

The Board of Education of the Fairfield City School District in the County of Butler, State of Ohio, held a Regular Meeting on the 20th of March 2008 at the Fairfield High School Community Room.

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

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

Also present: Mrs. Milligan, Mr. Amodio, Mrs. Lane, & Mr. Clemmons

08-37 EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION – Moved by Dr. Morris to recess to Executive Session at 6:31 pm to discuss the following:

Employment and Compensation of Personnel 121.22 (G)(1)

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Murray

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mrs. Bailey, Mr. Engel, Mr. Kearns, Dr. Morris, & Mr. Murray

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

The Board resumed the Regular Session at 7:00 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENTATIONS/RESOLUTIONS

- A. Technology Update – Jennie Thompson
- B. Stadium Proposal – Nick Dadabo
Please see attachments.

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. Presentations are limited to five (5) minutes each.

Ken Rhodus thanked the Board for supporting the spring musical.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

08-38 RESIGNATIONS/LEAVES OF ABSENCE

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

- A. Personnel -- Certificated

1. Resignations
 - a. Kristin Janae Chaney, Senior High, Softball, Reserve Assistant
(effective 2007-2008; for personal reasons)
 - b. Janet Getty, Senior High, Librarian
(effective September 1, 2008; for retirement purposes)
 - c. Jeff Hall, Middle, 8th Grade Social Studies
(effective July 1, 2008; for retirement purposes)
 - d. Edward Keller, Central, Music
(effective June 1, 2008; for retirement purposes)
 - e. Mary Madison-Dorso, Middle, 7th Grade Math
(effective at the end of the 2007-2008 school year; for personal reasons)
 - f. Candace Minor, West, 3rd Grade
(effective July 1, 2008; for retirement purposes)
 - g. Thomas Redman, Intermediate, Math
(effective at the end of the day on June 30, 2008; for retirement purposes)
 - h. Kathy Thompson, Nurse, North
(effective June 30, 2008; for retirement purposes)
 - i. Barry Williams, Senior High, Chemistry
(effective June 1, 2008; for retirement purposes)
2. Leaves of Absence
 - a. Jamie Hawks, Intermediate, Intervention Specialist
(effective February 7, 2008 through the end of the 2007-2008 school year; for personal medical purposes)
 - b. Amy Piatt, Middle, Science
(effective April 23, 2008 through May 30, 2008, for childrearing purposes; FMLA requested through May 23, 2008)
3. Employment
 - a. Extracurricular 2007-2008

Sarah Lashley, Senior High, Softball, Reserve Assistant
Kenny Powell, Freshman, Wrestling Coach

b. Home Instructors

Herbe, Molly
Krause, Jacob

(Periodically the district has students who qualify for home instruction by placement on an IEP developed through the Special Services Department. It is recommended that the above-noted person(s) be employed as Home Instructors at the rate of \$23.34 per hour, effective for the 2007-2008 school year.)

c. Substitute Teachers

(All recommendations are for the 2007-2008 school year at a rate of \$80.00 per day.)

Barnard, Kent
Barnett, Rebecca
Bateman, Allison
Bishop, Bart
Dalzell, Jill
Halsey, Carey
Hundley, Angela
McPhillips, Danielle
Waters, Leon

(All recommendations are contingent upon satisfactory submission of all required documents)

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Murray

Public Comments: None

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mrs. Bailey, Mr. Engel, Mr. Kearns, Dr. Morris, & Mr. Murray

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

08-39 RESIGNATIONS/LEAVES OF ABSENCE/EMPLOYMENT

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

B. Personnel -- Classified

1. Resignations

- a. Brenda Byrd, Athletic Department, Custodian
(effective August 31, 2007; for disability retirement purposes)
- b. Carla Knapp, Transportation, Bus Driver
(effective November 30, 2007; for disability retirement purposes)

- c. Kristine Smith, Sr. High, Educational Assistant
(effective March 21, 2008; for personal reasons)
2. Leaves of Absence
 - a. Karen Anderson, East, Clerk
(effective March 6 – April 11, 2008; job related medical)
 - b. Wendy Clarke, Transportation, Bus Driver
(effective March 18 – April 7, 2008; extension of unpaid personal medical)
 - c. Janet Fails, Freshman, Food Service Assistant
(effective March 3 – April 25, 2008; unpaid personal medical)
 - d. Michael Furginson, Sr. High, Custodian
(effective February 21 – March 30, 2008; job related medical)
 - e. Catherine S. Welch, Transportation, Bus Driver
(effective March 4 – June 30, 2008; unpaid personal medical)
3. Employment
 - a. Tonia Still, Sr. High, Food Service Assistant
(effective February 22, 2008; new position)

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Murray
Public Comments: None

