

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

Regular Board Meeting
November 17, 2009

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Chillicothe R-II School District was held at the Administrative Office, 1020 Old Hwy 36 West, in the city of Chillicothe, state of Missouri, on November 17th at 6:30 p.m.

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

Also present: Dr. Linda Gray Smith, Wade Schroeder, Roger Wolf, Jayme Caughron, Tony Perry, Penny Kennebeck, Paula Grozinger, Bryan Copple, Philip Pohren, Stephanie Baldwin, Lance Harvey, Kim Kieffer, Steven & Jenny Jackson, Steve & Jody Weir, Kristi Christy, Melissa Englert, Tiffany Acree, Steve Polley, Vickie Garrett, Amanda Marsh, Betty Sue Radcliff, Mr. & Mrs. Mark Simmer, Dr. & Mrs. Hoel, Chad & Cade Snyder, Shane, Kathy & Danielle Midgyett, Laura Schuler (C-T), Tom Tingerthal (KCHI), and Judy Holcer.

CALL TO ORDER

Board President Tom Chapman called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. He asked those present to participate in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Smith stated that the agenda had been revised by adding E) Board Filing Dates under New Business and recommended approval. Mr. Constant made a motion to approve the revised agenda as presented. Mr. Williams second. Motion carried 6-0.

WELCOME & PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Chapman welcomed all in attendance and asked for introductions from the audience. He then opened the floor for public comments. Hearing none, he turned to Dr. Smith for the report to the board.

REPORT TO BOARD

Student Recognition

Central Principal, Philip Pohren, introduced students that were being recognized by their classroom teachers as the Student of the Month. Nathan Hoel, Danielle Midgyett, Jensen Simmer, and Cade Snyder were recognized and presented with a certificate from Board President Tom Chapman.

Program Evaluations

Technology Plan – The goal of this program is to provide computer and electronic technology for student and teacher educational needs and networking between buildings. The evaluation received a satisfactory rating. Mr. Schroeder stated that the main goal of the technology department is to unify the entire district under common protocol norms for hardware, software and networking. After a brief discussion, Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the program evaluation as presented. Mr. Meneely second. Motion carried 6-0.

MSBA Conference

Dr. Smith, Mr. Chapman, and Mrs. McCoy attended portions of the fall MSBA conference in October. Each highlighted sessions that they had attended and the information gathered there. Mr. Meneely attended the CBM training required for new board members.

Class Sizes

Dr. Smith presented to the Board information concerning district class size figures in an effort to keep staff “right sized” for the number of students. A spreadsheet detailed the class sizes for each grade with a comparison to the minimum as well as the desirable class sizes determined by DESE. Dr. Smith stated that the principals will verify the numbers and proceed with recommendations as needed.

Middle School Achievement

Mr. Copple, Principal at CMS, updated the Board on the monthly review of operations and student performance. The report indicated a dramatic increase in students with a failing grade; however, this is due to an increase in student illnesses and those students having not had time to turn in their work. Mr. Copple expected the numbers to drop by the December board meeting. The overall attendance rate dropped due to the increase in student illness, but that is also expected to be back to the normal 96% by next month.

Community Facility Long-Range Planning

Dr. Smith updated the Board on the long-range planning committee. She stated that many options are being considered after the review of all district buildings. The group continues to emphasize the need for quality maintenance for the existing buildings. The next meeting is scheduled for November 19 at the Central Office. The committee will present their recommendations to the Board at the regular December meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Policy Revision – IKFA – Early Graduation

Dr. Smith presented to the Board for second review Policy IKFA – Early Graduation. She informed the Board that the policy presented is the MSBA model. The policy will be presented for third and final review at the December regular board meeting

2008-2009 Audit

Dr. Smith stated that the 2008-2009 Audit report was completed by Lockridge, Constant, and Conrad and recommended approval. She stated that the auditors found all significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period and that they encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing the audit. After a brief discussion, Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the 2008-2009 Audit Report as presented by Lockridge, Constant and Conrad. Mrs. McCoy second. Motion carried 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Consent Agenda

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

- 1) Minutes of the October 20th regular meeting and executive session
- 2) Minutes of the October 21st special meeting
- 3) Payment of Bills totaling \$437,167.81
- 4) Administrative Reports
- 5) Transfer to Fund II totaling \$445,495.60

