

The Board of Education of the Fairfield City School District in the County of Butler, Ohio, held a Work Session on the 2nd of February 2017 in the Catherine D. Milligan Community Room.

The meeting was called to order by the President at 6:30 pm.

ROLL CALL – Present: Mr. Begley, Mr. Hare, Mrs. O’Neal, & Mrs. Shorter
Absent: Mr. Berding

Also present: Mr. Smith, Mrs. Lane, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Wildow, Mr. Weiser & Mr. Clemmons

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Balena Shorter

PRESENTATIONS/RESOLUTIONS

A. Transportation 2017-2018 – Bill Westerbeck

Mr. Westerbeck presented an overview of the transportation times for next year.

Mr. Hare asked if the plan requires us to purchase additional buses. Mr. Westerbeck stated that additional buses are not needed; all 67 buses will be used.

Mr. Hare asked if we will be purchasing new buses this year; we will purchase five new buses. We will trade in old buses.

Mr. Hare asked if the additional cost of \$180,000 for sophomore busing is for personnel. Mr. Westerbeck stated that the monies will be used for additional staff hours.

Mrs. Shorter asked why the start times are shifting from East to North. Mr. Westerbeck stated that the lower number of students in those buildings require less buses.

Mrs. Shorter asked how many buses would need to be purchased to make all of the elementary start and end times the same. The answer was 24 additional buses at \$93,000 for each bus as well as \$53,000 additional cost for wear and tear on the buses and for drivers. That would be a total additional cost of \$146,000 per bus.

B. State of the District – Billy Smith

Mr. Smith gave an overview of the status of the District including Academics, Personnel, Communication, Building Project and School Based Health Center.

COMMUNICATION

This is the portion of the meeting where you, the residents of the Fairfield City School District, are invited to share your thoughts with the Board. Please know that this time has been set aside for the Board to listen to you. Your comments are valued and will be taken into careful consideration. The Board will not engage in dialogue at this time. Presentations are limited to five (5) minutes each.

A resident spoke about school start and end times.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

17-14 EMPLOYMENT – Mr. Martin

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

A. Personnel – Licensed

1. Employment

a. Extracurriculars 2016-2017

Senior High

John Meyer, Lacrosse, Varsity Coach, Girls
Cory Moorefield, Tennis, Boys

(All employment is contingent upon satisfactory submission of all required documents.)

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Shorter

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mr. Hare, Mrs. O'Neal & Mrs. Shorter

Absent: Mr. Berding

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 4-0

B. Items for Board Discussion

1. HVAC upgrades at Fairfield South and Middle schools – Tom Weiser
Mr. Weiser stated that the combined upgrades for South and the Middle School will be \$6.3 million dollars.

17-15 APPROVAL OF O.A.P.S.E. LOCAL 378 AMENDMENT TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING DATED OCTOBER 27, 2016/APPROVAL OF SCHEDULE FOR START AND DISMISSAL TIMES EFFECTIVE WITH THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR/ APPROVAL TO REINSTATE HIGH SCHOOL BUSING FOR SOPHOMORE STUDENTS EFFECTIVE AT BEGINNING OF 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR/APPROVAL OF GRADES 9-12 PROGRAM OF STUDIES FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR/AUTHORIZE THE TREASURER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH TRANE FOR AIR CONDITIONING OF FAIRFIELD SOUTH ELEMENTARY AND FAIRFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL BASED ON LETTER OF COMMITMENT APPROVED AT OCTOBER 20, 2016 BOARD MEETING

MOTION – Moved by Mrs. Begley to approve the following:

C. Other Items for Board Action

1. Recommend the approval of O.A.P.S.E. Local 378 Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding dated October 27, 2016.

