

**School Board Meeting – January 24, 2023**  
**Regular Session**

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL – 7:00 P.M.

ESTABLISH A QUORUM AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board of School Trustees of the John Glenn School Corporation met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on January 24, 2023, at the John Glenn Administration Building. Board members present were Bob Borlik, Jared Egger, Ryan Knowlton, Christian Mattix, Christine Carson, Todd McGaughey and Carissa Smith. Superintendent Christopher Winchell and 21 observers were present through building recognitions. Ten observers were present for the business portion of the meeting.

DONATIONS & FUNDRAISERS (WES, NLES, UMS, JGHS)

Walkerton Elementary School:

- Donations
  - TriKappa \$584 Breakfast & Lunch Reduction
  - Steve McCoige \$50 Adopt-a-Family
  - Dawn Mago \$500 Adopt-a-Family
  - American Container (Michael) Operation Quiet Comfort Fundraiser
  - Methodist Church Miscellaneous New Hats and Gloves

North Liberty Elementary School:

- Donations
  - Falcon 500 \$230 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Brain Pop Program Items

Urey Middle School

- Fundraiser
  - Student Council 2/1 – 2/10 Valentine Grams

John Glenn High School:

- Donations
  - AK Industries \$700 Baseball
  - Falcon 500 \$60 Academic Super Bowl
  - A&M (Jarrod McQueen) Carpet and vinyl floor for construction classes

Mr. Jared Egger made a motion to approve the above named donations and fundraisers, and Mr. Ryan Knowlton seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public made comment at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS #1 – 4

1. Approve Minutes – January 24, 2023 – Regular Session  
Board of Finance Meeting
2. Approve Claims – 1438 - 1565



Mr. Winchell shared that the action in front of the board is official permission for the team to move forward with advertising the potential project in the newspapers and proceed with the bond preparation work. Mr. Winchell referred to the last meeting when it was asked if we could provide details regarding the projects that were able to be completed with previous bond monies. He provided the board with a comprehensive list of the 2019 General Obligation Bond and the 2020 Lease Rental Bond projects that were completed independently, as well as a summary of projects that were completed via the scope of work put out to bid by Barton Coe Vilamaa. He explained that a G.O. Bond is similar to a credit card, does not require any collateral and there is a cap to how much a school can borrow just like there is a credit limit with a credit card. A Lease Rental Bond is similar to a home equity loan where your property is put up as collateral, in most situations you can take out larger amounts of money. At the end of the 2022 calendar year, we took out an approximate \$995,000 General Obligation Bond to help cover the anticipated school buses, HVAC projects that remained, some roofing and possible playground equipment. As we pay off mortgages, we take out new loans so that we can continue to invest in our facilities. We have some bonds being paid off soon and need to continue our plans. We will keep a running list of project completed with the 2022 G.O. Bond as we begin to spend those monies.

We frequently refer to the Master Facilities Plan that was developed in 2019. At that time, it was our plan to take a \$6 million bond this year, knowing that we may need to increase that amount dependent on inflation, cost of constructions materials and labor and the state of our facilities. After a full review of the facilities plan and discussions with our bond counsel and construction planning partners, we discussed the possibility of taking a \$10 million bond. Barton Coe Vilamaa was at the last meeting to discuss the most pressing projects to address and tonight Lisa Huntington from Baker Tilly is present to discuss our bond options. Mr. Winchell explained that by managing the tax rate our goal is to maintain as consistent tax bill for our tax payers as possible. When we pay off a loan, we do not want the tax rate to drop, therefore not bringing in revenue needed for maintenance, but rather replace a loan with a new loan so that we can continue to invest in our buildings. Ms. Huntington added that this is a very sound financial strategy that is used by most school corporations. By statute, the school board can take out \$6.1 million and the tax payers can express their concern at a public meeting but there is no legal recourse they can take beyond that. For amounts between \$6.1 and \$10 million, there is a conduit in the law that the tax payers can file a petition remonstrance which would halt the bond/project until the remonstrance was resolved. If you are bonding over \$10 million and someone would file a petition. It would stop the bond until it was able to be put on a ballot as a referendum. When we first projected for this next set of bonds, it was our goal to maintain the same tax rate as 2022. The assessed value of John Glenn has increased. When property values increase, the tax rate decreases. Due to the way we have built our budget and the way the property values have increased, we would still be flat to the 2022 tax rate, but since the 2023 tax rate has decreased, again due to increased property values, this bond will increase the tax rate a little bit. It is always our goal to remain tax neutral but volatility in assessed values makes this difficult. Mr. Winchell finished by explaining that tonight, we are only asking for approval to advertise the public hearings for the start of this bonding process. Much more information will come as we progress through the process. Mr. Bob Borlik made a motion to approve Publication of Notice of First Preliminary Determination Hearing for the \$10 million bond and Mr. Jared Egger seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