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mrs. Bailey, Mr. Kearns, Dr. Morris, & Mr. Murray
Abstain: Mr. Engel
Nays: None
Motion Carried: 4-0

08-40 APPROVAL OF POLICIES EBC EMERGENCY/SAFETY PLANS/
ECG INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT/ECG-R INTEGRATED
PEST MANAGEMENT/ECG-R-1 INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (USE
OF PESTICIDES)/EEACE SCHOOL BUS IDLING/GBQ CRIMINAL
RECORD CHECK/ IGDD STUDENT PERFORMANCES

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

- C. Other Items for Board Action
 1. The following policies are recommended for approval
EBC Emergency/Safety Plans

ECG Integrated Pest Management
 ECG-R Integrated Pest Management
 ECG-R-1 Integrated Pest Management (Use of Pesticides)
 EEACE School Bus Idling
 GBQ Criminal Record Check
 IGDD Student Performances

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Bailey
 Public Comments: None

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mrs. Bailey, Mr. Engel, Mr. Kearns, Dr. Morris, & Mr. Murray
 Nays: None
 Motion Carried: 5-0

08-41 APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACTS FOR THE EMPLOYEES LISTED BELOW EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008, AS DEFINED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

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

- It is recommended that the following employees be issued administrative contracts effective July 1, 2008, as defined by the Superintendent:

Fairfield City School District

Superintendent’s Administrative Contract Recommendations

With possible contract lengths of 1, 2, or 3 years

March 20, 2008

Name	Title	Recommended Contract Length
Candy Aston	Curriculum Coordinator, K-6	3 years
David Foster	Support Services Supervisor	3 years
Paige Gillespie	Elementary Assistant Principal	3 years
Sue Hollingsworth	Payroll Supervisor	3 years
Susan Lindberg	Kindergarten Principal	1 year
Maureen Meyer	Elementary Assistant Principal	3 years
Martha Roche	Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds	2 years
Austin Sanders	High School Assistant Principal	3 years
Billy Smith	Middle School Assistant Principal	3 years
Bill Westerbeck	Transportation Director	2 years
Karyn Winkler	Supervisor of Special Services	3 years
Matthew Wissman	Freshman Assistant Principal	3 years
Marge Withrow	Intermediate Assistant Principal	2 years
Richard Wood	Elementary Principal	3 years
Terry Zboril	Assistant Transportation Director	2 years

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Kearns
Public Comments: None

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mrs. Bailey, Mr. Engel, Mr. Kearns, Dr. Morris, & Mr. Murray
Nays: None
Motion Carried: 5-0

08-42 APPROVAL FOR TREASURER TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR HIGH SCHOOL SERVER ROOM

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

3. Recommend approval for the Treasurer to advertise for bids for server room at the High School.

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Murray
Public Comments: None

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mrs. Bailey, Mr. Engel, Mr. Kearns, Dr. Morris, & Mr. Murray
Nays: None
Motion Carried: 5-0

D. Item for Discussion

1. Home bleachers at Football Stadium
Mr. Amodio presented information to the Board.
If we are out of compliance with Jarod's Law for the bleachers, we do not lose liability coverage.
Enclosing the existing bleachers would be difficult.
There is a 180 day window to create a plan and to submit it to the Health Department if we are out of compliance with Jarod's Law.
Mr. Clemmons stated that he found no financial penalty if the district is not in compliance with Jarod's Law.

TREASURER'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

08-43 APPROVAL OF MINUTES/APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR FEBRUARY 2008/APPROVAL OF 2007-2008 AMENDED APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION/DISPOSAL OF FIXED ASSETS/APPROVAL OF THE RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION & AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES & CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR/DONATIONS

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

- A. Recommend approval of the minutes of the following meetings:
February 26, 2008 – Regular Meeting
March 6, 2008 – Work Session

- B. Recommend approval of the financial reports for the month of February 2008.
- C. Recommend approval of the 2007-08 Amended Appropriations Resolution.
- D. Recommend approval of the disposal of the following fixed assets:

<u>Tag Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Location</u>
19020	Nextel phone	Business Office
08295	Mac computer	Central Elementary
13455	HP deskjet printer	Cincinnati Christian
15659	HP deskjet printer	Cincinnati Christian
15666	HP deskjet printer	Cincinnati Christian
15067	Canon printer	Cincinnati Christian
15136	Canon printer	Cincinnati Christian
11005	HP deskjet printer	Cincinnati Christian
SN: MX06K1428Y	HP deskjet printer	Cincinnati Christian
SN: 07031948399	Lexmark printer	Cincinnati Christian
SN: CN01E1P17T	Deskjet printer	Cincinnati Christian
10752	Apple ibook	East Elementary
19900	Nextel phone	Freshman School
11953	Spirit 2-way radio	Kindergarten Ctr
19898	Nextel phone	South Elementary
08355	Apple G3	West Elementary
09464	Epson printer	West Elementary
10673	HP printer	West Elementary
12462	Computer	West Elementary
08352	Computer	West Elementary
08365	Computer	West Elementary
08062	Computer	West Elementary
08354	Computer	West Elementary
08351	Computer	West Elementary
08046	Computer	West Elementary
08342	Computer	West Elementary
08344	Computer	West Elementary
08348	Computer	West Elementary
08366	Computer	West Elementary
08340	Computer	West Elementary

