

School Board Meeting – November 5, 2024

Regular & Executive 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 November 5, 2024, at the John Glenn Administration Building. Board members present were Bob Borlik, Christine Carson, Jared Egger, Ryan Knowlton, Todd McGaughey, Christian Mattix and Carissa Smith. Superintendent Christopher Winchell and 23 observers were present through recognitions and 10 observers were present throughout the business meeting.

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

Walkerton Elementary School

➤ Donations

• Falcon 500	\$100	Harry Potter book kit
• Hahn’s Greenhouse	26 pumpkins	Preschool Classes
• Jill Groves	12 Rice Warm Packs	School Nurse
• Mr. Martin	Pumpkins	Kindergarten Math activities
• Schoolstore.com	\$537.75	Caring for Classrooms Donation
• Walkerton PTA	\$250	Ms. Haluda’s Classroom
• Falcon 500	\$35.19	Amy Weiss Classroom Supplies

➤ Fundraisers

- 1st Grade Fun Pasta Fundraiser November 6th through December 2nd

John Glenn High School

➤ Donations

• Phillip and Theresa Buckmaster	\$300	Girls Basketball
• Timothy and Patricia Grace	\$500	Girls Basketball in Memory of Dick Reese
• Charly Koopman	\$200	Girls Basketball
• Northern Electric Company	\$680	Girls Basketball
• Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories	\$100	Student Activities
• North Liberty Tri Kappa	\$100	Drama
• Tyner IOOF Lodge 821	\$200	Girls Basketball
• Jack Wardman	\$250	Drama

Mr. Ryan Knowlton made a motion to approve Donations and Fundraisers as read and Mr. Christian Mattix seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment made.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS #1 – 5

1. Approve Minutes – October 15, 2024 – Regular & Executive Session
October 29, 2024 – Public Hearing

2. Approve Vouchers 103833 through 103991
3. Approve Personnel Recommendations

Retirements/Resignations

- a. Jennifer Stout Winter and Spring Activity Coordinator, Urey Middle School

Appointments

- a. Dave Lichtenbarger Strength and Conditioning Coach, John Glenn High School
- b. Anthony Borelli E-Sports Assistant Coach, John Glenn High School
- c. Sean Haas Winter and Spring Activity Coordinator, Urey Middle School
E-Sports Assistant Coach, Urey Middle School
- d. Robert Porter Boys Basketball Head Coach, Urey Middle School
- e. Jeff Timm Boys Basketball Head Coach, Urey Middle School
- f. Leslie Jobe Part-time Cafeteria Staff, North Liberty Elementary School
- g. Sherry Lichtenbarger Maternity Leave Substitute Teacher, North Liberty Elementary School

4. Approve Transfer Students

To date, we have 63 new transfer students for the 2024-2025 school year including the four newest requests tonight. Our official enrollment appears to be comprised of 1559 residential enrollees and 422 students who are out-of- district transfer students.

5. Approve FMLA Requests for Employee #2267

Mrs. Christine Carson made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 1 – 5 and Mr. Todd McGaughey seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve Overnight Field Trip – Spring Break Trip to Germany

Mr. Winchell commented that our school board policy requires board approval for all overnight field trips. The Board has adopted the practice of approving IHSAA and FFA events annually, and then the building principal's report in. Since this is not tied to the IHSAA or the FFA, it does not fall under that blanket approval. Mr. Manering and Mr. Jeremy Merrill explained the trip in detail and noted that there are 42 students and chaperones attending the trip to Germany and Switzerland to explore cutting edge sustainability efforts in both of these countries while being immersed in a cultural experience different from what they are used to. This is a great opportunity for our students. Mr. Todd McGaughey made a motion to approve Overnight Field Trip – Spring Break Trip to Germany and Ms. Carissa Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried with vote six to zero with one abstention.

2. Approve Master Teacher Contract

Mr. Winchell noted that we started the collective bargaining process in September and have completed the multiple statutory steps and public hearings that go along with that process. On October 29th, we held a public hearing on the tentative agreement following the ratification meeting held by the teacher's association on October 22nd. Mr. Winchell recommended that the Board approve the Master Teacher Contract Collective Bargaining Agreement for the 2024-2025 school year. Mr. Egger thanked the administration and union team for working well together. Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to approve Master Teacher contract and Mr. Ryan Knowlton seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of

six to zero with one abstention. Mr. Winchell added that the Board just approved the Master Teacher Contract language. The business office is updating all certified staff's current salaries and as we have done in the past, we will bring a separate recommendation to approve certified staff updated salaries. Once those are approved, we will work through the process of retroactive and updated pay which will be paid out to staff no later than the first pay period in January 2025.

