

LITTLE MIAMI LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OCTOBER 21, 2014  
7 p.m.  
SALEM TOWNSHIP ELEMENTARY

The Board of Education of the Little Miami Local School District, Warren County, Ohio met in regular session on October 21, 2014 at 7 p.m. in the multipurpose room of Salem Township Elementary School, 605 Welch Rd., Morrow, OH 45039.

Call to Order and Roll Call

Mr. Cremeans called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

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

Others in attendance were: Greg Power, Terry Gonda, Pam Coates, Regina Morgan, Cathy Trevathan, Maryann Duffy, Gene Blake, Cory Taylor, Jamie Miles, Neil Schmidt, Joanie Holbein, Bill Hollenkamp, Eric Peul, Wayne Lyke, Biff Arnold, Patty Wehrung, and other community members.

Adopt the Agenda

Mr. Haas moved and Mr. Niemesh seconded the motion to adopt the agenda.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED

Reading of Minutes

Mrs. Journeay made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 22, 2014 regular meeting and October 14, 2014 special meeting. Mr. Haas seconded. No discussion.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED

REGULAR SESSION

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Communications and/or Visitors to the Board

Principal Maryann Duffy had two members of Salem Township's student council talk about the exciting things the new program has planned for the 2014-2015 school year. They talked about the K-2 Buddy Class Program, the new design for a Salem T-Shirt sale, and the Recess Bag Program that will help make the students more responsible for the recess equipment. They will also have a food drive November 3<sup>rd</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> to help stock the Morrow Food Pantry.

Superintendent Mr. Power gave an enrollment update. He stated that the enrollment is currently 4,249 students. This is 74 students fewer than LM's all-time high enrollment of 4,323 in the 2009-2010 school year. He also informed the board that Little Miami High School's graduation rate ranks eighth in the region according to a Cincy Magazine report. The report also said that Little Miami's average ACT score of 23 for the Class of 2014 was ranked prominently among schools in the region.

Mr. Biff Arnold gave an update on the weight room conversion project. He stated that the Athletic Booster club had retained an engineer and an architect for the project. The combined cost is \$5,500. Mr. Arnold also stated that he should have a blue print drawing to present at the next board meeting. Mr. Power reminded the board and visitors that on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 there will be an auction of the woodshop equipment. The doors will open at 9:00 a.m. for anyone interested in browsing the equipment. Auction will start at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Power suggested the proceeds from the sale go back into the weight room after sealing the holes from the equipment. Mr. Niemesh and Mr. Haas were in agreement.

Mrs. Regina Morgan addressed the Board regarding State Testing. She stated that OGT testing is still in place at the High School level but this would be the last year. She also said that the Ohio Achievement Test is currently only being given at the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade level. Mrs. Morgan's ODE handout explained that the new state tests are the Ohio Achievement Assessments for third grade reading and the Ohio Graduation Tests for students who entered ninth grade before July 1, 2014. The state tests also include new tests for grade 3-8 and new high school exams, which are required for the first time for the class of 2018 – students starting grade 9 after July 1, 2014. Each new state test has two parts, the performance-based and the end-of-the-year test. The scores from both tests are added together to create one final score for each subject. This year the schools had the option to select which format they would prefer to administer the test: paper/pencil or online. Next year, all tests will be online. Little Miami students participated in the pilot for the state computer-based testing last year, which Mrs. Morgan felt had better prepared them for this year's testing.

Mr. Travis Showers presented the board an update on facilities usage. He stated that currently LMSD serves 15-25 outside organizations, ranging from community youth organizations to local business groups, through renting facilities. The usage by these groups generates hundreds of events each year and provides an important link to the community. The fees generated from the facilities rentals are contributed to the upkeep and maintenance of the grounds and buildings. Mr. Showers said that Little Miami parents are happy to have their youth organizations back in the buildings.

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Financial Reports

Mr. Haas made a motion to approve the financial reports for September 2014. Mrs. Journey seconded. No discussion.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED

Five-Year Forecast

Mr. Gonda addressed the board regarding the district's five-year forecast. It states that the Property Tax, Public Utility Personal Property and Property Tax Allocation revenue are projected to remain relatively flat as we are not expecting any large increases in property valuations. A 1% increase has been included for new construction.

Unrestricted Grants-in-Aid (state funding) is flat lined for the remaining forecast years. This is due to a few variables that are uncertain at this point. For one, a new budget will have to be voted upon and approved for FY16 and FY17 by the Ohio legislature. The district is currently off the guarantee and is on the "formula" to calculate the amount received.

Current bargaining units and exempted employees contracts have been incorporated into FY15-17 for personnel services.

Employees Retirement/Insurance Benefits for FY15 have a 5.5% increase factored in for medical insurance, which is the largest cost. The remaining years have medical insurance projected at 15% increases.

Capital Outlay has projected into it some tech purchases and also the lease/purchase of two additional busses for FY15. As we move through the year and evaluate additional tech needs and busses this line item will be updated in the May forecast.