2. Recommend approval of the following schedule for start and dismissal times effective with the 2017-2018 school year.

School	Starting Time	Dismissal Time
Fairfield Senior High School	8:00 am	2:30 pm
Fairfield Freshman School	8:00 am	2:30 pm
Fairfield Academy (am session)	7:30 am	10:50 am
Fairfield Academy (pm session)	11:00 am	2:20 pm
Creekside Middle School	7:15 am	1:45 pm
Crossroads Middle School	7:15 am	1:45 pm
Central Elementary School	8:45 am	3:15 pm
AM Kindergarten	8:45 am	11:25 am
PM Kindergarten	12:35 pm	3:15 pm
Compass Elementary School	9:30 am	4:00 pm
AM Kindergarten	9:30 am	12:10 pm
PM Kindergarten	1:20 pm	4:00 pm
East Elementary School	8:45 am	3:15 pm
AM Kindergarten/Preschool	8:45 am	11:25 am
PM Kindergarten/Preschool	12:35 pm	3:15 pm
North Elementary School	9:30 am	4:00 pm
AM Kindergarten	9:30 am	12:10 pm
PM Kindergarten	1:20 pm	4:00 pm
South Elementary School	8:45am	3:15 pm
AM Kindergarten/Preschool	8:45 am	11:25 am
PM Kindergarten/Preschool	12:35 pm	3:15 pm
West Elementary School	9:30 am	4:00 pm
AM Kindergarten/Preschool	9:30 am	12:10 pm
PM Kindergarten/Preschool	1:20 pm	4:00 pm

3. Recommend reinstating high school busing for sophomore students effective at the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year.
4. Recommend the approval of grades 9 – 12 Program of Studies for the 2017-2018 school year.
5. Recommend authorizing the Treasurer to enter into an agreement as outlined in the letter of commitment approved at the October 20, 2016 Board meeting with Trane, 10300 Springfield Pike, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215 for the air conditioning of Fairfield South Elementary School, 5460 Bibury Road, Fairfield, Ohio and Fairfield Middle School, 1111 Nilles Road, Fairfield, Ohio.

Board Member Comments

Mrs. Shorter

She reminded everyone that the start time for the high school was addressed in the past by parents and students that made an appeal for a later start time for the high school. Their argument was supported by studies that indicate the need for more sleep for teenagers. She can attest to the struggle she has had as a parent getting a student up early. She also noted that high school students have a great deal of homework.

Board Member Comments (continued)

Mrs. Shorter

She also referenced state changes that will reduce transportation allocations; she will point out those changes in a report later in the meeting. The increase in the number of drivers to alleviate some of the concerns is just too costly for the district.

She sees the changes in start and dismissal times as an opportunity for parents to view the situation as a chance for kids to learn to grow and make adjustments. She does realize that this is a difficult transition and she will keep that in mind as she votes on this issue. She has been through a number of building transitions with her own children and feels that the reduction of building changes for students will be helpful.

Mrs. O'Neal

She is worried about the Tier 4 students; the students who will be adjusting their school day by two hours. She is optimistic that the decrease in the number of transitions to buildings will be positive. All is right about the changes to allow the 10 year old fifth grader to experience the school size of 800 in the ninth grade rather than in the fifth grade.

She wishes we had the financial ability to adjust the start and dismissal times, but we do not have the money. She realizes this is painful and she does have concerns.

Mr. Begley

He is concerned about the two hour shift for some of the students also.

He noted that including the sophomores in busing is a big positive and that he has heard favorable comments from students and families about the issue. He admitted that there are so many factors to consider in this decision that it is not an easy one.

Mr. Hare

He pointed out that if you change one aspect of the transportation issue, it has a ripple effect. It is a difficult decision that will have a positive impact on some families and a negative effect on other families. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate the needs of all of the people all of the time.

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Hare

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mr. Hare, Mrs. O'Neal & Mrs. Shorter

Absent: Mr. Berding

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 4-0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislative Update – Balena Shorter presented the following:

There are 2 main items of note that the public will be updated on. One pertains to the budget recommendations for fiscal years 2018-2019 presented by Gov. John Kasich Jan. 30th and the other is the draft overview of Ohio's ESSA state plan.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed into federal law on Dec. 10, 2015, replacing the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). Per legislation, each state is required to communicate with stakeholders in order to gather input for their state plan.

- 15,000 Ohioans provided info about their thoughts about the plan.

- Approximately 3,100 individuals participated in 11 webinars
- 1,500 Ohioans attended the 10 regional meetings held across the state;
- There were more than 11,000 responses to the ESSA online survey; and
- Department staff participated in more than 70 meetings and presentations around the state and collected suggestions and recommendations submitted through email to the Department.

