

The Board of Education of the Fairfield City School District in the County of Butler, State of Ohio, held a Work Session on the 7th day of August 2008 at the Fairfield High School Community Room.

The meeting was called to order by the President at 5:30 pm.

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

Also present: Mrs. Milligan, Mr. Otten, Mr. Lewis, Mrs. Lane, and Mr. Clemmons

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ITEMS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION

1. Discussion of expenditures of grant monies – See attached plan
Bonnie Fitzharris presented at tentative plan to use school improvement monies.

Board questions:

Mr. Murray asked when we would receive information about the funding.

Mrs. Fitzharris responded that we should have the funding information by August 18th. She would like to come back to the Board in September with an update.

The consensus of the Board is to move forward on this.

2. Discussion of budget savings items as presented by Mr. Kearns & Mr. Murray
See attached email from Cathy Milligan outlining the budget savings items.

Mr. Otten addressed the Board concerning the Athletic Director duties at the Middle School.

Mrs. Milligan addressed the library services issue.

Mr. Lewis presented information regarding the weekend building checks.

Mrs. Bailey would like to see data on how many individuals actually work more than two hours.

Mr. Kearns would like to move this item down the list for further review in the future.

Mr. Murray would like to use technology more to monitor the systems in the buildings.

Mr. Engel would like to see a list of issues that have occurred in the buildings during the past several years.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

08-92 RESIGNATIONS/EMPLOYMENT

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

A. Personnel -- Certificated

1. Resignations

- a. Angela Dragon, Central, Title 1 Reading, 50%
(effective with the 2008-2009 school year; for personal reasons)
- b. Deborah Lies, Intermediate, Intervention Specialist
(effective at the end of the 2007-2008 school year; for personal reasons)
- c. Jill Wilhelm, Senior High, Pep Band Director
(effective with the 2008-2009 school year; for personal reasons)

2. Employment

- a. Diane Cobey, Senior High, Math
(recommended for a new one-year limited teaching contract for the 2008-2009 school year, effective August 26, 2008; for a replacement position)
- b. Nicholas Flannery, Senior High, Social Studies, 50%
(recommended for a new one-year limited teaching contract for the 2008-2009 school year, effective August 26, 2008; for a replacement position)
- c. Lori Karakashian, District, School Psychologist Intern
(recommended for a new one-year intern school psychologist contract for the 2008-2009 school year, effective August 26, 2008; for a new position, reimbursed by the state)
- d. Joshua Kauffman, Senior High, Assistant Principal
(recommended for a new two-year administrative contract effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2010, for 213 days on administrative salary range 2; for a replacement position)
- e. Nancy McCloskey, District, Speech Language Pathologist, 50%
(recommended for a new one-year limited teaching contract for the 2008-2009 school year, effective August 26, 2008; for a new position)
- f. N. Carlo Miraldi, Senior High, Math

(recommended for a new one-year limited teaching contract for the 2008-2009 school year, effective August 26, 2008; for a replacement position)

- g. Donna Noe, Senior High, Intervention Specialist
(recommended for a new one-year limited teaching contract for the 2008-2009 school year, effective August 26, 2008; for a replacement position)
- h. Jennifer Steelman, Intermediate, Intervention Specialist
(recommended for a new one-year limited teaching contract for the 2008-2009 school year, effective August 26, 2008; for a replacement position)
- i. Amber Watson, Central, Title 1 Reading, 50%
(recommended for a new one-year limited teaching contract for the 2008-2009 school year, effective August 26, 2008; for a replacement position)

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Murray

Public comments: None

Comments: Dr. Morris and Mr. Murray congratulated Josh Kauffman.

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

Abstain: Mr. Engel

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 4-0

B. Personnel – Classified

08-93 RESIGNATIONS/EMPLOYMENT

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

- 1. Resignations
 - a. Monique Pfarr, Sr. High, Educational Assistant
(effective at the end of the 2007-2008 school year; for personal reasons)
 - b. Nancy Rasch, South, Food Service Assistant
(effective at the end of the 2007-2008 school year; for personal reasons)
- 2. Employment
 - a. Patrick Adamson, Transportation, Bus Driver
(effective August 8, 2008; for a replacement position)

- b. Christina Armentrout, Transportation, Bus Driver
(effective August 8, 2008; for a replacement position)
- c. Lucena Michel, Central, Educational Assistant
(effective August 26, 2008; for a replacement position)
- d. Karen Schaeffer, Transportation, Bus Driver
(effective August 8, 2008; for a replacement position)

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

08-94 APPROVAL OF VOLUNTEER

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

C. Other Items for Board Action

- 1. Recommend approval of Volunteer(s):
Mike Sedziol, Freshman boys soccer

(The above-noted person(s) are recommended for approval as volunteer coaches for the 2008-2009 school year in district athletic programs. Board approval of volunteers is a requirement of the Ohio High School Athletic Association. Recommendation is contingent upon submission of all required documents.)

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

08-95 APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO APPOINT REFEREE T. DAVID BURGESS IN THE TERMINATION HEARING OF THE CONTRACTS OF BRIAN G. WEINWUTH

MOTION – Moved by Dr. Morris to approve the following:

- 2. Recommend approval of a resolution appointing referee in the hearing of the termination of the contracts of Brian G. Weinewuth.

WHEREAS the Board of Education has notified Brian G. Weinewuth of its intent to consider the termination of his contracts, and

WHEREAS Brian G. Weinewuth has demanded that said termination hearing be conducted before a referee, and

WHEREAS the State Superintendent of Public Instruction has submitted the name of T. David Burgess, Esq. of Williamsburg, Ohio to serve as said referee, and

WHEREAS the Board of Education and Brian G. Weinewuth have agreed to said appointment

BE IT RESOLVED that T. David Burgess, Esq. is hereby appointed as referee in the matter of the termination of the contracts of Brian G. Weinewuth.

