

The Blanchester Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, March 20, 2023 in the auxiliary cafeteria in the Blanchester Middle School at 957 Cherry Street, Blanchester, OH 45107

Mrs. Kathy Gephart was appointed Secretary of the Board in absence of the treasurer

Meeting Called to Order

Roll Call

In attendance: John Panetta, Jeremy Kaehler, Mke Williams, Kyle Wilson, Kathy Gephart

Superintendent Randy Dunlap was in attendance along with the following who signed in for the meeting: Brad Ballinger, Alleyn Unversaw, Pandy McCarty, Donna Gosney, Barb Lambros, Jeryl Weis, Jennifer Chapin, Valerie Waters, Ady Sneed, Paul Casteel, Cathay Falgner, Rachel Bishop, Jenny Hartmann, David Wood, Shauna Woodyard, Bella Woodyard, Christian Woodyard, Jewelie Casteel, Melissa Wallace, Andy Hamm

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda with Corrections

Corrections under Business of the Superintendent

- Added John Koepp as a sub custodian under item H. Business of the Superintendent (c.)(iii)(3)

Mr. Wilson made the motion and Mr. Kaehler seconded. All present voted to approve the agenda with corrections.

Approval of the Minutes from the February 21, 2023 Regular Board Meeting

Mr. Williams made the motion and Mr. Kaehler seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the February 21, 2023 regular Board meeting as presented. All present voted in favor of approving the minutes as presented.

Welcome and Public Participation

Mrs. McCarty recognized Jewelie Casteel for her support in the district playing the piano for choir and band as a volunteer. Mrs. McCarty also recognized a group of teachers instrumental

in the development of CATS Academy; Andy Hamm, Melissa Wallace, David Wood, Bella Woodyard, Shauna Woodyard, along with those not present, Bradon Pyle, Stephanie Ericksson, and Bess Long.

Valerie Walters registered to speak during public participation on open enrollment. She had a few questions about open enrollment in regards to her grandchildren who were residing at a property she owned but were not listed on any utility bills. It was explained to her that a notarized statement by both herself and the parents regarding their residency would suffice for them. It was discovered that the property in question was already in the Blanchester Local School District after some clarification. The grandchild would be attending as a resident student.

Business of the Board

Mr. Williams made the motion and Mr. Kaehler seconded the motion to accept all items, including under Business of the Board as presented.

- Resolution of amounts and rates as determined by the budget commission
- Approve participation in Open Enrollment and restrict it to only those students who are already in attendance at Blanchester Local Schools. Meaning that the district will not accept any new students at the start of the 2023-24 SY.
- Approve a fees list of consumables for the District
- Approve an increase in breakfast from \$1.75 to \$2.00
- Approve the enrollment of two foreign exchange students
- Accept the proposal from Evans Energy to complete an energy saving light project at a cost of \$178K with funding coming from capital improvements and classroom facilities.
- Approved a resolution to proceed with the retire/rehire process of the current superintendent with a public hearing to be held on April 24, 2023 at 7pm
- Approved a resolution to transport our students at the state minimum requirements
- Approved a professional development day for May 25, 2023 at Putman ES to complete year one of LETRS training.
- Approved an increase in activity fees to \$250/person/sport with a family cap of \$600/year and no transportation for extracurricular activities would be provided by the district
- Granted the superintendent authority to receive estimates for and sign an agreement for the replacement of the existing sewer pumps and lift station up to \$115K using ARP ESSER funds for the project
- Approved a tentative contract with Evan's Energy to replace all existing AAF classroom unit ventilators at a cost of \$20,900 per unit pending approval of ARP ESSER funds for use on the project and only if it is within the scope of all Federal Procurement requirements

All present voted to approve Business of the Board as presented with corrections.

Business of the Treasurer

None presented

Business of the Superintendent

Mr. Williams made a motion and Mrs. Gephart seconded to approve the Business of the Superintendent as presented with corrections.

- Certified Personnel
 - Quentin Cox, Mike Cook, Nichole Malone - total of 5 hours a week of Home Instruction for a special needs student until further notice at \$30/hour
 - Brad Ballinger, HS Track and Field, step 1
 - Tracy Shank, Assistant Softball, volunteer
 - Julia Perry, Boys Tennis, step 1
 - Tonya Gehringer, 5 extended days to complete scheduling and grades
 - Savannah Campbell, 0.5 dock day for March 8, 2023
 - Student Teacher Stipends as follows:
 - a) Eric Heeg, Kurt Ballinger and Michelle Elston will each receive \$25.00 minus board share cost of STRS and Medicare (Net amount is \$21.65)
 - b) Mike Cook receives \$50.00 minus board share cost of STRS and Medicare (Net amount is \$43.30)
- Certified Substitutes (Packet)
 - Janie DeBoard - Temporary Non-Bachelor
 - Kaleb Goodin - Temporary Non-Bachelor
 - Benjamin Tomlin
- Classified Personnel
 - Classified Staffing
 - Makayla Shank, Assistant Softball, Step 3
 - James(Bryant) Abt, MS Track and Field, Step 1
 - Marcie Quigley, dock day for March 17, 2023
 - Shelby Johnson, new hire as 2nd shift custodian with second shift differential, Step 1
 - Classified Substitutes
 - James Burke, sub mechanic, step 1
 - Jennifer Belmont, Sub Aide and Sub Van Driver
 - John Koeppe, Sub Custodian
- Volunteers (non-employees)
 - Sean Paulson, Assistant HS Track and Field, volunteer
 - Brandon Scott, Assistant MS Track and Field, volunteer

All present voted to approve the Business of the Superintendent as presented with corrections.

Public Participation of Non-Agenda Items

None presented

Other

- **Discussion Items**

- The superintendent shared with the Board information regarding testing projections for the Third grade reading test and all other EOCs based on data that has been collected all year long and the growth measures that have been identified as targets for success on these annual assessments. Teachers in the district, as well as the various building and district leadership teams have focused on the evaluation of the data for projecting success.
- The superintendent discussed some concerns with the current health insurance structure in the district and the management of the systems by central office employees. The process has become extremely time consuming and needs to be evaluated. Many of the management processes are being done by the treasurer and not the provider/broker. The concern with a self funded system was also presented. Further information will follow along with a recommendation for a solution.
- **Informational Items**
None presented

Executive Session

No scheduled

Adjournment

Mr. Williams made the motion and Mr. Wilson seconded the motion to adjourn the regular meeting.

All present voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:08pm.