

Union City Area School District
SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING
Elementary Large Group Instruction Room
October 4, 2018

President George Trauner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The salute to the flag and a moment of silence were observed.

Roll Call by the Secretary

Blain Blakeslee, David Fox, Stephen Gilbert, Brian Gregor, Douglas Hopson, Lori Lewis, Barbara Miller, David Robinson, and George Trauner were present.

Others Present

Matthew Bennett, Joan Quickle, Tara Lineman, Adam Shroul, Melissa Tomcho, Dan Keefer, Stacey Mulson, Amy Webber, Steve Thompson, Tim Brown, Krista Byler, Ann Sill, Melissa Hughes, William Stevens, Cindy Wells, Glenn Shaffer, Chris Coughlin, Cathy Dobrzynski, Racquel Gray, James Mistretta, George McMillan, Bill Everson, Natalie Wilmoth, Frank Snyder, Sharon Reagle, David Pernice, Joe Quickle, Jen Pitrone, Andy Pirtone, Beth Hayes and Jennifer Drayer were present.

Mr. Trauner announced that if anyone had not signed in to please do so before leaving the meeting.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Bennett reported as follows:

1. He thanked the teachers and staff for their efforts on Tuesday during the tornado warning and reverse evacuation of students at the end of the school day. It went flawlessly. He showed related photos on the screen. [See Supplemental enclosed in the Minutes Book]
2. Specifics of the forestry update are in Mr. Thompson's report. It was asked if the cherry trees were going to be removed, and Mr. Bennett replied that no healthy cherry trees would be harvested; only the old trees and the ash that have been affected by the Emerald Ash Borer.
3. A handout from Keystone Structural Solutions was given regarding the northern wall of the Middle School/High School just outside the Administration Office that was bowing. It was examined and shown to be structurally sound but it needs addressed after winter to alleviate the water issues. [See Supplemental enclosed in the Minutes Book]
4. The elementary bleachers failed the inspection and are current unusable. They will be welded October 24-26 and ready for the Halloween parade should it need to be held inside. The traveling fee for the inspection was shared with an Ohio school district.
5. There has been graffiti on the back of the Middle School/High School for a number of years. Three quotes were received and Guzik Masonry has guaranteed removal or there will be no charge to the District. The cost will be nearly equivalent to that of one bucket of material.

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6. The Board was given a handout showing the documents required for current volunteers. [See Supplemental enclosed in the Minutes Book] Mr. Bennett explained that state law requires that clearances for new volunteers must be less than five years old. He asked the Board if they would like the District to require clearances that are less than one year old for new volunteers. It was asked if a volunteer skipped a year of serving as a volunteer and then came back the following year (constituting a break in service) if that would warrant new clearances. Mr. Bennett replied that it would. Asking for clarification, since a person can get new (free) volunteer clearances only one time each five years, they would be required to purchase the employment clearances if they have a break in service or have volunteer clearances that are more than one year old. Mr. Bennett stated that would be correct.

Presentations

1. *Mrs. Cindy Wells and Chief Pernice* presented information to the Board about **Borough signage and crossings** through handouts and photos shown on the screen. [See Supplementals enclosed in the Minutes Book] It was explained that a permit was received for two crosswalk signs but not for lighted signs so a new permit plus engineering is required. Also, the route sign covers the crosswalk sign as shown in the photos. Mrs. Wells and the Chief met with PennDot. Traffic is not slowing down coming into town from the south on Route 8 and entering the curve just before the crosswalk making it unsafe, and there have been close calls to both students and the crossing guards. The Borough is asking the District to pay the engineering fees for LED signs and “SLOW” thermoplastic pavement signs totaling approximately \$2,265. The Borough will pick up labor costs, “Piano Key” style crosswalk and propane for installation which totals about \$720. Two Board members suggested the cost be split more evenly. Mrs. Wells and Chief Pernice exited the meeting following their presentation.
2. Mr. Bennett gave a **PlanCon and Renovation Update**. He reviewed the updates on the screen and distributed three handouts. [See Supplementals enclosed in the Minutes Book]

Mr. Keefer entered the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Mrs. Lineman, and Melissa Hughes of Public Financial Management (PFM) presented updated bond information and a timeline. [See Supplemental enclosed in the Minutes Book] The Board asked many questions of Mr. Bennett, Mrs. Lineman, Ms. Hughes, HRLC Architect Chris Coughlin and Jim Mistretta of SmartEdge regarding doing some of the job in small chunks and spreading it out over time; multiple contractors to take care of roofing needs; the importance of sealing the brick; the Clerk of the Works - duties, pay, and funding source; competitive wage, qualified workers, and prevailing rate; and guaranteed costs and savings by SmartEdge.

