

School Board Meeting – October 1, 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 October 1, 2024, at the John Glenn Administration Building. Board members present were Bob Borlik, Christine Carson, Jared Egger, Ryan Knowlton, Todd McGaughey, and Christian Mattix. Carissa Smith was absent. Superintendent Christopher Winchell and 9 observers were present through public comment and seven observers were present throughout the meeting.

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

John Glenn High School

- Donations
 - American Legion Post 189 \$250 Falloween
 - Cash Donations during wristband sales \$34 Falloween
 - Daniel and Elizabeth Drotar \$100 Drama
 - Falcon 500 \$200 Teen Advisory Board
 - Hamilton Service Center \$100 Drama
 - Kevin & Kaitlin Kaiser \$50 Baseball
 - John & Kim Murray \$100 Drama
 - Earl & Lisa Sleek \$100 Falloween
 - Tyner IOOF Lodge 821 \$1084 Falloween
 - Thomas & Debra Walter \$300 Drama
 - Chloe Wysong \$160 Cross Country

Mr. Todd McGaughey made a motion to approve Donations and Fundraisers and Mr. Christian Mattix seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Linda Alexander spoke to the board regarding 4th Grade students taking Chromebooks home.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS #1 – 4

1. Approve Minutes – September 17, 2024 – Regular Session
2. Approve Vouchers 103638 through 103759
2. Approve Personnel Recommendations

Retirements/Resignations

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| a. Miranda Clark | Part-time Cafeteria Staff, North Liberty Elementary School |
| b. Angela Kohler | Part-time Cafeteria Staff, North Liberty Elementary School |
| c. Bradley Bowen | E-Sports Assistant Coach, John Glenn High School |
| d. Brad Laskowski | Assistant Baseball Coach, John Glenn High School |

Appointments

- a. Ashley Walls Instructional Aide, North Liberty Elementary School

4. Approve Transfer Students

To date, we have 72 new transfer students for the 2024-25 school year.

Mr. Winchell informed the board that today, October 1st, is the Fall ADM Count Day. As of right now, it appears that our ADM is 1,981 students. This may fluctuate slightly over the next 30 days as the reporting calculations and double checks are completed. Last fall, we had an ADM of 1,964 and in the spring it was 1,950 so we are happy to report 1,981 students. Once the ADM has been verified, we will provide a full report on transfer students.

Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 1 – 4 and Mrs. Christine Carson seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of six to zero.

NEW BUSINESS

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

Mr. Winchell noted that in 2019, the State changed what expenses could be paid from what account and changed what accounts actually existed. This change required schools to transfer operational expenditures that got paid from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund. The State Board of Accounts requires board approval for these transfers which we do quarterly.

2. Public Hearing for 2025 Budget

Mr. Winchell noted that we had a lengthy budget report at our last meeting where Mr. Bendy provided a very thorough review of the proposed 2025 Budget. At that meeting, you gave us permission to advertise the budget, which we have since done. Today, we are completing the next step in the formal budget approval process by holding a Public Hearing regarding the information we posted online and what was presented at the last meeting. At our next meeting, we will bring the 2025 budget before you for formal approval. The public hearing was opened at 7:16 PM and closed at 7:17 PM with no public comment being made. Mr. Knowlton asked what student count was used when we calculated the budget. Mr. Bendy noted that we were conservative with the prediction and calculated the budget off of an ADM of 1,970 students. Mr. Winchell reminded the board that today's count day is only for half of the school year, there will be a count day in February for the second half of the year. It used to be that the February count day was only for informational purposes, but now, half of our revenue is tied to it. Based on non-scientific data, our ADM tends to decrease slightly between the fall and spring count days, which requires us to be even more conservative with our projections. Mr. Bendy added that when we budget, we are actually projecting our spending for the next 18 months. When planning that far in advance, there are many things to keep in mind such as upcoming budget changes at the State level. Mr. Borlik asked for a reminder of our total budget numbers. Mr. Bendy noted that our advertised budget is \$26,419,631 with a levy of \$7,919,698, \$1 million of which is tied to the potential Max Levy Appeal that will be filed later this month.

REPORTS

1. Director of Learning Report
Dr. Fuller reported the following:

- On Wednesday, September 25th, Walkerton Elementary School was honored as one of the 241 elementary schools whose 3rd Grade scored at 95% or higher on the 2024 IREAD-3 assessment. There are 1,366 elementary schools throughout the state of Indiana.
- School Improvement Plans that were approved at the last meeting will be uploaded to the IDOE tomorrow.
- ILEARN Checkpoint Update: Checkpoint One is well underway. We have had 333 students who have already taken the ELA Checkpoint One and 254 students who have taken the Math Checkpoint One. This will continue throughout the next two weeks.
- Artificial Intelligence in Schools: The IDOE has begun rolling out information on AI in public schools. There have been many in-person and online webinars regarding AI that I have attended with the goal being to collect information on how to safely educate both students and staff. I will be attending one in Portage this Thursday that specifically focuses on AI use in K-8th Grade.

2. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Winchell reported the following:

- Yesterday, I had the pleasure of attending the ceremonial ground breaking for the \$11.7 billion Amazon Web Service Center being built in New Carlisle. This is the single largest investment in Indiana State History. There is a real hope that this investment will help reinvigorate the St. Joseph County businesses as a whole. When businesses are succeeding, so are the surrounding communities.
- On behalf of the Building Trades Board, Mr. Manering and I were honored to accept a \$7,500 donation from the Carpenters Union for the Building Trades and Introductory Carpentry Classes to use to purchase tools and supplies. Thank you to the Carpenters Union. We have established a uniquely strong relationship with the Carpenters Union. Students who successfully complete the Building Trades Program have automatic admittance into the Carpenters Union and start their career with one year of service applied to their apprenticeship program. It is a great opportunity for students wanting to enter the trade.
- We are happy to report that the local TIF district will be sponsoring \$50,000 of the Walkerton Elementary Cafeteria flooring project. With their willingness to sponsor the Walkerton Cafeteria portion, we were able to also complete the flooring at North Liberty Elementary School. The TIF District has also recently sponsored the Fuel Station Project for both the corporation and the Town of Walkerton and they previously sponsored the tennis court lights and helped with computers/technology needs in the past.
- Fallween was mentioned by Mr. Manering but I wanted to reiterate that Fallween was great. This was our 16th annual festival! We are in the process of gathering all of our numbers and recharging our batteries. A festival this big takes many hands and we could not be successful without our staff and community and the board's support.
- College Go Week has been mentioned a few times already tonight. I had the opportunity to attend the College Visit Field Trip with the Urey Middle School 8th grade students yesterday. If you haven't been to the Ivy Tech Campus in South Bend lately, I highly encourage you to check it out. They have expanded their programming and have a lot of hands-on learning opportunities. It was nice to visit IUSB in the middle of the day. It has the hustle bustle not usually found on a community college.
- Two weeks from today we will begin holding Parent-Teacher Conferences. Which also means Fall Break is two weeks from Friday. This school year is really going quickly.
- Shout out to the John Glenn Education Foundation. We have the second edition of "The Tradition Lives Here" Shirts that have been handed out to all students and staff throughout the corporation. This is a great joint project between the JGEF and JGSC. In addition to the t-shirts, they also hosted a Homecoming Tailgate Party last Friday night and provided free pizza, cookies, chips and drinks to everyone in attendance. They will also help sponsor Space Camp again this year for 10 young men who have an interest in Aerospace Engineering. The first day of school they showed up with a \$100 bill for each teacher to be able to buy whatever they need for their classroom.

What an amazing morale booster! This year they have expanded this to include every support staff member receiving \$50. That is well over \$20,000 that they have handed out to our staff since the beginning of the year.

- There was a report in the newspaper this morning regarding ESSR Funds so I thought I would take the opportunity to remind you how we have used our funds. We benefitted from ESSR 1 which was approximately \$300,000, ESSR 2 which was approximately \$700,000 and ESSR 3 which was approximately \$1.2 million. We used the funds from ESSR 1 to provide emergency food service to our students while we were shut down and provided hazard pay to our hourly employees who came in at that time, and we purchased PPE for our return to school. We used ESSR 2 funds to put towards HVAC in the building project. The funds from ESSR 3 were used for the addition of staff members for class size reduction, we added special education teachers and we provided tutoring for our students. Overall, we added approximately twelve staff members during that time. We have spent all of our ESSR Funds.
- We will begin Collective Bargaining on October 8th. At the last meeting, we held our Public Hearing.

BOARD COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

Mr. Mattix asked if there was an update on the Sawmill. Mr. Winchell explained that there is a not for profit group called Ingrained that surfaced out of COVID to provide woodworking opportunities for at risk kids in urban areas and when everything was shut down, to help neighborhood kids. Through different activities, I was connected with someone on who sits on the Board of Woodmiser and they are looking for some schools who could take a high quality used sawmill and put it to good use. The thought was we could help Ingrained by manufacturing their lumber and while I am not sure that is a possibility, I highlighted four classes we offer here at John Glenn that could benefit from the donation of the sawmill. Hopefully this will be another opportunity for us to expand student programing.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT MEETING DATE: October 15, 2024 7:00 P.M. John Glenn Administration Building

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Jared Egger called the meeting adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

PRES. _____
SEC'Y. _____

