Alexander Local Board of Education Regular Meeting

Alexander Library 7:00 P.M. April 15, 2024

The Alexander Local Board of Education held a Regular Board Meeting on April 15, 2024, at the Alexander Library. Members present at roll call were: Mr. Aaron Ramsey, Mr. Josh Collins, Mr. Stephen Crook, Mr. Blake Regan, and Mr. Jay Barnes.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Barnes.

24-04-01: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Collins to adopt the agenda.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mr. Regan, yes; Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes and Mr. Crook, yes. Motion carried.

Reports and Comments

A. Superintendent's Report
   1. Elementary Momentum Award – From the State of Ohio. **Mrs. Rouse** – I am very proud of this amazing team and what they have accomplished.
   2. ARC use – morning usage is couple of people a few times a week.
   3. Civil Rights Issue – we submitted all of our information for their review today. Waiting on response from state.
   4. Reduction – 4 teaching positions for the fall we are not going to fill, we will reorganize staff to cover.

B. Curriculum Update – **Mrs. Karr**
   We use a six-year adoption for curriculum in our district. The LETRS training will have required over 140 hours of professional development and will check off two requirements of the state. We developed a Literacy Committee of teachers, administrators, community members, parents and state literacy lead and identified curriculum program needs. Core Knowledge Language Arts was chosen by the majority of the teachers and had positive community and parent feedback. **Mr. Regan** - New teachers that come to the district, will they need this training that we have already gone through or is there something that a fresh graduate is getting that training? **Mrs. Karr** – It's a mixture, I know that higher education institutions are embedding this within their programs, however they're lagging behind. Everyone is trying to play catchup. These mandates came down very quickly and said they had to be in place within a year. We did the LETRS training which met the dyslexia training requirements as well as the science of reading, but its not the only option. ODE has online modules available for both of those things, which isn't quite as in-depth or thorough as what we are doing but it is good and probably something when our new teachers come on board that I would assume that would be the route we go with them. **Mrs. Rouse** – we are working on a plan for that right now. It is very expensive to buy individual seats to LETRS, so we will probably use the state modules and then some coaching with Mrs. Kostival. **Mr. Regan** – You looked at the comprehensive and then the two pieces coming together to fill it. Is there cost and/or consistency issue between the two? **Mrs. Karr** – I would say when you compare the two, it's a scale factor but they were pretty comparable. We price out everything they weren't equal but a knowledge and the skills together we roughly the same as a comprehensive. The other thing with cost to keep in mind, with the state mandate the state did put some

money behind it. It wasn't enough to cover the full amount. **Mr. Regan** - Lastly, the student in the 4th or 5th grade coming next year, how do they slide into this or is this a sliding scale for the students that have already been through? **Mrs. Karr** - We have asked that question pretty thoroughly, the company assured us that their beginning modules the beginning of every year has review to basically fill it in. They also have resources to support that if you have a student struggling with a unit because they don't have the background knowledge. **Mr. Regan** – Also, while I have both of your attention congrats on the Elementary award. **Mrs. Karr** – Thank you but it truly does go back to the teachers. **Mr. Barnes** – I would just like to echo the thank you to the three of you for the work that you put into it I can only imagine.

