.

### Race to the Top Participation

Dr. Smith informed the Board that Race to the Top is an opportunity for the state's education system to build on strengths, extend the efforts of existing reform work, and to develop a comprehensive plan for improving the educational system from early childhood through post-secondary education. The \$4.3 billion dollars pledged by the U.S. Department of Education could result in \$150 - \$250 million for a successful application from the state of Missouri. The dollars are then assigned to states based on their population. Dr. Smith recommended that the Board approve a resolution that would commit the district to activities and participation in the Race to the Top competition. Mr. Constant made a motion to approve the resolution for the Race to the Top Program as recommended. Mrs. McCoy second. Motion carried 6-0. (For a copy of the resolution, see attachment D to these minutes.)

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Chapman reviewed the correspondence that had been received.

Mrs. McCoy recommended that Leanne Mathews be nominated by the board to receive the MSBA J.M. Belcher Scholarship. Mr. Constant second. Motion carried 6-0.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Constant opened the floor for public comments. Jerry Nibarger questioned the boards decision regarding the technology infrastructure contract.

### **MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Thomas made a motion to enter executive session as provided under Missouri Revised Statute, Section 610.021.03 for the purpose of employing, discussing and evaluating personnel, discussing real estate and legal matters. Mr. Williams second. A roll call vote was taken. Mrs. McCoy – yea. Mr. Williams – yea. Mr. Constant – yea. Mr. Leamer – yea. Mr. Meneely – yea. Mr. Thomas – yea. Mr. Chapman – yea. Motion carried 7-0 on voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

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Tom Chapman, President

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Kristi Newlin, Secretary