Alexander Local Board of Education Organizational / Regular Meeting

Alexander Library 7:00 P.M. January 12, 2022

The Alexander Local Board of Education held an Organizational Meeting followed by Regular Session on January 12, 2022 at the Alexander Library. Members present at roll call were: Mr. Jay Barnes, Mr. Josh Collins, Mr. Aaron Ramsey, Mrs. Lucy Juedes, and Mr. Blake Regan.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Regan.

Oath of Office

Newly elected Board members Jay Barnes, Josh Collins and Aaron Ramsey were sworn in by Treasurer, Aaron Schirm.

22-01-01: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mrs. Juedes to adopt the agenda and addendum with the addition of masking at all events added under business initiated by board members.

> Vote: Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes; Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mrs. Juedes, yes; and Mr. Regan, yes. Motion carried.

Public Participation for Agenda Items - None

22-01-02: Mr. Barnes moved, seconded by Mrs. Juedes to move the executive session to after the second public participation portion of the agenda.

> Vote: Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes; Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mrs. Juedes, yes; and Mr. Regan, yes. Motion carried.

Tax Budget Hearing

The Alexander Local School Board reviewed the tax budget for FY 2023 that was on file and advertised as available for public view in the Treasurer's Office. The budget is required to be filed with the County Budget Commission by January 15, 2022.

22-01-03: Mr. Barnes moved, seconded by Mrs. Juedes to approve the enclosed FY 2023 tax budget and submit to the County Auditor by January 15, 2022.

> Vote: Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes; Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mrs. Juedes, yes; and Mr. Regan, yes. Motion carried.

Re-Organization

Josh Collins nominated Blake Regan for President and Lucy Juedes for Vice-President.
Jay Barnes nominated Lucy Juedes for President and Blake Regan for Vice-President.

22-01-04: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Barnes to close the nominations.

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

The treasurer took the roll call vote for Blake Regan as President.

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

The treasurer took the roll call vote for Lucy Juedes as Vice-President.

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

BLAKE REGAN ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD FOR 2022
LUCY JUEDES ELECTED VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD FOR 2022

22-01-05: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Collins to appoint Aaron Ramsey as Legislative Liaison for 2022.

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

22-01-06: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mrs. Juedes to appoint Josh Collins as Student Achievement Liaison for 2022.

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

The Board set the date of the regular Board meetings for the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. at the Alexander Library.

22-01-07: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Barnes to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that in the event of the Treasurer's absence from a meeting of the Board of Education, the Board will choose one of its members to serve as Treasurer pro-tempore for the duration of that meeting.

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

22-01-08: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Collins to adopt the following standing authorizations for 2022:

1. that the Treasurer be authorized to request and secure advance draws on tax settlements from the County Auditor when funds are available and payable to the school district

2. that the Treasurer be authorized to invest inactive funds at the most productive rate when funds are available

3. that the Treasurer be authorized to pay all bills within the limits of the appropriation resolution, as bills are presented, and report monthly to the Board of Education

4. that the Superintendent and Treasurer be authorized to utilize the services of Bricker & Eckler Law Firm and other law firms as deemed appropriate to serve the school district

5. that the Board members be authorized to attend meetings related to their office, per Board policy BHBA

6. that the Superintendent and Treasurer be authorized to attend meetings relating to their positions and be reimbursed for all reasonable costs

7. that the Superintendent be authorized to employ such personnel as needed for emergency situations; such employment will be presented for approval by the Board of Education at the next regular meeting

8. that administrators be authorized to attend conferences approved by the Superintendent, up to the appropriated amount

9. establish Board Service Fund for FY 2023 - Per ORC 3315.15 – at a cost of $4,000

10. that the Superintendent and/or her designee be authorized to approve faculty members to host college education students, to be a cooperating teacher for field experience students and professional internships and to be site coordinators for field experience. Teacher compensation is calculated based on the actual amount received from the University less any expenses to the district for required benefits.