C. Transportation Report- **Dan Phillips**

Let's talk about where we are right now, we are single route, 24 buses, we haul about 900 children every day. Fuel 50,000 gallons at $3.50 gallon, tires $144,000, oil $8,000, 24 drivers $720,000, try to turn buses over on an 18-year rotation that would be 1.27 buses per year $177,800 total of $1,094,000 for single routing. Dual routing the idea is you can cut drivers, you can cut routes. We are currently at 24 I think we could get down to 20 with double routing. Our district is 174 square miles. Dual routing doesn't double cost but I think it will be about 60% more. I would need 6 hours a day for driver not 5 that we have now. I don't believe that you will save with dual routing. **Mr. Barnes** – I remember having this same discussion 6 years ago and Josh was here and it is the same it wasn't a significant savings, it wasn't much savings at all. **Mr. Regan** – I'm looking at the buses a year replacement that's assuming that you're going an 18-year turnover but with dual routing would you expect to keep an 18 year. **Dan** – That's an unknown to me, it may go by faster because of they may wear out quicker, you're going to put some miles on them. **Mr. Regan** – you're essentially doubling them. **Mr. Hampton** – It would impact each bus. **Mr. Regan** – Probably looking at more of a 15-year turnover rate. **Dan** – Yes, possibly so, I tried to be a realistic as I could. **Mr. Collins** – You mentioned the 2017 audit we had and one thing they had was the idea of using software. **Dan** – they did hit us with software and dual routing. I think they recommended us get down to 23 routes. I'm almost there. I have 2-3 year left and if you are wanting to get a routing system I would like to see the new person pick the system. Routing system will cost around $20,000 with a $3,000 a year upkeep. I'm all in. Every year they get better and better more precise, their mapping is better and information they can store. I have no problem with that if you want to invest that money. **Mr. Collins** – that is what I curious about the pricing and it's only a few percentage points in efficiency that would make back the entire cost of software plus the maintenance each year. It almost seems I think achievable. **Dan** – for me I think it may help. I just don't want to pick for someone else. **Mr. Regan** – Not knowing the software but essentially won't it be better for you to teach it the software what it needs to know before you leave. **Dan** – I don't know what it requires or what it needs.

D. Public Participation for Agenda Items – None

Mr. Barnes – I would like to make a quick comment. Mr. Collins and I were able to come out Friday for Mr. Strekal for a Memorial Track event, unfortunately Ohio's spring weather did not cooperate, so we had a little honor for Mr. Strekal, his family was there. I just wanted to thank those that attended. It was a nice event even though the weather was lousy Friday afternoon. Thanks to Ms. Lucas for the effort put forth there, I know it wasn't her and her alone but it was a great way to honor Mr. Strekal. **Mr. Collins** – we should mention that there will be another meet here on April 22, it will be the first senior night here in 15 years.

TREASURER RECOMMENDATIONS

24-04-02: Mr. Collins moved, seconded by Mr. Regan that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the March 20, 2024 regular board meeting.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mr. Regan, yes; Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes and Mr. Crook, yes. Motion carried.

24-04-03: Mr. Collins moved, seconded by Mr. Regan that the Board of Education approve the financial statement for the months ending March 31, 2024.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mr. Regan, yes; Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes and Mr. Crook, yes. Motion carried.

24-04-04: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Barnes that the Board of Education approve the following transfers:

$417,003.00 from General Fund 001 to Schoolwide Pool 598-9124
$32,423.88 from Title I 572-9124 to Schoolwide Pool 598-9124
$4,725.70 from Title II-A 590-9124 to Schoolwide Pool 598-9124
$2,645.75 from Title IV-A 584-9524 to Schoolwide Pool 598-9124
$24,132.62 from IDEA-B 516-9124 to Schoolwide Pool 598-9124
$774.73 from ECSE 587-9124 to Schoolwide Pool 598-9124

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mr. Regan, yes; Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes and Mr. Crook, yes. Motion carried.

24-04-05: Mr. Collins moved, seconded by Mr. Regan that the Board of Education approve the following donation:

Elementary PSSF (018-9004) would like to make a $4,109.47 to the Alexander Inclusive Playground. They held a Change for Change drive fundraiser.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mr. Regan, yes; Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes and Mr. Crook, yes. Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Personnel/Employment Recommendation

24-04-06: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Barnes that the Board of Education approve the substitute teachers/paraprofessionals as recommended by the Athens-Meigs ESC superintendent: Sidney Boltz

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mr. Regan, yes; Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes and Mr. Crook, abstain. Motion carried.

24-04-07: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Collins that the Board of Education grant one-year contracts to the following, pending their meeting all state and local requirements:

Sara Carlston	Jacob Carpenter	Taylor Douglas
Megan Elliott	Julia Farver	Madison Giesige
Morgan Grinstead	McKenzie Jones	Amanda Jones
Jenna Jordan	Adrienne Kohli	Rosemary Lamb
Allyson Stewart	Erica Swart	

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mr. Regan, yes; Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes and Mr. Crook, yes. Motion carried.