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The expected completion of the project, (if the paperwork starts promptly) would be the summer of 2020. At the end of the question and answer segment, it was asked of each Board member if they would agree to put the bond resolution on next week's agenda. Before voting it was questioned about pulling out of the project if the bond is approved next week. Mr. Coughlin explained that the whole project can be stopped up to the time they sign the contract (PlanCon F). All nine Board members agreed to placing the bond resolution in next week's agenda for approval. Mr. Trauner thanked Mr. Bennett and staff for their work on reducing the costs as noted in this update. The guests from SmartEdge and Mr. Coughlin left the meeting following this presentation.

Administrative Reports [See Supplementals enclosed in the Minutes Book]

Mrs. Lineman was asked if PFM offered the best rate. Ms. Hughes interjected that PFM bids the bond out in an internet auction with no suggested rates which gives the District the best rate possible. Ms. Hughes then left the meeting.

Mrs. Quickle was asked what the RLIS grant is to which she replied it's the Rural Low Income School Grant.

Mrs. Tomcho was asked if any students attended the Manufacturing Day at the Bayfront to which she replied affirmatively.

Mr. Shroul introduced Mr. Andy Pitrone who was the winner in the Corry Federal Credit Union "Teacher of the Year" contest. Mr. Pitrone was applauded.

Mr. Thompson was asked if the offer to remove the trees would be open to everyone or only those with horses and not skidders. There was a difference of opinion among Board members as to whether skidders or horses should be used. Mr. Thompson was reminded again to get proof of insurance from the company who will be removing the trees. Referring to Mr. Thompson's written report, it was asked about the map the letter from Tim Ackerman refers to. Mr. Thompson replied that no map was included, but he will get it and send it to Mr. Bennett who will forward it to the Board members. [See Supplemental enclosed in the Minutes Book]

Mrs. Byler was asked if her equipment was holding up to which she replied that replacement is badly needed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee A Report

Mrs. Lewis introduced the revisions to Policy #6240 "Home Schooling."

Committee B Report

Mr. Blakeslee had nothing to report.

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REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit Board of Directors

Mr. Trauner stated that the directors met last week and their current focus is on talking with the Districts. They are becoming known for the good things coming out of IU5.

Erie County Technical School Joint Operating Committee

Mr. Fox reported that a special ECTS meeting will be held concerning the renovation and will be open to the public. He suggested that his replacement attend the meeting. (Mr. Fox's term as JOC representative ends in December.) He added that the new Executive Director wants the space back that is currently used by Alternative Education and RCI. Nothing has been made official yet as the Board will need to approve it. Mr. Bennett added that this will likely be one of the main topics at tomorrow's Superintendent's meeting. Mr. Fox read an invitation he received regarding the induction of UC Student Hunter Powell into the National Technical Honor Society, but the ceremony takes place the same night as next week's UCASD School Board meeting so he is unable to attend.

Other Business

There were no questions on the draft agenda. Mr. Trauner reminded the Board to contact Mr. Bennett with any questions on agenda items before next week's meeting.

Executive Session

Mr. Trauner reminded the Board that an Executive Session for the purpose of legal, personnel and security discussion would follow adjournment. Mr. Bennett asked several administrators to remain for Executive Session.

Adjournment

Mr. Fox moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Robinson.

Roll Call Vote: Blain Blakeslee, David Fox, Stephen Gilbert, Brian Gregor, Douglas Hopson, Lori Lewis, Barbara Miller, David Robinson, and George Trauner voted yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Trauner declared the meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Sill
School Board Secretary