BOARD OF EDUCATION, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020

The Board of Education met in regular session on Thursday, February 13, 2020, with the following members present: Mr. Cook, Mrs. Rayhel, Mr. Littlejohn, Mrs. Hendrix, and Mr. Macke. Superintendent Mr. Ross, Mr. Keown, and Mr. Engerski were also present. Mr. Gard and Mr. Crews were absent. Administrators Mr. Ritchey, Mr. Graham, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Beaven, and Mrs. Morgan were also absent due to parent/teacher conferences.

Mr. Macke called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Excel Academy Report

The directors and students from the Eccel Academy were present and made a presentation to the board. Bob Abernathy, Director, reported to the board that the Eccel students have visited many area businesses this school. Some of these businesses include NAL, Simonton Windows, Bolin Enterprises, Marion Tool, ZF, and Yargus Manufacturing.

Delana Parker, Assistant Director, explained to the board that she spends the first two hours of each school day with the Eccel students. Mrs. Parker does the grading, is in contact with the other schools, and maintains the Facebook page.

Mr. Abernathy pointed out that the program is very beneficial to the participating students. "If the kids apply for a job and they've been to Eccel, they are put at the top of the list."

A few of the Eccel students present told the board about their experiences with this program.

Approved minutes, bills, treasurer's report

Mr. Littlejohn offered a motion, seconded by Mrs. Hendrix, to approve the minutes, bills, and treasurer's report from the month of January. On roll call the vote was follows: Mr. Cook, aye; Mrs. Rayhel, aye; Mr. Littlejohn, aye; Mrs. Hendrix, aye; and Mr. Macke, aye.

Board Retreat 2/19/20

Mr. Ross reminded the board that the annual board retreat will be held on Wednesday, February 19, at 5:00 p.m. at the Unit Office.

Report on trap shooting

Kevin Keown, High School Athletic Director, recommended that the board approve the formation of a new high school trap shooting team that could begin competing this spring. He reported that 21 students had attended an introductory meeting and all four grades were represented. He explained that either the student or their parents must have a gun and each student would have to attend gun safety classes. All the competitions will be held at the local Sportsman's Club. There would be one supervisor for every ten students. Mr. Keown recommended a head coach and two assistant coaches. Mr. Ritchey, High School Principal, is a trap shooter and has offered to help coach the team. In addition, there would always be someone present from the gun club. There would be no cost to the school. If the local gun club is closed, the group would be welcome to shoot at the Martinsville Gun Club.

Mr. Ross recommended that the school district provide funding for the junior high baseball and softball programs. These 2 programs have been funded privately for the last years at a cost of $5000.00 per year.

Recommend district paid JH softball & baseball

The board will make a decision on a trap shooting club and the junior high softball and baseball funding at its annual retreat on February 19.

Mr. Ross discussed the amended school calendar for 2019-2020. There were emergency days used on November 12, December 16, and December 17. If no other emergency days are used, the last day for students would be Wednesday, May 27 and the teacher institute would be Thursday, May 28.

Discussed amended calendar

Mrs. Hendrix offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Macke, to approve the amended calendar for the 2019-2020 school year. On roll call the vote was follows: Mr. Cook, aye; Mrs. Rayhel, aye; Mr. Littlejohn, aye; Mrs. Hendrix, aye; and Mr. Macke, aye.

Approved amended calendar for 19-20

Mr. Ross discussed ideas for the 2020-2021 school year calendar. Ideas for discussion included the length of the Christmas break, the length of Easter break, consideration of a longer-stand-alone spring break, start date, end date, etc. Mr. Ross with work with Mr. Musselwhite, MEA President, to collect input on these items from the teachers. Mr. Ross will the options for the calendar for approval at the March meeting.

Discussed 20-21 calendar

Mr. Ross asked the board for approval from the board to apply for $50,000 through the State Maintenance Grant Program, which would help offset costs of asphalt work on the MHS track and parking lot work on the Bush House Property. If this approved by the State, the district would receive $50,000 towards those projects as long as our portion of the cost is at least that much (matching grant). The rough estimates put the total cost of the asphalt work on the track and Bus lot are over $100,00 so the district would have the match covered.

Discussed $50,000 Maintenance grant

Mrs. Rayhel offered a motion, seconded by Mrs. Hendrix, to give Mr. Ross approval to apply for the $50,000 maintenance grant. On roll call the vote was follows: Mr. Cook, aye; Mrs. Rayhel, aye; Mr. Littlejohn, aye; Mrs. Hendrix, aye; and Mr. Macke, aye.

Approved the applying of 50,000 maintenance grant

Mrs. Hendrix offered a motion, seconded by Mrs. Rayhel to approve the Foreign Language Club field trip to Castle High School in Newburgh, Indiana, for the Hispanic Flamenco Ballet and a Mexican Restaurant. The students will pay $30 for tickets and the meals and the club will pay for transportation. On roll call the vote was follows: Mr. Cook, aye; Mrs. Rayhel, aye; Mr. Littlejohn, aye; Mrs. Hendrix, aye; and Mr. Macke, aye.

Approved foreign language club field trip to Newburgh IN

Mr. Littlejohn offered a motion, seconded by Mrs. Hendrix, to go into closed session for the purposes listed under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)(personnel) and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9)(student discipline). On roll call the vote was follows: Mr. Cook, aye; Mrs.

Closed Session

Rayhel, aye; Mr. Littlejohn, aye; Mrs. Hendrix, aye; and Mr. Macke, aye. The board went into closed session at 6:45 p.m.

Open Session

Mrs. Hendrix offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Cook, to return to open session. On roll call the vote was follows: Mr. Cook, aye; Mrs. Rayhel, aye; Mr. Littlejohn, aye; Mrs. Hendrix, aye; and Mr. Macke, aye. The board returned to open session at 7:11 p.m.

Approved employment of Drew Buchter as MJHS science for 20-21

Mrs. Hendrix offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Littlejohn, to employ Drew Buchter as a MJHS science teacher for the 2020-2021 school year. On roll call the vote was follows: Mr. Cook, aye; Mrs. Rayhel, aye; Mr. Littlejohn, aye; Mrs. Hendrix, aye; and Mr. Macke, aye.

Cheer tabled

The resignations from the co-cheerleader sponsors were tabled.

Adjourn

Mrs. Hendrix offered a motion, seconded by Mrs. Rayhel to adjourn. All present voted aye. The board adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

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President, Board of Education Secretary, Board of Education