24-04-08: Mr. Collins moved, seconded by Mr. Crook that the Board of Education grant two-year contracts to the following, pending their meeting all state and local requirements:

Mark Cline	Morgan Hafner	Emily Legenza
Jala Mace	Erin Thomas	Margot Tyler

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mr. Regan, yes; Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes and Mr. Crook, yes. Motion carried.

24-04-09: Mr. Collins moved, seconded by Mr. Regan that the Board of Education grant three-year contracts to the following, pending their meeting all state and local requirements:

Jessica Buckley	Kirk Crow	John Healey
Jansen Jeffers	Andrew Monk	Jessica Woods

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mr. Regan, yes; Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes and Mr. Crook, yes. Motion carried.

24-04-10: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Crook that the Board of Education employ the following supplementals for the 2024-25 school year, pending their meeting all state and local requirements and the constitution of a full team for the season:

Certificated
Jordan Hill, Head Varsity Boys Basketball
Non-Certificated
Jami Ness, Volunteer Volleyball
Nikkie Ohms, JV Volleyball
Sydney Rutter, 8th Grade Volleyball

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mr. Regan, yes; Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes and Mr. Crook, yes. Motion carried.

24-04-11: Mr. Crook moved, seconded by Mr. Barnes that the Board of Education non-renew the long-term substitute contract with James Stamper, effective the end of the 2023-24 school year.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mr. Regan, yes; Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes and Mr. Crook, yes. Motion carried.

24-04-12: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Collins that the Board of Education accept the resignation of Katherine Thompson, effective at the end of the 2023-24 school year.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mr. Regan, yes and thanks; Mr. Barnes, yes and thanks; Mr. Collins, yes and Mr. Crook, yes. Motion carried.

24-04-13: Mr. Crook moved, seconded by Mr. Barnes that the Board of Education accept the retirement resignation from Dan Doseck, effective May 31, 2024 and Nancy Witten, effective June 1, 2024.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mr. Regan, yes and thank you; Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes and Mr. Crook, yes and congrats. Motion carried.

24-04-14: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Crook that the Board of Education approve the following change to the 2023-24 school calendar:
Wednesday, May 22, 2024 – last day for Elementary students
Thursday, May 23, 2024 – professional development for Elementary staff
** No Changes to Jr. High/High School schedule

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mr. Regan, yes; Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes and Mr. Crook, yes. Motion carried.

24-04-15: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Crook that the Board of Education approve the adoption of CORE Knowledge Language Arts as the district-adopted curriculum in grades kindergarten through 5th for 2024-2030 for English Language Arts.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mr. Regan, yes; Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes and Mr. Crook, yes. Motion carried.

24-04-16: Mr. Crook moved, seconded by Mr. Barnes that the Board of Education discontinue morning (5-7am) access to the ARC due to a lack of use by the public.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mr. Regan, yes; Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes and Mr. Crook, yes. Motion carried.

POLICY UPDATES

24-04-17: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Collins that the Board of Education approve the following policies for inclusion into the Policy and Procedures Manual, as recommended by OSBA:

IGBEA-R, Reading Skills Assessment and Intervention (Third Grade Reading Guarantee)

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mr. Regan, yes; Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes and Mr. Crook, yes. Motion carried.

Business Initiated by Board Members - None

Board Reports - None

Public Participation – Ms. Ball – This is history for you people on the board, Dan was mentioning about getting kids on the right bus and going to the right place. We had over a 50-day strike because of a student put on the wrong bus and then that teacher was let go. **Mr. Barnes** – 1980 **Ms. Ball** – 79/80

The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, May 22, 2024.

24-04-18: Executive Session - Mr. Crook moved, seconded by Mr. Regan to go into executive session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mr. Regan, yes; Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes and Mr. Crook, yes. Motion carried.

TIME IN: 8:15 TIME OUT: 9:28

24-04-19: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Collins that this meeting be adjourned.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mr. Regan, yes; Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes and Mr. Crook, yes. Motion carried.

Time: 9:29 P.M.

Board President

Treasurer