REPORTS

1. Director of Learning Report

Dr. Fuller reported the following:

- The IDOE has been on a mission to improve student attendance across the state. Dr. Fuller provided an in-depth look at JGSC student attendance with comparisons to local school corporations in our area.
- Dr. Fuller also reported on the differences between truancy and habitual absenteeism and reminded the Board of the process of reporting absences to the local prosecutor's office.
- Dr. Fuller's full report is posted on the website with other pertinent meeting information.

2. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Winchell reported the following:

- At the ISBA meeting last week, one of the things they mentioned was tax reform. Legislators would like to look at funding the Operations Fund with a per student amount as opposed to a tax levy funded Operations Fund. The number they are considering is \$1400 per student. For reference, our current Operations Fund is approximately \$1650 per student. If the State were to cap it at \$1400, it would be a significant hit to our budget. We will monitor this as the legislative session kicks off in January.
- They are also looking at capping the tax cap that is already in place for property taxes. Currently, it is 1% for residential, 2% for rental and 3% for businesses. That creates a situation called a circuit breaker. If all taxing units are asking for levies, creates a maximum amount of money that can be pulled from a taxing unit. It is a credit to the tax payer, but it is a loss to the taxing unit. This is something that we need to monitor through the session.
- We will take a tour of NLES following the meeting to look at the renovations that have been completed since we were last here for a meeting. The HVAC unit in the main office isn't visible, but -it was a sizable project that has been completed, as well as the special education classroom, the family restroom, and the cafeteria floors. We have also replaced interior doors.
- The building project at WES is moving along according to schedule.
- The outdoor lighting project at the baseball, softball and football fields is in full swing.
- The planning team is working hard as we continue to work through the details for the next project. A Civil Engineer has joined the JGSC and Barton Coe Vilamaa teams to work through drainage issues. We are also looking into all scenarios for football seating and have visited a few local schools with similar set ups to see what we like and how to proceed.
- We have discussed adding solar to the roof at the high school. We often consult with Tom Walter, who is part owner and engineer at Larson Danielson. He offers his expert opinion as a valued member of our community. He has shared some additional concerns about the placement of the solar that we will continue to investigate. We are in a good spot with our planning that we can really scrutinize what our plans are to make sure they are done correctly.
- Our bond sale went very well. We received a \$250,000 premium which means we were offered \$250,000 on top of our \$10 million bond at an interest rate of 3.932%. As you know, we only approved \$10 million in bond so that \$250,000 will come off of the note. We are using easy whole numbers to explain how it will work, detailed numbers will be available as we get close to closing. Our credit rating was affirmed, which was excellent news. With our spending down of cash in the Operations Fund as we shouldered the expenses for the transportation of Greene Township students, it is a question that the bond holders and credit rating officials have. They

were equally impressed with our increased AV and our plans going forward. That helped our bond sale.

- Our Veteran’s Day events are always a highlight of the year and they will take place on Monday, November 11th.
- Our next meeting will be on Monday, November 18th so that Dr. Jerome McKibben can report on his demographic study that he has completed. We look forward to the conversation.
- We will celebrate Mr. Goewert as the Region 2 Middle School Principal of the Year nominee on Sunday, November 24th. If the board would like to join, please let us know.
- We will not meet on December 3rd, our December meeting will take place on December 17th.
- Due to how the holidays fall, we will hold January meetings on January 14th and January 28th.

BOARD COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

Mr. Mattix asked when we can expect to hear back on the Levy Appeal. Mr. Winchell explained that statutorily speaking, the DLGF is required to give us a budget order by the end of the calendar year, if you don’t bond after August. Since we bonded after August, there is no timeline, but we would anticipate getting a budget order by the end of the year. They usually arrive at the end of November or beginning of December.

UPCOMING CALENDAR EVENTS

- November 11, 2024 – Veteran’s Day Programs – 9am @WES, 10am @JGHS, 1pm @ NLES
- November 24, 2024 – Middle School Principal of the Year Banquet
- December 3, 2024 – NO SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
- December 17, 2024 – School Board Meeting – Regular Session
- January 14, 2025 – School Board Meeting – Regular Session
- January 28, 2025 – School Board Meeting – Regular Session

NEXT MEETING DATE: November 18, 2024 John Glenn Admin Building 7:00pm

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Jared Egger called the meeting adjourned at 8:18 P.M.

PRES. _____

SEC'Y. _____
