

LITTLE MIAMI LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 15, 2014
7 P.M.
LITTLE MIAMI HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

The Board of Education of the Little Miami Local School District, Warren County, Ohio met in special session on April 15, 2014 at 7 p.m. in the auditorium of Little Miami High School, 3001 U.S. 22-3, Morrow, OH 45152.

Call to Order and Roll Call

Mrs. Grice called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Mrs. Grice	Present
Mr. Cremeans	Present
Mr. Niemesh	Present
Mrs. Journeay	Present
Mr. Haas	Present

Others in attendance were: Greg Power; Terry Gonda, Pam Coates, Regina Morgan, Melinda Briggs, Dave Florea, Cathy Trevathan, Tiffany Sawyer, Brian Dalton, Wayne Lyke, Connie Combs, Joanie Holbein, Joel Williams, Dennis Kemp, Biff Arnold, Tim Martin, Wade Brown, Gil Adkins, Jackie Engle, David Fisher, Cherie Thunhorst, Dwight Packard, and many other community members.

Adopt the Agenda

Mr. Haas made a motion to adopt the agenda. Mr. Cremeans seconded.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Cremeans	Yes
Mr. Niemesh	Yes
Mrs. Journeay	Yes
Mr. Haas	Yes
Mrs. Grice	Yes

MOTION CARRIED

Communications and/or Visitors to the Board

Mr. Gonda gave an update on pay-to-participate fees for the winter sports season. He said that the new model is working correctly. The district has added teams due to the increase in participation. Last year, 119 students participated and this year there were 222 students. Winter (basketball & wrestling) gate receipts were up 11.4%. He noted that the pay-to-participate fee was lowered this year however the expenses were up due to the addition of teams.

Mr. Dalton presented the Athletic Wing and Participation PowerPoint presentation that he, Mrs. Trevathan, and Ms. Sawyer researched and created. He started by showing the increase of

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athletes from 2008 to the current year. He credited the lower pay-to-participate fee for the increase of participation. Mr. Dalton then compared the number of students that had withdrawn with the new growth that we are getting back in the district.

Mr. Dalton proceeded to present five options to improve the weight room facility. Options included expand the weight room into the wrestling room, expand the weight room to the Community Room, expand the weight room to the shop location, and a new construction addition. All dollar amounts were ballpark due to the short timeframe to collect actual bids.

Community Comments

Biff Arnold and David Fisher thanked the Board and the HS staff for putting thought and time into this project. Dennis Kemp asked the board what qualifications guidelines the district uses for hiring coaches. He stressed some concern regarding his daughter’s injuries playing softball. Cherie Thunhorst and Dwight Packard also expressed some coaching concerns.

Tim Martin and Wade Brown spoke up for the wrestling program. They both agreed that community room was not suitable for a wrestling room. The wrestling participation is increasing bringing the program back to where it was several years ago. Mr. Martin stressed that the district should not hurt one program to help another.

Gil Adkins spoke up about using the woodshop room, stressing current space is the issue. Jackie Engle, as well as Dwight Packard, agreed with him stating the current weight room is extremely overcrowded and the district needs to look at a long-term plan.

In closing, Mr. Power, Mr. Gonda, and Ms. Grice reminded the crowd that the expense is big concern and that the district needs to find a cost effective way to combine academics and athletics. The coaches need to focus on coaching not on fundraising. Ms. Journey, Mr. Niemesh and Mr. Cremeans assured the audience that the Board decision will be based on putting the needs of the students first but they also need community support to create a safe and successful environment for the students at Little Miami.

Adjourn

Ms. Journey made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Haas seconded.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Niemesh	Yes
Mrs. Journey	Yes
Mr. Haas	Yes
Mrs. Grice	Yes
Mr. Cremeans	Yes

MOTION CARRIED

The Board adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Bobbie Grice, President

Terry Gonda, Treasurer