The last of the state loans for fiscal emergency have been completely paid as of June 2014.

Mr. Niemesh made a motion to approve the Five-Year Forecast for the Little Miami Local School District. Mr. Haas seconded.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED

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Amended Permanent Appropriations FY15

Mr. Niemesh made a motion to approve the amended permanent appropriations by funds for FY15. Mrs. Journey seconded.

Mr. Gonda amended fund 440, Entry Year Program appropriations, to add an additional \$465.00 and fund 451, Data Communications appropriations, to add an additional \$40,945.04. These two funds were amended due to additional SWOCA fees.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED

Personnel

Mr. Haas made a motion to approve the following personnel issues with employment contingent upon the school system receiving the results of the mandated criminal records background check as required by the O.R.C. 3319.311, which indicates that no conviction or pleas of guilty were entered into by any persons being employed. Mrs. Journey seconded. No discussion.

**CERTIFIED PERSONNEL – MATERNITY/PATERNITY LEAVE**

Marty Skidmore – Approx. 11/14/14 – 11/28/14

**CERTIFIED PERSONNEL – EMPLOYMENT, LONG TERM SUBSTITUTE**

Steve Abrell – for Paternity Leave, approx. 11/14/14 – 11/28/14

Anna Niehaus – for Maternity Leave, approx. 9/29/14 – 01/14/15

Dennis Thomas - for Maternity Leave, approx. 10/01/14 – 12/12/14

**CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL – EMPLOYMENT**

Cory Clayton – 2<sup>nd</sup> Shift Custodian @ IS, Step 0, effect. 10/20/14

Dave Florea – Transportation Clerk, Step 1, effect. 8/29/14

Larry Griffith – Bus Aide, Step 0, effect. 9/16/14

Linda Petry – Cook @ SE, Step 0, effect. 9/26/14

**CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL – CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT**

Dave Florea – from 5 hr. Transportation Secretary to 8 hr. Clerk, Step 1

**CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL – RESIGNATION**

Donna Leon – effect. 10/6/14

**CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL – SUBSTITUTE EMPLOYMENT**

Cindy Bradbury – Bus Aide

Miranda Schatzer – Bus Aide, Cook, Custodian

Tera Ward - Cook

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**SUPPLEMENTAL PERSONNEL – EMPLOYMENT**

Nick Pace – JV Men’s Basketball, Class 6, Step 0  
Mary Von Barga – Varsity Softball, Class 6, Step 5  
Mike Earach – Bowling, Class 10, Step 5  
Ron Milligan – Volunteer Assistant Men’s Basketball  
Kyle Medley – JH Team A Boys Basketball, Class 8, Step 0  
Jacob McClanahan – JH Team B Boys Basketball, Class 8, Step 0  
Jim German – Volunteer Assistant Swim Coach  
Dave Glaser – Volunteer Varsity Wrestling Coach  
Wade Brown – Volunteer Wrestling Coach  
Terry Meinking – Volunteer Wrestling Coach  
Joe Schneider – Volunteer JH Wrestling Coach

**VOLUNTEER**

Cherie Frederick

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED

Administering Medicines to Students, Board Policy JHCD

Mr. Niemesh moved and Mr. Cremeans seconded a motion to approve the adoption of the revised Board Policy JHCD, Administering Medicines to Students.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED

OTES Board Policy GCN-1(Also AFC-1)

Mr. Haas moved and Mr. Niemesh seconded a motion to approve the adoption of the revised OTES Board Policy GCN-1 (Also AFC-1).

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED

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Little Miami Women's Select Chorale 2015 Nashville, TN Trip

Mrs. Journey moved and Mr. Haas seconded a motion to approve the trip for Little Miami Women's Select Chorale to Nashville, TN on March 13-15, 2015 at no cost to the District.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED

Jr High English Department Booklist

Mr. Niemesh moved and Mr. Cremeans seconded the motion to adopt the 2014-2015 8<sup>th</sup> Grade English Department Booklist.

“I Am Malala” by Malala Yousafzai

“Son” by Lois Lowry

“The Alchemist” by Paulo Coelho

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED

New Business

Eric Peul from Schaefer Associates, Inc. and Bill Hollenkamp from WBH Architecture reported their findings regarding Morrow Elementary. They stated that the building was wet, vandalized, and required lots of cleanup. They also said that the main building's concrete was in good shape but the roof, HVAC, and infrastructure all needed replacement. They further stated that there may be portions of the building that are worth saving. They suggested that depending on what the Board wanted to do with the building, it would cost in the range of \$365,000 to \$7.8 million. Demolition alone would run \$365,000 to \$715,000, depending upon the mold and asbestos abatement. To bring Morrow Elementary up to date would cost roughly \$7.8 million.

No updated on the Warren County Career Center due to Mrs. Grice's absence.

Adjourned

Mrs. Journey moved and Mr. Niemesh seconded the motion to adjourn.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

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MOTION CARRIED

The Board adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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Bobbie Grice, President

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Terry Gonda, Treasurer