Finance

Tax Anticipation Note – Dr. Smith presented to the Board bids from three local banks for a tax anticipation note and recommended approval of the bid from Chillicothe State Bank at a rate of 1.25%. She stated that the district will borrow \$500,000 to \$1 million in order to meet its current financial obligations. Dr. Smith explained that it is not unusual for school districts to be financially strapped for cash at this time of year, as they are waiting on local tax revenue that comes available in January. The district's situation is made more difficult because of the expenditures being made for the new Ag building and the demolition project at the old high school. The district will determine the amount needed to borrow after the monthly state payment is made. The money the district borrows will be paid back when the district receives the local tax revenue. After a brief discussion, Mrs. McCoy made a motion to approve the following resolution:

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CHILLICOTHE R-II SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL
BORROW FUNDS NEEDED FOR CASH FLOW UP TO \$1,000,000 IN \$250,000
INCREMENTS AT 1.25% INTEREST FROM CHILLICOTHE STATE BANK. THE NOTE
WILL BE PAID WITH TAXES RECEIVED DURING JANUARY 2010.

Mr. Williams second. Motion carried 5-0-1 with Mr. Constant abstaining from the vote.

Health Insurance

Dr. Smith presented to the Board information concerning the district health insurance renewal. The proposal was for a 9.92% increase in premiums which is below industry standards. However, Dr. Smith requested that the insurance company calculate a premium for a renewal period of July 1st to better align with the budget process. The insurance company could do a "short-term policy" from January 1st to July 1st at an increase of 6%. Dr. Smith does not want to make any changes in benefits that would increase out-of-pocket

expenses for employees. Dr. Smith proposed a renewal date of July 1, 2010 with a 6% premium increase which would cost an additional \$75,600. She stated that \$50,000 would come out of the district 2009-2010 budget and the remaining \$25,600 would come from the health account pool. The Health Insurance Committee will meet again in April to discuss changes for the July 1 renewal. After a brief discussion, Mr. Williams made a motion to change the renewal of the health insurance policy to July 1, 2009, to approve a 6% increase in premiums for the period January 1 to July 1, 2010, and to fund the additional cost of \$75,600 as recommended. Mr. Constant second. Motion carried 6-0.

GRTS 2010-2011 Tuition Rates

Dr. Smith stated that the directors of the Grand River Technical School had recommended an increase in the tuition for 2010-2011. With state vocational funding frozen and operational costs increasing, it is necessary to increase tuition rates. The proposal calls for a \$100 increase for area secondary schools and a \$200 increase for adult courses. The tuition for area secondary schools for 3 hours of instruction would be \$2200 and adult tuition for 6 hours of instruction would be increased to \$5300. Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the increase in tuition rates for 2010-2011 at Grand River Technical as recommended. Mr. Constant second. Motion carried 6-0.

Grant Applications

A \$20,000 grant application for the Child Care Development Fund grant was presented for approval. The funds are controlled through DESE and Pam Miller will use the funds to purchase instructional material for the "pink house" daycare. Mr. Constant made a motion to approve the grant application for the Child Care Development Fund in the amount of \$20,000. Mrs. McCoy second. Motion carried 6-0.

Board Candidate Filing Dates

Dr. Smith presented to the board the notice to file for board candidate. The first day for candidate filing is December 15th at 8:00 a.m. and will run through January 19th. Dr. Smith stated that two seats will be available and Mr. Constant and Mr. Chapman will be eligible for reelection for a three-year term and Mr. Meneely will be eligible for reelection for a one-year term. Mr. Williams made a motion to set the dates for board candidate filing as presented. Mrs. McCoy second. Motion carried 6-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

Several pieces of correspondence were included in the board packet for review. Dr. Smith reminded the board of the reception on December 11th at the PAC honoring the teacher of the year and support staff award, as well as staff service awards.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Chapman opened the floor for public comments. Nathan Hoel, student at Central Elementary, asked the Board to consider adding more art class time to the weekly schedules.

MOTION TO ENTER TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Thomas made a motion to adjourn to 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 was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Tom Chapman, President

Kristi Newlin, Secretary