

TO: STAFF/MEDIA

RE: DECEMBER 10TH, 2015 BOARD MEETINGS

FROM: CARRIE FREIE, BOARD SECRETARY

The Wellsville-Middletown R-1 Board of Education met in regular session December 10th, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by President Rutherford. The Pledge was led by Mr. Nasir. The board approved the agenda as amended; the minutes of the November 12th, 2015 regular and executive meetings and the November 23rd, 2015 special and executive meetings were approved then reviewed financial statements, and voted to pay all bills.

Letter of retirement was read and approved from Ruth Nation, Music Teacher.

Mrs. Tiffany Gosseen, Elementary Principal reported: Current Kindergarten-sixth grade enrollment is 198. There are 34 PreK students.

Eighty-five students in 3-6th grade earned treats for Homework Club for November. This is over 60% of our students!

The 4th-6th grade Christmas concert will be held on December 15 at 7:00 PM. The students decided they wanted to use the opportunity for a food drive—a very caring idea!

On December 4th, students in 6th grade went to Presser Hall in Mexico and watched a production of Mary Poppins! Thank you, PTO, for sending our students again this year!

On December 16th, students in K-6 will travel to Mexico Cinema III to watch “Minions” on the big screen! PTO pays for transportation and popcorn/drink/candy for the kiddos. Students had a great time last year, and we are so grateful PTO is again sponsoring this trip.

On December 17th, teachers of the elementary will once again transform the cafeteria into a wonderful holiday scene for our Christmas Dinner. I really appreciate the time and effort teachers put forth to make this a special time. If you are in the area on the 18th, stop by around noon and check out our handiwork.

On December 18th, students in the elementary will show their talents in our version of the annual “Variety Show.” Thank you to Mrs. Nation for helping to organize the event.

Kindergarten received the Target Grant again this year. It will be used for their trip to the zoo at the end of the year.

Mr. Sehlke, High School Principal, reported

- I. Enrollment: 156 (*JH-54, HS-102*)
- II. November Attendance Rate: 94.80%
- III. 90/90 Attendance: 86%
- IV. Ineligible List
 - a. 7th Grade: 8
 - b. 8th Grade: 3
 - c. Freshmen: 13 (*10 of 13 have multiple F's*)
 - d. Sophomore: 5
 - e. Junior: 1
 - f. Senior: 2
- V. December/January Calendars Attached
- VI. November Students of the Month
 - a. HS- Emily Guyton and James Vogel
 - b. JH- Ellen Sargent and Dawson Arens
- VII. Surplus- Basketball Jerseys/Warm-ups
- VIII. Early Graduates

IX. Faculty Reports

Mr. Nasir reported :

Finance: I talked to the County Clerk's office and they indicated a county-wide \$78K increase in the state assessed railroad and utilities assessment. She didn't know exactly how much this will increase our expected revenue, but it will go up from our current budgeted expectation. I have received the OK from the Fed. Pro. Dept. at DESE to fund the new 5th gr. aide with Title 1 funds. The revised budget being presented has some additional funds allocated to maintenance to accommodate a new boiler, to transportation to account for a new bus and a possible bus mechanic and to food service to allow for new kitchen equipment and new lunch tables for the elementary cafeteria. Reserve percentages are still projected to be in the mid to upper 20's.

Facilities and Grounds updates:

MoDOT put some asphalt in the pot-holes at the entrance of our bus loop this past week. Ameren was out to check on our parking-lot lights. They are all now working. EPM fixed the programming for the lights on the end of the elementary gym which are now working properly. Danny Arens is working on the outdoor light on the east side of the ag shop and he's replaced the bulb in the fixture by the Jr. Hi doors so that this area is much brighter now. Jeff and the custodians are preparing our facilities for winter. Jeff has drained the water from the cooling tower and plugged in and adjusted the space heaters we use in the bus barn and storage building. Jeff is working on a solution to the urinal the boys' locker room that has been 'bagged up' for the past year. The drain for that particular fixture is plugged up solidly. The plumber has tried to open it and thinks that the line has either collapsed or had something dumped in it that has solidified. .

Transportation:

Tyler Walton was in again once this month to do some oil changes, replace an exhaust pipe and do some other routine maintenance on some of our busses. We've also had the front tires replaced on bus 5, a new alternator installed on bus 4 and rear brake pads on bus 12. Aren's has done this work for us. Brinegar's installed a battery disconnect switch on bus 8 to fix the issue of the battery constantly being drained. So far the disconnect switch has worked well. Bus 13 is currently in the shop getting new rear brakes and calipers installed. Bus 2 currently won't start due to the cold weather , I've made arrangements to get it to the shop to get the engine block heater fixed or replaced.

MUSIC (Missouri United School Ins. Council) Liability Insurance

After discussions with MUSIC and Mickes' office it is my recommendation that on top of our annual insurance renewal assessment the school should purchase additional liability "umbrella" coverage in the amount of \$5,000,000 and the Cyber Coverage. The umbrella coverage will cost an additional \$2639 and the Cyber coverage will cost an additional \$1500. Our total MUSIC bill for the coming year will be \$64,661.00.

The US House of Representatives has passed a bi-partisan education bill that is now in the Senate and looks likely to be approved. This will be good news for Missouri schools if it is approved. It brings back a great deal of control to the state level. I have contacted both Missouri Senators' offices to urge them to support the bill as passed by the House. I might suggest that you as board members might also contact them. They track the numbers of pro and con voices carefully so every call helps. Here is their contact info:

Sen. Roy Blunt: Phone: [202-224-5721](tel:202-224-5721): Education Staffer E-Mail: desiree_mowry@blunt.senate.gov

Sen. Claire McCaskill: Phone: [202-224-6154](tel:202-224-6154): Education Staffer E-Mail: kyle_simpson@mccaskill.senate.gov

Current ADA as of Nov. 1: HS = 148.46, Elem. = 192.58, Total = **341.04**

Previous ADA: Sept. 1 = 347.34, Oct. 1 = 342.91, Nov. 1 = 342.14

Current Business:

- Approved early graduates pending all District and DESE requirements are met.

- Voted to declare old sports uniforms surplus property. Mr. Sehlke will have them ready and available for sale at basketball games after the Christmas Break. The tables and benches that have been replaced from the elementary cafeteria will also be for sale.
- Voted to re-open the bus maintenance position at \$15/hour with benefits.
- Approved the 2015-16 revised budget.
- Discussed the Superintendent Evaluations for January.
- Approved the MUSIC insurance coverage with the added liability coverage of \$5,000,000 and the Cyber Liability coverage.
- The board discussed extracurricular activities and ineligibility. Mr. Henderson handed out invitations to the Cattlemen's Fundraiser. The Cattlemen's Association gives out scholarships to our students each year.

Executive Session

- Voted to hire Barry Cullom as Bus Maintenance and Groundskeeper for \$15/hour plus benefits.
- Voted to hire Michael Smith as Paraprofessional for \$10.90/hour.
- Voted to extend Mr. Nasir's contract through 2016-17.
- Discussed personnel.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m.