

School Board Meeting – January 23, 2024
Regular Session
Board of Finance Meeting

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 23, 2024, at the John Glenn Administration Building. Board members present were Bob Borlik, Christine Carson, Jared Egger, Ryan Knowlton, Todd McGaughey and Carissa Smith. Christian Mattix was absent. Superintendent Christopher Winchell and six observers were also present.

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

North Liberty Elementary School

- Donations
 - Anonymous in Memory of 1972 Classmate
\$100 Student Lunch Balances

Urey Middle School

- Donations
 - Pam Cable \$500 Wrestling

John Glenn High School:

- Donations
 - Cathy Reese \$1000 Girls Basketball
- Fundraisers
 - Drama 1/15-2/5 Snap Raise Fundraiser
 - Class of 2025 1/29-2/13 Carnation Sales
 - Academic Super Bowl 1/29-2/23 Pretzel Rod Sales
 - Baseball 1/8-2/24 Beef Raffle

Mr. Ryan Knowlton 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 six to zero.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public made comment at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS #1 – 6

1. Approve Minutes – January 9, 2024 – Regular Session
2. Approve Vouchers – 102072 to 102208
3. Approve Personnel Recommendations

Appointments

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| a. Carrie Lewis | Custodian, North Liberty Elementary School |
| b. Courtney Fuchs | Occupational Therapist, John Glenn School Corporation |
| c. Jenny Dorrel | Physical Therapist, John Glenn School Corporation |
| d. Andrea Hoppe | Student Tutor, Walkerton Elementary School |

- | | | |
|----|--------------------|---|
| e. | Angela Pearish | Girls Basketball Coach, Walkerton Elementary School |
| f. | Jessica Bacon | Girls Basketball Coach, Walkerton Elementary School |
| g. | Phillip Buckmaster | Girls Basketball Assistant Coach, Walkerton Elementary School |
| h. | Brandon Egger | Girls Basketball Coach, North Liberty Elementary School |
| i. | Aimee Egger | Boys Track Coach, Urey Middle School |

4. Approve Transfer Student Requests

To date we have had 130 new out-of-district student requests for the 2023-2024 school year, including the most recent requests tonight, to bring the current out-of-district student count to 638.

5. Approve FLMA Request for Employee #2244
 6. Conflict of Interest Statement

Mrs. Christine Carson made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 1 – 6 and Ms. Carissa Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve Resolution of Transfers

Mr. Winchell explained that this is a housekeeping item that is tied to the annual budget. The Board approved the annual budget in October. There are two pieces of the budget that the Board approves, the taxes that can be collected (the levy) and the appropriations that the DLGF gives us permission to spend. There are times where you may have an appropriation without any funds remaining, but more often you have funds but you are out of appropriations. Tonight, we are asking for approval to go into each line item of the budget, and wherever there is a negative balance, we will square that out to a zero. It is important to note that that we never run out of money in each Fund, but we frequently run line items inside a fund into the negative to track actual spending which then assists with building the next year's budget. The Board and the DLGF would both need to approve overspending of any of our large funds through an additional appropriations hearing. Mr. Bob Borlik made a motion to approve Resolution of Transfers and Mr. Todd McGaughey seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

2. Approve Resolution to Transfer Amounts from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund in the amount of \$166,666.67

Mr. Winchell noted that in the 2025 Budget which was approved in October. We have increased the transfer from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund from \$1.7 million to \$2 million, an increase of \$300,000 for the year. This is the first time since 2019 that we have asked the board to increase the amount of money that is transferred each quarter between these funds. This is approximately a 13.5% transfer, which is still well below the statutory limit of 15% set by the DLGF and Legislators. Last year, we were transferring approximately 11.5%. It is in our best interest to increase this transfer to help offset inflation. Mr. Ryan Knowlton made a motion to approve Resolution to Transfer Amounts from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund in the amount of \$166,666.67 and Mrs. Christine Carson seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

REPORTS

1. Director of Learning Report – Mr. Tim Davis

Mr. Davis reported the following:

- The second and third grade students at both elementary schools are preparing to take the I-Read test in February. We did very well last year and over 90% of our third graders and 50% of our

second graders corporation wide passed the I-Read test. Second grade students who passed last year, do not have to retake the test this year.

- Students are also preparing to take the I-Learn testing later this spring. The new questions have been released and teachers are being encouraged to begin reviewing these new questions with their students.