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Murray

Public comments: None

Comments: Mr. Clemmons explained the process for the referee selection.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

08-96 AMEND THE AGENDA TO ADDRESS BUDGET CUTS

MOTION – Moved by Dr. Morris to amend the agenda to address budget cuts.

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

08-97 APPROVE ELIMINATION OF THE MIDDLE SCHOOL DEAN OF STUDENTS POSITION AND APPROVE THE ADDITION OF THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR AND ASSISTANT ATHLETIC DIRECTOR POSITIONS AS SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS FOR THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Kearns to approve the elimination of the Middle School Dean of Students position and to approve addition of the Athletic Director and Assistant Athletic Director positions as supplemental contracts for the Middle School.

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Murray

Public comments: Keith Davis spoke about awarding raises.

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

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

08-98 APPROVE THE REDUCTION OF BUILDING BUDGETS BY 5 PERCENT

MOTION – Moved by Dr. Morris to approve the reduction of building budgets by

5 percent.

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Bailey

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

08-99 APPROVAL OF THE RESTRUCTURING OF LIBRARY SERVICES

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Murray to approve the restructuring of library services.

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Kearns

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

08-100 APPROVAL OF INSTITUTING A HIRING FREEZE FOR NEW OR ADDITIONAL POSITIONS SUPPORTED BY THE GENERAL FUND FOR 2009- 2010 SCHOOL YEAR

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Kearns to approve instituting a hiring freeze for new or additional positions supported by the general fund for 2009- 2010 school year

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Bailey

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Student Success Summit – Thursday, August 14, 2008 - 7:00 pm – District Office

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mrs. Bailey

She congratulated career teachers, Leah Brandenburg and Vicki Moreland.
She congratulated Paige Gillespie on her move to Assistant Principal at East Elementary.

Mr. Engel

FAIRFIELD BOE NEEDS TO TAKE A CUE FROM LOCAL COST CUTTING AGENCIES.

The local headlines continue to inundate us with the reality of the hard economic times we are facing. I would like to share a few headlines with the board and ask that the board consider the cost cutting actions of the government agencies involved

"Economic hardship hits the "king of jails" The Butler County Sheriff is asking for cooperation from local law enforcement to reduce the jail population. The Sheriff said "We all

have budgets to watch. Putting people in jail is costly for taxpayers. Alternatives to jail such as ankle-bracelet monitoring, probation, reduced bonds, perhaps night court, are all things to be considered. In the mean time, I need to manage my jail like a business."

"City looks to unions for budget cuts" The Hamilton city manager said he would be meeting with the cities unions to discuss possible concessions in an effort to save money. The mayor said he is hoping each union is able to give a little to help balance the budget.

"Auditor making headway on major objectives" The Butler County auditor said his agenda focuses on reducing costs, improving customer service and increasing office transparency. He also said he cut \$500,000 from his budget in his first 3 months of service. At the same time he has reinforced his commitment to deliver reliable customer-oriented services to the citizens of Butler County. According to his office the Auditors 2008 projected budget \$7,700,000. This means he cut 7% of his budget in his first 90 days of service and is still pledging reliable customer oriented service to the taxpayers.

Now comes the Fairfield Board of Education. Facing a \$6,000,000 shortfall this school year. What have we done to save money or balance our budget? With all the economic hardship our community is facing we increase the tax burden on our community with a new PI Levy. With a \$79,000,000 budget projected for this year, Mr. Murray and Mr. Kearns share 5 cost cutting ideas that squeeze out a scant \$254,000 in savings.

I will remind the community that I have been asking the board to make cuts for almost 3 years. I shared 33 cost cutting revenue generating idea with our board back in May and instead of discussing them they were ignored. By my estimate these ideas conservatively represent over \$10,000,000 in savings. The sad thing is, of the 5 ideas Mr. Murray and Mr. Kearns shared with us, at the last board meeting, two of them are from my list of 33.

This BOE has asked the community to support a new PI levy this year. Unless we can come up with millions in savings this year we will have a multi-million dollar Operating levy next year and we have yet to even discuss the Bond Levy that will be needed to pay for the new classroom space we desperately need. It's time for this BOE to come to terms with the communities hard economic times and take a cue from the other government agencies who are living within their budgets.

Mr. Kearns

He wished Mr. Kauffman good luck in the district.

These cost saving measures were not easy decisions. We will continue to look at cost saving measures. He appreciates the willingness of the staff to sit down and come up with cost saving ideas.

He attended the Governor's Town Hall meeting and feels the discussions will help us to define student success.

Mr. Murray

He congratulated Josh Kauffman.

He saw *Brigadoon* and *Les Miserables* and was proud of the students.

He congratulated Leah Brandenburg and Vicki Moreland on their awards.

Mr. Engel

He needs to correct Mr. Murray regarding the belt tightening.

Mrs. Bailey

We are 46th on funding per student out of 49 school districts in this area.

The Permanent Improvement Levy is to help keep our kids safe, warm and dry.

Dr. Morris

Mr. Engel forgot to mention the hundreds of kids that came into the district the year before.

He thanked Mrs. Milligan and Mrs. Lane for all of their hard work this summer.

08-101 EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION – Moved by Dr. Morris to recess to Executive Session at 7:03 pm to discuss the following:

Employment and Compensation of Personnel 121.22(G) (1)
Court Action 121.22 (G) (3) – Pending or Imminent Litigation
Collective Bargaining 121.22 (G) (4)

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 8:04 pm.

08-102 ADJOURNMENT

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

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Bailey

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

FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORK SESSION
AUGUST 7, 2008

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm by the President, Dr. Morris.

President

Attest: _____
Treasurer