

## **School Board Meeting – January 9, 2024 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 9, 2024, 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 13 observers were also present.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment made.

### REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

PRESIDENT Jared Egger

Mr. Christian Mattix noted that the tradition of the JG Board is to rotate board officers each year. Mr. Christian Mattix nominated Jared Egger as President and Bob Borlik seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

VICE PRESIDENT Christine Carson

Mr. Mattix noted that since Mr. Bob Borlik does not plan to run for re-election, Mr. Borlik does not feel that it was in the best interest of the Board for him to serve as Vice President. Mr. Todd McGaughey made a motion to nominate Mrs. Christine Carson for Vice President and Mr. Christian Mattix seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

SECRETARY Ryan Knowlton

Mr. Jared Egger nominated Mr. Ryan Knowlton for the position of Secretary and Mr. Todd McGaughey nominated Carissa Smith. A role vote was called. Mrs. Christine Carson voted for Ryan Knowlton, Mr. Ryan Knowlton voted for Ryan Knowlton, Mr. Bob Borlik voted for Ryan Knowlton, Mr. Christian Mattix voted for Ryan Knowlton, Mr. Jared Egger voted for Ryan Knowlton, Mr. Todd McGaughey voted for Carissa Smith, and Ms. Carissa Smith voted for Carissa Smith. Mr. Ryan Knowlton was elected Secretary by a vote of five to two.

TREASURER Tom Bendy

Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to approve Tom Bendy as Treasurer, and Mr. Todd McGaughey seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

DEPUTY TREASURER Collin Barker

Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to approve Collin Barker as Deputy Treasurer, and Mr. Todd McGaughey seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

LEGISLATIVE LIAISON Ryan Knowlton

Mr. Todd McGaughey made a motion to retain Ryan Knowlton as Legislative Liaison, and Mr. Ryan Knowlton seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

JGSC TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Christian Mattix

Carissa Smith

Mr. Todd McGaughey made a motion to retain Mr. Christian Mattix and Ms. Carissa Smith on the JGSC Technology Committee. Mr. Ryan Knowlton seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

JGHS ATHLETIC COUNCIL

Jared Egger

Mr. Todd McGaughey made a motion to retain Mr. Jared Egger to the JGHS Athletic Council and Mr. Ryan Knowlton seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

HIGH ABILITIES COMMITTEE

Christine Carson

Mr. Todd McGaughey made a motion to retain Mrs. Christine Carson to the High Abilities Committee and Mr. Ryan Knowlton seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

REGULAR MEETING DATE AND TIME

First and Third Tuesday of Every Month, 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Ryan Knowlton made a motion to keep the meeting date and time on the first and third Tuesday of every month, at 7:00 p.m. and Mr. Jared Egger seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero. It was noted that there are a few meetings a year that will deviate from the general schedule to coincide with holidays and school breaks.

BOARD SALARY

\$2,000 Annually

Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to keep the School Board salary at \$2,000 annually per member, and Mr. Todd McGaughey seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

SCHOOL ATTORNEY

Newby, Lewis, Kaminski and Jones, LLP

Mr. Jared Egger made a motion to retain the law firm of Newby, Lewis, Kaminski and Jones, LLP, as legal counsel for the John Glenn School Corporation, and Mrs. Christine Carson seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

DESIGNATION OF NEWSPAPER/S FOR  
PUBLISHING LEGAL NOTICES FOR  
SCHOOL CORPORATION

Plymouth Pilot

South Bend Tribune

Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to designate the Plymouth Pilot and the South Bend Tribune for publishing required legal notices for the John Glenn School Corporation and Mr. Jared Egger seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

AUTHORIZATION OF SUPERINTENDENT TO EMPLOY SUBSTITUTE PERSONNEL

Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to approve the Authorization of the Superintendent to Employ Substitute Personnel, and Mrs. Christine Carson seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

Mr. Jared Egger took over as President for the remainder of the meeting.

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

Walkerton Elementary School:

- Donations
  - Walkerton Community Church Student Clothing Items

North Liberty Elementary School:

- Donations
  - North Liberty Treasure Chest \$200 Children's Emergency Fund

Urey Middle School

- Donations
  - Falcon 500 \$50 Student Council iLearn Incentives

John Glenn High School:

- Donations
  - Austin & Chelsea O'Connor \$100 Girls Basketball
  - O'Connor Delivery Service \$200 Girls Basketball

Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to approve the above named donations and fundraisers, and Mr. Bob Borlik 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 – 5

1. Approve Minutes – December 5, 2023 – Regular Session
2. Approve Vouchers – 101931 through 102047
3. Approve Personnel Recommendations

***Retirements/Resignations***

- a. Sheryl Weber Regular Route Bus Driver, John Glenn School Corporation
- b. Michelle Whitmer Robotics Coach, North Liberty Elementary School