2. Superintendent's Report – Mr. Christopher Winchell

Mr. Winchell reported the following:

- We have received a new grant this year called the Early Literacy Grant. This grant was designed by the legislature to reward school staff working in literacy with K-3 students and incentivize people to want to be in that K-3 literacy area. We received one of the largest grants of \$52,000, which is almost the same amount as Penn Harris Madison. We received much larger amounts than other neighboring school districts. The formula that they used to determine who gets how much takes into account the socioeconomic status along with your academic achievement rate. We are a very hard working community that has a lot of families that have both parents working full-time and education is very important. We have received many recognitions over the years connecting our achievement and our 50-60% free and reduced lunch rate because our students still achieve the same as corporations who have a 25% or less free and reduced rate. This is something that we celebrate with our teammates. Education is a high priority in our community, as such, our academic achievement out performs our socioeconomic projections. Our reputation of outperforming shines through brightly. In this incentive grant this \$52,000 is specifically designed for the teammates that work with literacy in K-3 grades. We have started conversations with the teachers union and we agree that we want to share this money with all of the staff that works hands on with literacy for K-3 students, not just the licensed staff. This grant is different from the TAG that can only go to licensed teachers. We anticipate sharing this grant among 50-60 staff members. We will bring a formal recommendation outlining the distribution within the next few weeks.
- The building project is moving along. Mr. McGaughey had an opportunity to tour the areas that we are currently working on at WES and we were able to show off what has been completed. We are trying very hard to add bathroom renovations on to this project for the rest of Walkerton Elementary, North Liberty Elementary School and the high school. We have already renovated some bathrooms at Urey Middle School. This is a set of approximately nine bathrooms and we have approximately \$1.5 million left in the \$10 million bond that is unaccounted for since the bid came back so competitively. As of now, it is looking that the bids for these nine bathrooms is approximately \$1.1 million. We have asked our partners at Gibson Lewis to sharpen their pencils and see if we can save any more money so that we are sure we have enough left for contingencies that are bound to pop up prior to the completion of the project in whole. Statutorily, we are able to use the same contractor since we can add up to 20% of the base bid as a change order before having to put the projects out for public bid. It is rare that we are able to get more things completed in a project than we initially planned. We are in this unique position because we were willing to have this project completed throughout the school year. Most corporations want to have work completed from June 1st to August 8th. Mr. McGaughey added that he was impressed with how Gibson Lewis is conducting the work within the building. The areas were very clean, and kids were barely aware that construction was even happening in the building.
- The Building Trades Board purchased a piece of property on Harrison Street near where we have built a couple of other houses. They paid \$17,000 for a nice lot in town. The Building Trades Board prefers to build a house for a homeowner but there have been a few years where we did not have a homeowner lined up, so in order to keep the class going, we built a "spec" house. Each of those homes have been sold prior to completion. They like to keep a piece of property available to have as a backup plan. We will maintain this property until it is needed and file all necessary paperwork to keep it tax exempt with the help from Mr. Kaminski's office.

- We will have snow make-up days on February 19th on campus, and we will have a pre-planned e-learning day on “eclipse day”, April 8th. Notification was sent to parents and staff this afternoon.
- There is an upcoming conference on Artificial Intelligence. If you are interested in attending, please let me know so we can get everyone registered.
- The Board of Finance Meeting will follow after this meeting.

3. Conference Requests

- a. Katie Nardi
- b. Glenda Smith

BOARD COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

Mr. Bob Borlik shared with the Board that Mr. Branson Hiatt passed away last week. He was a huge supporter of the Walkerton community and John Glenn up until his passing day. About five years ago, he donated \$100,000 to the high school to use for scholarships with no other strings attached. He was an amazing individual.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT MEETING DATE: February 6, 2024 7:00 P.M. Admin Building Regular Session

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Jared Egger called the meeting adjourned at 7:39 P.M.

BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING

The Board of Finance Meeting was called to order at 8:41 p.m. by Mr. Jared Egger.

1. Organize Board of Finance by Electing a President, Secretary, and Review of 2023 Investments

President Jared Egger Secretary Ryan Knowlton

Mr. Ryan Knowlton made a motion to approve the appointment of Mr. Jared Egger as President, and Mr. Ryan Knowlton as Secretary for the Board of Finance. Mr. Todd McGaughey seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

Mr. Christopher Winchell provided an in depth review of the 2023 financial information. All internal accounting reports and state produced Distressed Unit Appeals Board (DUAB) financial indicator reports show that the district is in a strong financial situation. Mr. Jared Egger adjourned the Board of Finance meeting at 8:20 P.M.

PRES. _____

SEC'Y. _____
