

The Board of Education of the Fairfield City School District in the County of Butler, State of Ohio, held an Organizational Meeting and Work Session on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of January 2007 at the Fairfield Senior High School Community Room.

PRESIDENT PRO TEM – Dr. Mark Morris

The meeting was called to order by the President Pro Tem, Dr. Mark Morris, at 6:00 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL – Present: Mr. Ball, Mr. Engel, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray, & Mrs. Wenning  
Absent: None

Also present: Dr. Farrell, Mr. Amodio, Mrs. Lane, & Mr. Clemmons

07-01 ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
FOR 2007 (ORC 3313.14)

A. Nominations

(If more than one person is nominated, the President Pro Tem shall publicly call the roll of the Board and ask the members to vote their choice. If only one person is nominated, a motion to close nominations, a second, and a vote by acclamation will elect the President.)

Mr. Murray nominated Dr. Morris for President.

MOTION – Moved by Mrs. Wenning to close the nominations.

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Ball

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Ball, Mr. Engel, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray, & Mrs. Wenning  
Nays: None  
Motion carried: 5-0

President Pro Tem declares Dr. Morris elected President of the Fairfield Board of Education for 2007.

- B. Oath of Office for the President – Mrs. Lane administered the Oath of Office to Dr. Morris.
- C. President Pro Tem directs the Treasurer to acknowledge in the minutes that the oath has been given.

President's Comments

Let me first say that it is truly a privilege to continue my service as a member of this Board. The one thing I learned during my first year is how little I know, and how much there is to learn. I look forward to continuing that learning process during the upcoming year.

As a student of the American presidency, the events of the past week were especially interesting for me as our nation buried its 38<sup>th</sup> president, Gerald R. Ford. I grew up in President Ford's home district in Michigan and remember meeting Congressman Ford as a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader. Our paths would again cross many years later as I wrote my dissertation. During the data collection portion of my research, I contacted each living president by letter. I was surprised one day to receive a phone call from President's Ford's secretary to tell me that he was unable to assist me with my research due to his declining health, but wished me well and good luck on the completion of my project. This simple act of courtesy meant a lot to me and was a reflection of the type of person Mr. Ford was.

This week, I was struck by a comment during one of the many tributes to President Ford, that he had had many adversaries, but no enemies. The two most common descriptions of him were that he was honest and decent. It is no wonder he voiced his disappointment with the current political environment. So many of today's elected officials are more interested in personal political agendas and seeing their name in the newspaper. It seems drawing attention to oneself has become more important than producing sound public policy.

As we enter a new year, let us all remember this honorable and decent man who made difficult and sometimes unpopular decisions. He placed his country before himself and thus demonstrated true leadership. We can all learn much from his example.

Finally, I want to say welcome home Terry Senger.

D. President presides from this point forward.

07-02 ELECTION OF THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR 2007 (ORC 3313.14)

A. Nominations (same procedure applies)

Mr. Ball nominated Mr. Murray for Vice-President.

MOTION – Moved by Mrs. Wenning to close the nominations.

SECOND – Seconded by Dr. Morris

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Ball, Mr. Engel, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray, & Mrs. Wenning

Nays: None

Motion carried: 5-0

President declares Mr. Murray elected Vice President of the Fairfield Board of Education for 2007.

- B. Oath of Office for the Vice President – Mrs. Lane administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Murray.
- C. President directs the Treasurer to acknowledge in the minutes that the oath has been given.

Vice President's Comments

I want to first thank my fellow Board members for their vote of confidence tonight. I also want to thank the residents of our fine school district for continuing to support me as I enter my second year as vice president of the Board. As someone who has worked his entire career in the public sector, I am respectful of the public trust and aware of the responsibilities that come along with it. As an elected official, respect for and protection of the public trust is critical and my highest priority. I realize that the residents of this district have placed their trust in me to make the right decisions for our district and our students, who are the future of this community and our nation. So, as we start this New Year, I again commit to work hard to make the right and, often times, difficult decisions for this district. I will keep the values and needs of our community as guiding principles in my decision-making. I will keep the protection of the educational future of all of our students as one of my highest priorities. And finally, I will work with this Board to lead this district to position itself to provide our students, for many years to come, with many excellent educational opportunities to prepare them for the future. This can only be accomplished through open and honest communication with our community in a direct and truthful manner with a vision that looks years and decades into the future, not to the next election. I encourage all residents of this community to become active in helping us shape this vision for our excellent school district to make sure that we set a strong foundation for the education of our children and our grandchildren.

07-03 ESTABLISH 2007 MEETING DATES/BOARD SERVICE FUND FOR 2007/PERFORMANCE BONDS/STANDING AUTHORIZATIONS FOR 2007/APPOINTMENTS TO OSBA & CITY COMMITTEES

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Murray to approve the following:

NEW BUSINESS/BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Establish 2007 meeting dates, times and places (ORC 3313.15)
  - 1. Dates: Work Session – First Thursday of the month; Regular Session – Third Thursday of the month
  - 2. Times: Work Session – 5:00 pm; Regular Session – 6:00 pm
  - 3. Places: Work Session – Fairfield City Schools Operations Building, 211 Donald Drive; Regular Session – Fairfield High School Community Room

Comments: Mr. Murray would like to explore the option of taping the Work Sessions. Dr. Farrell will provide additional information in the next Board packet.