***Appointments***

- a. Beth Smith Regular Route Bus Driver, John Glenn School Corporation
- b. Ashley Walls Regular Route Bus Driver, John Glenn School Corporation
- c. Leslie Irish Student Tutor, John Glenn High School
- d. Brittany Davis Girls Basketball Assistant Coach, Urey Middle School
- e. Hannah Ciula Girls Basketball Assistant Coach, Urey Middle School
- f. Aimee Egger Girls Basketball Assistant Coach, North Liberty Elementary School
- g. Zachary Lewis Girls Basketball Assistant Coach, North Liberty Elementary School
- h. Bradley Bowen E-sports Assistant Coach, John Glenn High School
- i. Kelly Stanley Girls Track Head Coach, John Glenn High School
- j. Troy Dillon Boys Track Head Coach, John Glenn High School
- k. Joanna Celmer Homebound Instructor, Urey Middle School

## *Transfers*

- a. Dave Lichtenbarger Transfer from Boys Track Head Coach to Boys Track Assistant Coach, John Glenn High School

## 4. Approve Transfer Student Requests

To date we have had 118 new out-of-district student requests for the 2023-2024 school year, including the most recent request tonight, to bring the current out-of-district student count to 626.

## 5. Approve FLMA Request for Employees 4327 & 3271

Mr. Bob Borlik made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 1-5 and Ryan Knowlton seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

## NEW BUSINESS

### 1. Approve 2024-2025 Corporation Calendar

Mr. Winchell noted that this is a joint recommendation from the teacher's union and the administration. We have been patiently waiting to confirm with the Falloween team that we can move Falloween back to the traditional third weekend in September so this calendar approval is a little later in the year than usual but we wanted to make sure we had the signed Falloween contract. The union has worked with us, as they always do, to bring this joint recommendation of a reciprocal calendar to what we did for the 2023-24 school year with the difference of changing the Falloween weekend. Mr. Ryan Knowlton made a motion to approve 2024-2025 Corporation Calendar and Mr. Christian Mattix seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero. Mr. Egger asked about the process of approving two years of corporation calendars at one time. Mr. Winchell noted that we anticipate bringing the next year's calendar before the board very soon but we wanted to make sure that we had the Falloween dates secured before making that recommendation.

## REPORTS

### 1. Superintendent's Report – Mr. Christopher Winchell

Mr. Winchell reported the following:

- As Mr. Manering shared, we are excited to report that we, once again, had a 100% graduation rate for 2023. This is truly a K-12 success story. We do not get kids graduated in four years, it takes thirteen. Everything that goes into making kids feel connected through building relationships are just as important as reading, writing and arithmetic. When kids feel connected to their school community, they do much better academically. We have a strong tradition of building relationship with our students at John Glenn. Great job to Mr. Manering and the high school and also to the entire John Glenn Team.
- The trip to the Hoosier Gym was an outstanding opportunity for our students last week. It is a once in a lifetime opportunity for our kids. A big thank you to everyone involved in making this happen.
- We are moving forward with construction at WES. Gibson Lewis has been very responsive and is doing a great job. The project is really going smoothly.
- We talk about a lot of projects but one of the items we are trying to complete soon is some bathroom renovations that were not included in the scope of work of the current building project. Since the bids came back so favorable, we are working on getting quotes from Gibson Lewis to complete some of these bathroom renovations throughout the corporation. Everyone will be very impressed by how great the bathroom renovations are in process at Walkerton Elementary. It is a

great example of when we plan ahead and work together as a team to put the project together and how nice we can do things when we plan ahead. There are times when we have emergencies that we have to rush to complete, but this project is truly a great example of our advanced planning and patience.