- E. Recommend the approval of the resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the budget commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor.

County Auditor's estimate of tax rate to be levied	
Bond Retirement Fund	2.80
General Fund	47.01
Permanent Improvement Fund	<u>2.00</u>
	51.81

- F. Recommend approval of the following donations:
1. A \$190 donation from the Target Take Charge of Education Program to the Fairfield Intermediate School.
 2. A \$100 donation from Fairfield Bowling Lanes to Fairfield High School to be used for the annual fishing derby.
 3. A \$300 donation from Wal-Mart (Springdale) to Fairfield Middle School's Drama Department.
 4. A \$32 donation from Jostens to Fairfield High School to be used for the Ohio Graduation Test.

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Bailey
Public Comments: None

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mrs. Bailey, Mr. Engel, Mr. Kearns, Dr. Morris, & Mr. Murray
Nays: None
Motion Carried: 5-0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Butler Tech – Dan Murray
The Butler Tech Board Meeting has been rescheduled for next Tuesday.
A Facility Improvement Plan is in the works. Sixty three percent of the building costs for Butler Tech can be recouped from the Ohio Schools Facilities Commission. Dr. Sommers wants to identify the “owners” of Butler Tech. He will use the Carver Governance Guidelines to make that determination.
- B. Student Liaison Report - William McIlwain
Will discussed the extracurricular programs available to students at the high school.
- C. President's Report – Dr. Mark Morris
Dr. Morris provided a Racial Equity Team update.
He stated that the Strategic Planning Committee is having difficulty moving forward. A “Student Success Summit” is needed. The goal is to meet in April.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 31 School resumes after Spring Break
April 2 5:30 Board Work Session, High School Community Room

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Engel
He wished everyone a great spring break.

Mr. Engel's comments:

BOARD PRESIDENT PRIMES COMMUNITY FOR LEVIES\MISLEADS PUBLIC

I would like to address Mr. Morris' February 26 commentary. First of all, I was surprised to hear Morris, a university professor, admit that our American school system is doing a poor job of educating our children.

He also made two troubling, misleading statements.

Let me start with Mr. Morris' comment about "anti-education rhetoric used against school levies in Ohio." It's clear that he believes, and wants our community to believe, that anyone who votes "no" on school levies is anti-schools and anti-education. Such a prejudiced belief is laughable with no basis in fact.

Consider some facts that Mr. Morris conveniently forgot to tell us. First, the U.S. scores mid to below average on world-wide academic tests when compared to other industrialized nations. Yet, Mr. Morris fails to mention that the U.S. is already spending more on public education than almost every other nation in the world. I have a report that shows that the U.S. is the top spender out of 34 other nations. People like Mr. Morris always talk about the lack of funding. However, they never want to talk about how they are spending our taxes.

It's time for Mr. Morris to realize that the U.S. is already paying dearly for an excellent education for our children. Taxpayers are paying more for public education than almost every other nation in the world. The American people, including the citizens of Fairfield, are entitled to better results in the education of our children without dumping more money into the system. The truth is, there will never be enough money to satisfy our bloated, inefficient educational system. No matter how much we give them, they will always want more.

The fact is, contrary to what Mr. Morris and his pro-levy fanatic friends would have you believe, those of us who vote "no" on school levies are not anti-education. We are already paying more than almost everyone else in the world. The CARE name, Citizens for Accountability and Results in Education, says it all. The citizens voting NO are demanding accountability for better results in our educational system. Until we start holding our schools accountable for the job they are doing educating our children, we should expect the same dismal results. The money is there. The accountability is not.

If our school board really cared, then the accountability process would be started right here and right now. One way to start the accountability process is to assure every child who wants to go to college is prepared without the need for remediation. Sadly, 33% of our recent graduates went on to a state college unprepared. I have been trying to get the Fairfield BOE to address this serious problem since 2002. It was my number one educational issue when I was elected in 2005. Instead of addressing the problem, my fellow board members chose to sweep this failure under the rug. Therefore, the anti-education folks are NOT those of us voting NO and demanding accountability. Rather, it's the people who refuse to address our schools failures. The likes of Mr. Morris and Mr. Murray bear

Mr. Engel's comments (cont.)

much of the responsibility for the students who are ill-prepared for college-level work. Until they wake up and place accountability ahead of more money, I'm afraid the trend will continue

Mr. Morris made a second misleading statement following my comments refuting accusations of having a hidden agenda.

