

MINUTES

Regular Board of Education Meeting

January 21, 2021

Early Childhood Center

Closed Session – 5:30 p.m.

Open Session – 6:30 p.m.

Tim Mullen, President
Scott Perkins, Vice-President
Sylvia Payne, Treasurer

Tana Booker, Member
Jason Evans, Member
Kim Grayson, Member
Justin Strong, Member

- I. Call to order and roll call at 5:31 p.m. at the Early Childhood Center, Tim Mullen, President, presiding. Scott Perkins and Justin Strong absent.
- II. Motion made by Sylvia, and second by Kim to approve the January 21, 2021 agenda as presented. All members present voted yes on said motion.
- III. Motion made by Sylvia, and second by Tana to adjourn Open Session to go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 610.021.3 (Personnel Matters-hiring, firing, promoting). Tim-yea, Sylvia-yea, Tana-yea, Jason-yea, and Kim-yea. Meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.
- IV. Call to order and roll call at 6:37 p.m. to begin regular open session. Tim Mullen, President, presiding. Scott Perkins and Justin Strong absent.
- V. All said the Pledge of Allegiance.
- VI. Public Comment – No public comment.
- VII. Consent Agenda Items:
Motion made by Tana, and second by Kim to approve the consent agenda items. All members present voted yes on said motion.
- VIII. Reports:
 - A. Steelville Organization of Staff – No report given.
 - B. MSBA report – Board Member and MSBA Rep, Jason Evans provided an MSBA report to the Board via email.
 - C. Principals report – handouts given to Board.
 - D. Director of Learning – Mr. Hammonds reported that before COVID-19 the District was focusing on the 16 Elements. COVID-19 slowed the focus down of the 16 Elements, so now Administrators are refocusing on these Elements and reviewing them by having some professional development days set aside for Teachers and Paraprofessionals. Mr. Hammonds, Principals, and Mr. Craghead will be in charge of these professional development days. They will also be requiring teachers and paraprofessionals to do some reading at home to go along with this training.

- E. Athletic Director – no report given.
- F. Superintendent report - Mr. Whittaker reported that the Board Election will be on April 6th this year and Kevin Green, Justin Strong, and Rebecca Sackman will be running. The Board has two seats to fill. Mr. Whittaker wanted to add to Jason Evans MSBA report and go over some critical issues regarding Senate Bill 55. School Board Member Recall, ESAs, Charter Expansion are just some of the issues on this bill. He provided a handout to the Board that went over each item more in depth. He urged everyone to vote NO on Senate Bill 55. Mr. Whittaker contacted our Senator today and as of right now he is against this Bill.

IX. Previous Business:

- 1. Facilities Update – Mr. Whittaker reported that we have around \$350,000 left in our capital projects fund and it is time for the Board to start thinking about moving forward on more projects. He told the Board that there is \$79,000 set aside for the new playground. This was donated money. Mr. Whittaker does feel that we need to put in a basketball court which would be around \$40,000. This would need to be paid by the school. The high school band room needs to be handicap accessible and going to the band room needs to be handicap accessible as well. Mr. Whittaker would like the Board to be thinking about improvements that they see as a high priority and bring at least three items to the next Board Meeting.
- 2. COVID-19 Update – Mr. Whittaker gave the Board a handout of COVID-19 numbers and believes our numbers are down due to wearing masks. There are less students being quarantined. As of today, we have 19 quarantined and these cases are outside of school, not cases within the school.

X. New Business:

- 1. Motion made by Sylvia, and second by Jason to approve option 4 of purchasing a new school truck from Hutcheson Ford in St. James, MO. All members voted yes on said motion.
- 2. Motion made by Tana, and second by Kim to approve the agreement with Fired UP Consulting Group (CSIP Development). All members voted yes on said motion.
- 3. Bus Purchase – Mr. Whittaker spoke to the Board regarding buying a bus. It is his suggestion to table this for right now until we have better figures on extra funds coming in. The Board agreed.
- 4. Steelville City Park Vision – Mr. Whittaker reported that he met with a gentleman who did Bourbon School Districts track. The gentleman said our track is not repairable. Tracks are to be 4 inches deep and ours is only 3 inches deep. He said that we would need to take all of it up and start new. Right now a 6 lane track would cost around \$500,000 and an 8 lane track would cost around \$750,000. Up keep on the track every 7 years would cost around \$70,000 - \$90,000. Mr. Whittaker told the Board that even if we don't do a huge project like this we still need to make the track safe for our kids to use for practice. The Board agreed. Mr. Whittaker also expressed to the Board that our Baseball/Softball fields need to be updated. Mr. Whittaker told the Board to be thinking about these issues to discuss again later. He also told the Board, do we think about asking the public on increasing the tax rate to help fund these improvements.
- 5. Motion made by Sylvia, and second by Jason to approve the building of a Pig Barn, not to exceed \$10,000. All members voted yes on said motion.

6. Motion made by Tana, second by Jason to set the Next Regular Board Meeting for Thursday, February 18, 2021, 5:30 p.m. for closed session and 6:30 p.m. for open session. All members present voted yes on said motion.

XI. Motion made by Sylvia, and second by Jason to adjourn the meeting. Tim-yea, Sylvia-yea, Tana-yea, Jason-yea, and Kim-yea. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Board President

Date

Board Secretary

Date