- It might sound odd but this is the time of year that we start thinking about August. This is the time to be thinking about who is retiring, who may be moving out of the area. We know there is a teacher shortage and we want to be on the front end of hiring quality new teachers and experienced teachers that are looking to relocate. As the high school and middle school begin course selections, it is the time to determine what classes we are offering, if we have the staff to cover them and what additional classes do we want to offer. Believe it or not, right now we have 10 licensed staff members who are on the team now, who will not be on the team in August. We will continue to work through these staffing changes.
- We have been very involved in the Special Education re-organization with the dissolution of JESSE. We are starting to interview for next year's positions.
- There are two courses that we are seriously considering adding at the high school. Culinary is a CTE class that we currently send kids to Plymouth to participate in. We have been working for a few years towards hosting this class on campus. In an ideal world, we would offer all of the CTE courses here at John Glenn but that is just not possible. We are lucky to have the neighboring districts to be able to partner with. Culinary is one that we have been working for the last few years to offer as a local CTE program. We already have a teacher that we think would be really good at it and be able to obtain the licensure necessary. The other course is called Heavy Highway. It is very similar to our building trades program but instead of learning to construct a house, they will learn how to do heavy high way carpentry type work. They will get certified on a bobcat and learn to drive other equipment and will give them the opportunity to pursue a career in the Operators, Labors or Carpenters Union. We have great teammates in Reith-Riley who have done this program at some other schools. We have a teammate who is licensed to teach this, but again, if we move that teammate into this new course, we will need to replace them in their current roll. We are very excited about the potential new courses for our students. As a side note, anyone who is enrolled in our building trades program has an automatic acceptance to the carpenters union upon successful completion of the program. We are hoping to develop the same situation for the students who would complete the Heavy Highway courses. In order to run the Heavy Highway courses, we will need to build a sand pit about the size of a softball infield and that is where the kids will learn how to run the equipment. There will be some classwork and some hours in the sandpit and then some field trips to go see work in progress. It is a very neat program. Finally, I just want to remind the board and community that our duty here is to provide programing for students. We want to protect programing that we have and expand in a very common sense and deliberate fiscally sound way. If we expand programming, we expand opportunities for our kids. We always strive to do what is best for kids.
- We all know that the Greene Township annexation has been a long time topic. Legally speaking, that annexation officially took place on January 1, 2024 based on Indiana Code and the resolutions that the South Bend and John Glenn School Boards passed. An important part of that annexation is for Greene Township to be included in our budget order. That will not take place until this time next year. They are officially part of our school district but we will all breathe a sigh of relief when we get the next budget order. In anticipation of Greene Township joining the corporation, in 2019, we started providing a shuttle bus. That was our first operational service that we provided to Greene Township. That grew to two buses. As this annexation took more and more form, we know that we have the duty to provide door-to-door transportation to these students in August 2024. This school year we expanded our shuttle buses into door-to-door service into approximately 40-50% of students in Greene Township. As of yesterday, we expanded that transportation service even more and are currently providing door-to-door transportation to approximately 60-70% of Greene Township students arriving to school by bus. Hats off to Kristan and Will for working hard to expand this operational service to our students in the Greene Township.

- The other duty we have is to realign our school board to have Greene Township represented as a voting member of our school board. We are in the process of working with Mr. Kaminski and the IDOE and eventually the State Board of Education to restructure our school board bylaws. Currently, our school board is comprised of two members from Polk, Lincoln, Liberty Townships and one member from Johnson Township. It will be restructured starting next election with terms to begin in January to have one member from each township (Polk, Lincoln, Liberty, Johnson and Greene) and then one from the northern district in which the person will have to reside in Greene or Liberty Township and the final member will be from the southern district that will have to reside in Polk, Lincoln or Johnson Townships. We will maintain a seven member board with each township being represented specifically and a majority of the Board members coming from the originating school townships. With that being said, we did not want our friends from Greene to not be involved in decisions that are made over the next year. We have two Greene township trustee board members here with us tonight, Shane Whitmer and Kathy Jaworski. Shane currently has students in the corporation now and Kathy had students graduate from John Glenn. Kathy will be joining us as an informal voice from Greene Township. Through conversations with Sandy Ort, the Greene Township Trustee, we felt it was appropriate to officially invite Kathy to come to our meetings and give input from Greene Township as appropriate. It is her intention to run for the Greene Township board seat that will be developed.
- We additionally need to wait for the Federal Court decision to say that the Desegregation Decree that South Bend has been under is not being violated. The paperwork has been filed, we are just waiting on their decision. There is a slight chance that the Federal Court could overrule the annexation but it is unlikely since only three percent of total South Bend enrollment will be affected. It is not a totally done deal until we get the 2025 budget order that shows Greene Township in the John Glenn Operations Fund and the federal court issues their decision.

### 3. Conference Requests

- Jennifer Johnson
- Marcy Bogunia
- Alexandria Hendee
- Amber Lyskiewicz
- Glenda Smith
- Katie Nardi
- Shania Feitz

### BOARD COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

Mr. Todd McGaughey asked what is to become of the Greene Township School. Mr. Winchell explained that based on the agreement that was signed, John Glenn has six months to make a financial offer to purchase the school. The price of the school would be the average of South Bend having the building appraised and John Glenn having the building appraised. Currently, I do not feel that John Glenn is interested in purchasing the building for multiple millions of dollars, but we may be interested in taking over the property for one dollar. There will certainly be expenses connected to that. Due to the way the building has been neglected and picked over for parts, it would take serious renovations.

Mr. McGaughey also asked if current JESSE employees have the opportunity to apply for the open positions we have. Mr. Winchell explained that we have posted those positions and they were made aware of them. He went on to explain there are a lot of opportunities for the JESSE employees to work with kids and only a few administrative type positions available. We are working to hire the Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, Blind Low Vision and Deaf Hard of Hearing Consultants. We will then evaluate the current John Glenn and Union North Special Education teams to make sure we are not overstaffed in any area. Finally, we will post the rest of the jobs that we think we need.

Ms. Carissa Smith asked if we are still waiting on final totals from Falloween. Mr. Winchell reported that we were at roughly \$40,000 but Mr. Manering will look into it and report back.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT MEETING DATE: January 23, 2024 7:00 P.M. Admin Building Regular Session

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Jared Egger called the meeting adjourned at 8:08 P.M.

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

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

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