#### 4. Approve Barton Coe Vilamaa Contract

Mr. Winchell noted that this is the agreement with Barton Coe Vilamaa to help us plan our building project and then put it out to bid when the time comes. A lot of this work has been completed already due to our long standing partnership with them and their willingness to always help us look ahead. It is appropriate for the Board to approve this contract in the event that we do proceed with this set of building projects, this would be the fee schedule for services BCV would provide. As the scope of the project changes, these services and fees may need to be adjusted but this provides us with a ballpark contract. Mr. Todd McGaughey made a motion to approve Barton Coe Vilamaa Contract and Mr. Ryan Knowlton seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

## REPORTS

### 1. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Winchell noted the following:

- Mr. Davis asked that I report that the team who is reviewing curriculum and materials for the science adoption was at a textbook caravan today. It is a long process but the team is working hard to make the best selections.
- The administration teams are hard at work to beginning preparations for next August, particularly looking at student numbers kindergarten through sixth and programming for students seven through twelve.
- Today is the 30<sup>th</sup> day which is the last day that anyone can file petition remonstrance on the Greene Township Annexation. We will follow up with the clerk's office to verify if anyone has filed. We will need to hold a Board Executive Session/Discussion/Training Session in the very near future to discuss the reorganization of the Board in regards to this expansion. We are working with Mr. Kaminski to get this scheduled.
- Mr. McGaughey attended board member training and Mrs. Carson and Mrs. Smith will be attending in the next couple of weeks. We appreciate their dedication to our Board.
- We had a great first semester, and it appears we are very close to being back to "normal"
- We need to adjust our calendar for the 2023-2024 calendar that was previously approved by the board. We have made a change in amusement companies for Falloween which has resulted in moving the festival one weekend later than we traditionally host it. This necessitates the change of the Falloween Monday day off. Secondly, you may or may not remember that the State of Indiana has passed a statute that would limit the number of asynchronous e-learning days that we can have to three per year. After much discussion with the teachers union, we all agree that our students need to be on campus as much as possible. We would also like to add snow-make up days back into our 2023-2024 calendar. We will use the three asynchronous e-learning days, then transition to using snow make-up days and then finally if we need more instructional days, we will add days to the end of the school year. This was not listed as an action item tonight as we needed to have one final discussion with the union team yesterday at our discussion session, but I would like to come to the board next meeting to officially amend this calendar to reflect the following changes
  - Falloween Monday would be changed to October 2<sup>nd</sup> rather than September 25<sup>th</sup> and will be a scheduled day off rather than an e-learning day
  - Martin Luther King Jr. Day, President's Day and Good Friday will be changed to scheduled days off/snow make-up days
  - With the change of Falloween Monday to be a scheduled day off, it would require us to change the last student day from May 21<sup>st</sup> to May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

If there is no objection, I would like to start sharing this information with the necessary stakeholders and bring it back for formal retroactive approval at the next board meeting. The Board saw no issues with starting to share these calendar changes.

We are changing amusement companies due to creative differences with the previous company. The new company is a very family oriented/run operation and will fit in nicely with our community and Falloweens mission. It is the goal to move the festival back to the third weekend in September as soon as possible.

## BOARD COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

## UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT MEETING DATE: February 7, 2023 7:00 P.M. Admin Building Regular Session

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Christian Mattix called the meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm.

PRES. \_\_\_\_\_

SEC'Y. \_\_\_\_\_

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