

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
OKAW VALLEY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT # 302
November 13, 2007**

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Board of Education of Okaw Valley Community Unit School District #302 was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by President Sean Creviston with the following Board members and administrators present: Sean Creviston, Michelle McClain, Doug Miller, Tim Rothrock, John Vander Burgh, Bev Watson, Kari Younger, Paula Duis, Joel Hackney, Nick Kearfott, and Marilyn Bayley.

VISITORS COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

President Creviston called for visitor comments and communications. The Board agreed to speak with Tom Burch in closed session to discuss an individual student matter.

Michelle McClain presented information from Lori Ryherd - Touchstone Energy Hydrofest 2007 Report.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda, consisting of the following items, was presented to the Board of Education:

- Recommendation to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held October 18, 2007.

It was moved by Michelle McClain and seconded by Kari Younger that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Roll call vote: Creviston, yea; McClain, yea; Miller, yea; Rothrock, yea; Vander Burgh, yea; Watson, yea; Younger, yea. Yeas, 7; Nay, 0; Absent, 0; Abstention, 0. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT, BILLS, PAYROLL

The monthly financial report, bills, and payroll were presented for Board approval. The Superintendent recommended that bills and payroll for the school district be approved as follows:

- Bills for the month of November, 2007 - Education, \$59,251.52; O & M, \$25,977.14; Transportation, \$20,552.92; Life/Safety, \$0.
- Payroll for the month of October, 2007 - Education, \$235,328.01; O & M, \$13,312.18; Transportation, \$21,600.07; IMRF, \$10,558.45.

It was moved by Bev Watson and seconded by Doug Miller that the payroll for the month of October, 2007, and that the bills for the month of November, 2007, be

approved as presented. Roll call vote: Creviston, yea; McClain, yea; Miller, yea; Rothrock, yea; Vander Burgh, yea; Watson, yea; Younger, yea. Yeas, 7; Nay, 0; Absent, 0; Abstention, 0. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION

Principals' Reports: The principals submitted written reports (attached), provided brief comments, and answered questions. Ms. Duis indicated that Parent Teacher Conferences would be rotated between Findlay and Bethany in the future. Both Ms. Duis and Mr. Hackney commented on special Veterans' Day activities: OVES assembly; OVIS/OVMS program which included arrangements made by Mr. Baker for a Blackhawk helicopter tour, address by Jack Scott, and performances by the OVIS Glee Club and OVMS Choir. Mr. Hackney also commented on the OVMS picture scavenger hunt; status of Boys and Girls' Basketball seasons; and bullying survey. Mr. Kearfott reported that the OVHS Band placed 3rd in the Pinckneyville Parade; 11 members were inducted in NHS; and Tyler Pieszchalski has been named Vice President for the District Student Council.

Superintendent's Report: Ms. Bayley reported as follows:

- Provided members with information packets for IASB convention; announced dinner plans - November 17 at 6:30 p.m. at Fogo de Chao;
- Attended County Board meeting to hear details of request for funding for safety improvements to County Highway 13 (Bethany-Findlay blacktop) at Winings' hill as well as reworking the original improvement area to correct drainage problems; also discussed were the condition of the township bridges in Moultrie County as well as details of a bill previously introduced by Representative Bob Flider to increase funding for township bridge maintenance/construction (Mr. Flider was present at the meeting.);
- Attended meeting presented by Egyptian Area Trust and American Fidelity Insurance which provided information regarding the HSA (Health Savings Account) option to be offered by the trust and 403 (b) plan requirements for all districts.

School Improvement Update:

- OVMS: STI Local Assessments in Math, Science & Reading which will be similar in format and length to state assessments are being finalized & will be administered district-wide following Thanksgiving break; teachers are exploring Technology/Real Life Math applications; a teacher attended the National Middle School Conference; the SIP team will meet to review data from the student surveys; the Leader of the Pack activities (character education) are continuing to go well.
- OVES: Plans are moving forward for the Parent Night/PTO Dinner on November 15th - 40 reservations so far with more expected; instructions for sight word data collection completed and disseminated; finalizing changes to discipline plan criteria at grade level meetings.
- OVIS: Analyzing reading fluency scores; students participated in Jeopardy as a quarterly character education activity; STI Assessments for Grade 5 are complete and Assessments for Grades 3/4 are in progress - will test same week as OVMS.