I said "Does Mr. Morris and Mr. Murray have a hidden agenda? You bet they do. It's an agenda to turn the Fairfield school district into an elitist community. Only those who can afford their taxes will be welcome. If you dare question their spending you will be attacked viciously. Their message to the low income citizens and struggling senior citizens of our community is pay or move. Does our board have a plan that includes them? If they do I have not seen it."

To that, Mr. Morris said "I do not believe that challenging our community to be knowledgeable and engaged should be considered an elitist attitude." This is just another mud slinging attack by Mr. Morris. He clearly does not want to focus on those in our community who can least afford additional taxes. I agree that it is beneficial to have a community that is knowledgeable on school issues and spending. However, being knowledgeable has nothing to do with being an elitist. In this case, I was using the term elitist to describe the pro-levy fanatics who apparently can afford endless tax increases. Time and time again, they have placed their interests ahead of the vulnerable citizens who are at their financial breaking point.

So, why all this discussion now? It's simple. The taxpayers in our district will soon be facing 3 costly levies. We will see a Permanent Improvement levy this year, and Operating and Bond levies in the very near future. Mr. Morris is priming the community in an effort to pass all of his levies. Apparently he does NOT care about: An impending deep recession, people losing their jobs, record Butler County foreclosures, \$4.00 gasoline prices, high property taxes, and declining home sales and prices. Well, I'm going on record as saying I DO CARE!

Mr. Kearns

Six Fairfield Middle School students have qualified for the state science fair. The students are: Nate Chester, Matthew Coates, Bernard Hogan, Mike Jones, LeeAnn Olthaus, and Nimisha Swali. They will be participating at Ohio State University on May 10.

The Board of Education made promises to our community when the 2003 Permanent Improvement levy was passed. At our March 6th work session, Mr. Engel asked what projects have not been completed. It was reported to us that the majority of the projects are completed and those remaining have a plan in place to be completed by the end of the year. I have to believe that there are others unaware of our accomplishments. I would like to recommend that we place inexpensive/temporary (similar to small yard signs) signs at each of our buildings that list what projects have been completed. It is imperative that we communicate how we have used their tax dollars to make our schools better.

Mr. Kearns' comments (cont.)

Building Tours

I have completed tours of all of our buildings. I found these visits to be informative. In addition, these tours reaffirmed to be that we have something "excellent" going on in our district. It didn't hurt that my last tour included "Pie Day" at the Intermediate Building. Again, thank you to all of the staff and teachers for welcoming me into your buildings and classrooms. The innovation and accommodations that our teachers make for our students is impressive. We must remember teacher quality is crucial for our success. The information gleaned from these visits will be invaluable to me as a Board Member.

It was my pleasure and honor to attend the OSBA Southwest Region Spring Conference where Kim Nuxhall received the 2008 President's Award from the OSBA Southwest Region for his leadership and commitment to Character Education. I again want to congratulate Kim on his award.

Mr. Murray and I attended the Education/Curriculum Committee Meeting last evening. From time to time we will meet to discuss important issues as it relates to our curriculum and bring recommendations back to the full board as necessary. You will be hearing more from us over the next few meetings.

Mrs. Bailey

She recommends that people go and visit a school in the district. It was a great experience for her to visit the schools. There are a lot of positive things going on in Fairfield. She stated that we are getting a "big bang" for the buck in this school district. She stated, "I believe the Fairfield City School District prepared my daughter well for college." She wished everyone a great spring break.

Mr. Murray

He thanked Mr. Nick Dadabo for his passion for the schools. He attended the OSBA dinner Tuesday night and appreciated Kim Nuxhall's comments regarding Character Education. Any award that Kim receives is well deserved.

Dr. Morris

He congratulated the participants of the OMEA Competition.

08-44 EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Murray to recess to Executive Session at 8:45 pm to discuss the following:

Collective Bargaining 121.22 (G) (4)

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

FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR SESSION
MARCH 20, 2008

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SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Kearns

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mrs. Bailey, Mr. Engel, Mr. Kearns, Dr. Morris, & Mr. Murray

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

The Board resumed the Regular Session at 10:08 pm.

08-45 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Murray to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Kearns

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mrs. Bailey, Mr. Engel, Mr. Kearns, Dr. Morris, & Mr. Murray

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 pm by the President, Dr. Morris.

President

Attest: _____
Treasurer