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

22-01-09: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mrs. Juedes to approve the consent agenda items as follows:

Treasurer's Recommendations

A. Approval of the minutes of the December 14, 2021 meeting;
B. Approval of the financial statement for the month ending December 31, 2021;
C. Approval of the following transfers:
    $441,972.10 from General Fund 001 to Schoolwide Pool 598-9122
D. Approve the disposal of the enclosed list of items that are broken and/or obsolete;
E. Approval of the donation of $334.00 to Joy of Toys as raised by the High School Student Council (200-9026)

Superintendent's Recommendations

A. Approve the enclosed substitute aide and teacher lists as recommended by the Athens-Meigs ESC superintendent;
B. Employ Madalyn Allen as Home Instruction Tutor for the 2021-22 school year, pending her meeting all state and local requirements;
C. Approve the annual membership in the Ohio School Boards Association for 2022 at a cost of $5,573;
D. Approve the enclosed resolution regarding the OSBA Legal Assistance Fund;
E. Approve the following resolution regarding board members participation in OSBA events:

RESOLUTION FOR BOARD MEMBERS PARTICIPATION IN OSBA EVENTS

Whereas, the Alexander Local School District Board of Education is a member of the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA); and

Whereas, OSBA is an association created for the purpose of fulfilling and advancing our school board's statutory mandate by working for the general advancement of public education in Ohio; enhancing the working relationships among and between boards of education, school administrators, teachers and the public; and maintaining channels for the exchange of ideas

among and distribution of information to school districts to provide better and more effective public service to public schools; and

Whereas, the Board encourages the participation of all members at appropriate conferences, workshops and conventions; therefore

Now be it resolved that the Alexander Local School District Board of Education determines that attendance at any OSBA sponsored conference, workshop, and convention, is related to his / her official duties as a member of the Alexander Local School District Board of Education and therefore qualifies for compensation and travel expense reimbursement pursuant to Board policy BHBA as an approved training program.

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

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Superintendent's Recommendations

22-01-10: Mr. Barnes moved, seconded by Mr. Regan to employ Ashley Gray as a Paraprofessional, effective January 3, 2022, pending her meeting all state and local requirements.

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

22-01-11: Mr. Collins moved, seconded by Mr. Barnes to approve compensation to teachers participating in professional development provided virtually by the Ohio Council for Teachers of Mathematics ($33 per session, per teacher, up to 8 sessions).

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

22-01-12: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Barnes to approve the contract with Dynamic Sports Construction for the installation of the ARC walking track. This will be through Wellness Funds and donations.

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

22-01-13: Mr. Barnes moved, seconded by Mr. Regan to approve beginning the bid process for the 8-lane track renovation and to compile and submit the bid package to go out for bidding.

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

22-01-14: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Collins to approve the internet access service agreement with META Solutions.

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

22-01-15: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Barnes to approve and recognize Alexander Indoor Track Team as a club sport for the indoor track season for grades 7-12 as stated by OHSAA Section 7 (Indoor Track & Field).

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

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Business Initiated by Board Members

22-01-16: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Collins to discuss implementing a masking requirement for everyone at all school events. Mrs. Juedes expressed her concerns with the current situation regarding COVID levels in the area. The board did not propose any changes to the mask policies at this time.

Public Participation

Mike Waggoner, Kim Kelly, Greg and Claudette Saylor, David Bright, Sally Ball, Jerry Crow, Russ Norris, and Les Cornwell addressed the board regarding the employment of Mrs. Douglas as Superintendent of Alexander Local Schools and the accomplishments of the District over the past eight years.

22-01-17: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mrs. Juedes to enter into executive session for the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of an employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against an employee or official.

> Vote: Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, yes; Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mrs. Juedes, yes; and Mr. Regan, yes. Motion carried.

Time In: 8:24 P.M.

Time Out: 9:24 P.M.