- OVHS: Have completed first round of STI Assessments; have begun WIN CD, concentrating on Math, English, and Science - placement test has been given, results will be provided to teachers to assist in adjusting curriculum; will return to STI Assessment next week; generally pleased with testing during home room - most students participating well; continuing Perfect Attendance Award drawings - most students making an effort; Student of the Month for October posted - SIP Team nominates students)

Other:

- Mrs. Watson provided an update on Strategic Planning Committee activities: focus groups have met and information is being compiled for use at the next meeting in February when the larger group (composed of members from each of the smaller focus groups) will discuss/identify areas to address as goals; the Strategic Planning Committee will meet soon to review data and plan for the February meeting.

2007 TAX LEVY PROPOSAL

Superintendent Bayley presented a Tax Levy Proposal for 2007 (attached) which included a total levy of \$2,694,460, an increase of 4.88% over last year's extension.

It was moved by Tim Rothrock and seconded by Kari Younger that the Board approve the tentative 2007 Tax Levy in the amount of \$2,694,460.00 as presented. Roll call vote: Creviston, yea; McClain, yea; Miller, yea; Rothrock, yea; Vander Burgh, yea; Watson, yea; Younger, yea. Yeas, 7; Nay, 0; Absent, 0; Abstention, 0. Motion carried.

CO-OPERATIVE AGREEMENT - TRACK

Although the district has continued to offer a high school track program, the participation level has remained low. Board members asked that the topic be placed on the agenda for discussion. It was agreed that additional information should be gathered - cost of track program, student interest information, options for co-operative agreement - prior to further consideration.

It was moved by Tim Rothrock and seconded by Michelle McClain that the Board authorize Mr. Kearfott to gather data for a cooperative agreement with Sullivan (and/or surrounding areas). Roll call vote: Creviston, yea; McClain, yea; Miller, yea; Rothrock, yea; Vander Burgh, yea; Watson, yea; Younger, yea. Yeas, 7; Nay, 0; Absent, 0; Abstention, 0. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Doug Miller and seconded by Michelle McClain that the Board enter closed session at 8:32 P. M. as provided in 5 ILCS 120/2, subsection (c) for the purpose of discussing matters related to appointment, employment, and compensation of employees and matters relating to an individual student. Roll call vote: Creviston, yea; McClain, yea; Miller, yea; Rothrock, yea; Vander Burgh, yea;

Watson, yea; Younger, yea. Yeas, 7; Nay, 0; Absent, 0; Abstention, 0. Motion carried.

It was moved by Tim Rothrock and seconded by John Vander Burgh that the Board of Education return to open session at 10:17 P. M. Voice Vote: All voted aye. Motion carried.

RETIREMENT

Janet Kracht's notice of intent to retire was presented for board approval.

It was moved by Sean Creviston and seconded by Tim Rothrock that the Board accept Janet Kracht's notice of intent to retire at the close of the 2009-2010 school year under provisions for the Compensation Enhancement Program. Roll call vote: Creviston, yea; McClain, yea; Miller, yea; Rothrock, yea; Vander Burgh, yea; Watson, yea; Younger, yea. Yeas, 7; Nay, 0; Absent, 0; Abstention, 0. Motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT

Mr. Kearfott recommended the employment of Rod McClain and Jeremy Harlin as 5th Grade Girls' Basketball coaches for 2007-2008.

It was moved by John Vander Burgh and seconded by Kari Younger that the Board employ 5th Grade Girls' Basketball coaches for 2007-2008: Rod McClain and Jeremy Harlin. Roll call vote: Creviston, yea; McClain, yea; Miller, yea; Rothrock, yea; Vander Burgh, yea; Watson, yea; Younger, yea. Yeas, 7; Nay, 0; Absent, 0; Abstention, 0. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS/OTHER

Bus Cameras - Bev Watson inquired about the status/use of bus cameras on the new buses.

Quotes - Bev Watson indicated a desire to receive multiple quotes for the sidewalk replacement project in December as well as other projects recommended in the future. After some discussion it was decided that in order to complete sidewalk replacement in a timely manner, additional quotes should be obtained and the lowest accepted

A meeting of the Facilities Committee was set for November 28, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

A meeting of the Personnel Committee was set for December 5, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Michelle McClain and seconded by Kari Younger that the Board of Education adjourn at 10:56 P. M. Voice vote: All voted aye. The motion carried.

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education