Here are a few of the major policy points included in the draft summary report:

- One of the main themes communicated during stakeholder engagement was the need for stability in the state testing system, as Ohio has changed tests two times in the last three years. Accordingly, Ohio is proposing to maintain its current state assessment system. However, the Department will work in partnership with Governor Kasich and the General Assembly to re-examine any state assessments not required under ESSA.
- ESSA requires each state to set a time period for state-level goals; Ohio has selected 10 years. The metrics for which we establish long-term goals include: percent proficiencies in math, ELA, and science; performance index; graduation rates; chronic absenteeism; and English language proficiency.
- Reducing the threshold number of students for which a subgroup of students must be separately reported for accountability purposes (N-Size) from 30 to 15 to ensure that more student subgroups are identified in an effort to provide targeted interventions.
- Ohio proposes to use chronic absenteeism and discipline incidents as its initial indicators of school quality.
- Ohio will build on the existing School Report Card measures and weighted frameworks by reviewing and/or making revisions to several measures.
- State set asides in title funding will be redirected back to local school districts strategically.

Ohioans are encouraged to submit comments to the draft summary and to the full report beginning on Feb. 2 through March 6. After edits and comments are received, the full draft plan will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education in April.

Gov. John Kasich announced his education budget proposal

On January 30th, Gov. Kasich presented his budget recommendation for FY 2018-2019. Following are highlights of the education funding plan:

- An adjustment to the pupil transportation formula is the only change to the formula. It reduces the minimum state share percentage from 50% to 37.5% in the first year and 25% the second year.
- The gain cap would be 5% both years.
- The per pupil basic aid amount would remain at \$6,000 both years.
- The remaining components of the formula will be unchanged from the current FY 2017.
- The guarantee would be reduced on a sliding scale for districts that have lost more than 5% ADM since FY 2011 at 1% for each incremental percentage lost (maxed out at 95% guarantee). As examples, a district with a 6% ADM loss would have a 99% guarantee. If a district has lost 17% of its enrollment in the past five years, it would receive a 95% guarantee. This will be calculated once, and the results would be used for both years of the biennium.
- Districts below the 5% ADM loss or with increased enrollment can receive a 100% guarantee based on FY 2017.
- \$280 million total increase to education over the biennium.
- Tangible Personal Property (TPP) replacement is unchanged from current law.

We will further update the public once bill language and school district simulations are made available.

Upcoming US Education Secretary Senate Vote

Also, the Senate will be voting on Betsy DeVos for Education Secretary. Most funding for public schools are relegated to the local and state shares. Title funding is allocated by the federal government. Public schools can't afford to lose any funding regardless of the source. Funding is a critical issue that impacts all that we do. The concerns about Charters and public schools funding reallocation is the issue that many are concerned with. Contact your Senators to make your voices heard.

B. Butler Tech – Michael Berding - No report

C. Planning Commission – Brian Begley – No report

ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 3, 2017 – Progress Reports Grades 1-12

February 16, 2017 – Board Meeting, 6:30 P.M. FHS Catherine D. Milligan Community Room

February 18, 2017 – Father/Daughter Dance, 7:00-9:00 P.M. FHS Arena

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mrs. Shorter

She invited everyone to see the “Little Shop of Horrors” featuring a Fairfield graduate.

Mr. Begley

He thanked Mr. Westerbeck & Mr. Weiser for all of their hard work in planning the transportation routes for next school year.

Mrs. O’Neal

She invited everyone to the student directed one act plays this weekend.
She thanked Mr. Smith for his presentation.

Mr. Hare

No comments

17-16 EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Begley to recess to Executive Session at 8:46 pm to discuss the following:

To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official 121.22 (G) (1)

Court Action 121.22 (G) (3) – Pending or Imminent Litigation

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. O’Neal

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mr. Hare, Mrs. O’Neal & Mrs. Shorter

Absent: Mr. Berding

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 4-0

The Board resumed the meeting at 10:03 pm.

17-17 ADJOURNMENT

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

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Hare

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Begley, Mr. Hare, Mrs. O’Neal & Mrs. Shorter

Absent: Mr. Berding

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 4-0

The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 pm by the President, Mr. Hare.

President

Attest: _____
Treasurer