- B. Consider establishment of a Board service fund for 2007 in the amount of \$18,000 (ORC 3315.15).
- C. Recommend renewal and/or purchase of Position/Performance Bonds for Treasurer as required by Ohio Law in the amount of \$20,000 (ORC 3313.25).
- D. Recommend approval of the following standing authorizations for 2007:
  - 1. Authorize the Treasurer to secure advances from the Auditor when funds are available and payable to the district.
  - 2. Authorize the Treasurer to invest inactive funds whenever funds are available.
  - 3. Authorize the Treasurer to modify appropriations and advance money from fund to fund as needed. Modifications must then be presented to the Board for approval.
  - 4. Authorize the Treasurer to pay all bills within the limits of the appropriation resolution as bills are received and when the merchandise has been received in good condition.
  - 5. Authorize the Superintendent or Designee, during periods when this Board is not in session, to make offers of employment directly to candidates for either teaching or non-teaching positions on behalf of this Board, and to acknowledge acceptance of such offers on behalf of this Board, subject to a subsequent vote of ratification by this Board; provided however, that upon ratification by this Board, the employment shall be deemed effective as of the date and time of the employee's acceptance of the Superintendent's offer.  
  
Nothing in this resolution shall require the Board of Education to employ or continue to employ an individual who has not provided a criminal records check satisfactory to the Board or who has not satisfied any other prerequisite to employment created by law or Board policy.
  - 6. Authorize the Superintendent or Designee, on behalf of this Board, to accept resignations which have been submitted by employees during times when this Board is not in session, subject to ratification by this Board; provided however, that upon ratification by this Board, such resignations shall be deemed effective as of the date and time of the Superintendent's acceptance.
  - 7. Authorize Superintendent or Designee to act as purchasing agent for the district to make purchases of supplies and/or services within the limits of the appropriation measure.
  - 8. Authorize the Treasurer to borrow short-term funds as needed for cash flow purposes.

9. Authorize the Treasurer to utilize the legal firm of Peck, Shaffer, and Williams when fiscal legal opinions are required.
10. Authorize the Interim Assistant Superintendent and Director of Curriculum to approve professional day requests for certificated and classified employees for state meetings, workshops, and events in an amount not to exceed the limits in the Annual Appropriation, Board Policy, and negotiated contracts.
11. Authorize members of the Board to attend workshops, seminars and meetings for Professional Development to benefit the academic and financial status of district.
12. Recommend that in accordance with Section 3313.26, ORC that the Board waives the reading of minutes from previous meetings.

E. Appointments to OSBA and City Committees

1. Butler Tech Board of Education – Eugene Ball
2. Legislative Liaison to OSBA/Federal Relations Network – Arnold Engel
3. Parks and Recreation Board – Preston Johnson
4. Planning Commission – Dan Murray
5. Student Achievement Liaison/Youth Commission – Nancy Wenning

(Any of items “A” through “E” may be voted upon separately at the request of any Board member)

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Engel

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Ball, Mr. Engel, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray, & Mrs. Wenning

Nays: None

Motion carried: 5-0

07-04 FISCAL YEAR 2008 TAX BUDGET

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Ball to approve the following:

TREASURER’S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

- A. Recommend approval of the Fiscal Year 2008 Tax Budget that will be submitted to the Butler County Auditor’s Office.

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Murray

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Ball, Mr. Engel, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray, & Mrs. Wenning

Nays: None

Motion carried: 5-0

RECESS from 6:18 until 6:23 pm.

The Board resumed the meeting at 6:24 pm.

07-05 WORK SESSION

Personnel – Certificated

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Murray to approve the following:

1. Employment
  - a. Jamie Hawks, Intermediate School, E.D. Special Education  
(recommended for a new one-year limited teaching contract effective for the 2006-2007 school year; Ms. Hawks served as a long-term substitute teacher while the correct license was processed by the Ohio Department of Education.)

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Engel

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Ball, Mr. Engel, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray, & Mrs. Wenning

Nays: None

Motion carried: 5-0

B. Items for Discussion

1. Policy JHCB Inoculation of Students  
This will be presented to the Board on January 18, 2007, for approval.
2. Calendar 2008-2009 - options  
The Board would like the Administrators to educate the public on the fact that the school calendar for 2008-2009 must be modified for testing purposes.
3. Community Engagement Presentations on December 21  
Mr. Engel stated that he believes that this process is being used to gain support for the levy.

Mr. Ball stated that the process is being used hand-in-hand with the Ohio School Facilities Commission assessment.

Mr. Clemmons stated that the contractual agreement between the Board and a company that facilitates the engagement process is a valid expenditure.

Dr. Morris stated that the final decision on hiring a consultant will depend upon the Ohio School Facilities Commission assessment and the questions that need to be asked of the community.

4. Committee Assignments

Dr. Morris suggested that the Board consider eliminating Board Committees. The Board could consider forming a committee as the need arises.

Mr. Engel would like the option to separate out items on the agenda for voting.

Dr. Morris stated that he prefers to leave the agenda format as is.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thursday, January 11 Fairfield Athletic Training Complex Fund Raiser  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Oscar Event Center at Jungle Jim’s Market  
Monday, January 15 Martin Luther King Day (No School)

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Ball suggested that the Board members work together to stagger their attendance at various district events.

Mrs. Wenning congratulated Dr. Morris & Mr. Murray.

Mr. Engel referred to the newspaper articles that have been written.  
Mr. Engel commented on the West Elementary homework club.  
Mr. Engel referenced the STRS article.

Mr. Murray commented on the four Fairfield alumni that are now marching with the Ohio State University Marching Band.

Dr. Morris would like the Board to recognize Mr. Senger at a future meeting.  
Dr. Farrell will contact Mr. Senger.

07-06 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION – Moved by Mrs. Wenning to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Engel

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Ball, Mr. Engel, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray, & Mrs. Wenning

Nays: None

Motion carried: 5-0

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President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

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Treasurer