Mr. Barnes said four years ago, when I got on the board, I was one of the skeptics and it was evident when I first started because when Lindy's contract was up for renewal at that time, I talked with Mr. Davis and I was not in support of a three year. We had kind of had, I'll call it a gentleman's agreement that going into it, that we would renew it for a year and we would make some strides in recommending what we would like to see. In hindsight, I'm going to go on record and say, Mr. Davis was spot on because there is nothing that Mrs. Douglas can do to please everyone. And as my tenure, as board president in 2020, I was asked by someone why I flipped quote-unquote.

And I kind of was taken aback by the question. And it wasn't that I flipped because that implies that I had it out for Lindy to start with. And I never did have it out for Lindy and I still don't. But dealing with the beginning of COVID in March of '20. I know for a fact that I was talking to Lindy four or five times a day, seven days a week, because it was ever changing. The buzzword at the time I think was fluid, everything's fluid. So, you would make the good decision at the time and tomorrow the answer was not good because something else had come to light. So, then I got criticized for not sharing information, felt like I was controlling the information. And the fact is any information that anybody wants to know is a short phone call away. Mrs. Douglas will talk to anybody that calls her.

Now, when you guys call me, you might not necessarily like the answer, but at least you know where I'm coming from. Same way with Lindy, you might not like the answer, but there's usually a reason for the answer. My time as board president really educated and opened my eyes to what the superintendent of any school district goes through on a daily basis, they have arrows being shot at them daily from all directions. The sad thing is they also get arrows shot from the board. In light of all of that I will wrap up my comments. I've struggled with this on how to approach this, but at this point, I'm going to make a motion to renew her contract for three years.

It might get voted down. It might not get a second. I don't care. I'm going to go on record and do what's right. And we need to continue to keep this district moving forward. Okay? My girls now, as of last year are all graduated and gone. They've moved on. I don't have, I guess, a necessary dog in the fight anymore. So, what I'm trying to say is I'm not trying to please people at this point. You guys voted me back in for four years for better or for worse. I'm going to have a hard time holding my peace. And this is right. What we have done, in Jay's opinion is a hundred percent wrong. I'm going to ask that we, if somebody would second it I'd appreciate it.

22-01-18: Mr. Barnes moved, seconded by Mr. Ramsey to employ Lindy Douglas as Superintendent for three years beginning August 1, 2022.

22-01-19: Mrs. Juedes moved, seconded by Mr. Regan to table the motion to employ Lindy Douglas as Superintendent.

The roll was taken for the motion to table and the vote went as follows:

> Vote: Mr. Barnes, no; Mr. Collins, no; Mr. Ramsey, no; Mrs. Juedes, yes; and Mr. Regan, yes. Motion failed.

Mr. Collins said it seems pretty intent that there's a vote to be had tonight. So, I guess, no, I don't think it's the right choice, but I'll say no.

The roll was taken for the motion to employ Lindy Douglas as Superintendent for three years beginning August 1, 2022.

> Vote: Mr. Barnes, yes; Mr. Collins, no; Mr. Ramsey, yes; Mrs. Juedes, no; and Mr. Regan, no. Motion failed.

Mr. Collins said I don't think it's the right choice for us to be taking this vote tonight. I'm sorry that you all came here expecting that this was going to happen. It was not in the cards. So, I don't know where it was brought from, and I apologize you guys all had to come here. It's already been stated a couple times why we were put here and by the ballots and I've made my comments, my reviews are all public. I've made my public comments. This is not the forum to go back into that. That is one thing that hurts us. I really don't like even taking this discussion or taking this

vote because it then does become personal. It hurts her in the future. Because now she's going to have the potential for a stain on her record and make it more difficult for her. My vote is no.

Mr. Ramsey said I have a really hard time when we have a winning team pulling the coach. So, my vote would be yes.

Mr. Regan said the reason I wanted to table this conversation is I don't think it is in the best interest of the district at this point in time to not have all the alternatives on the table to decide what is there. What can be there. What other options are available to this district to move it in the right direction. No.

The next meeting is Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 7:00 PM in the Alexander Library.

22-01-20: Mr. Regan moved, seconded by Mr. Collins that this meeting be adjourned.

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

Time: 9:43 P.M.

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Board President

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Treasurer