

LITTLE MIAMI LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
NOVEMBER 18, 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 regular session on November 18, 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, Cathy Trevathan, Tiffany Sawyer, Gene Blake, Neil Schmidt, Joanie Holbein, Wayne Lyke, Biff Arnold, Bobbi Allen, Sarah Baker, Casey Shirey, Jeff Sellars, Andrew D'Andrea, Tim Patton, Jeff and Susan Szekely, Matt Purintun, Stacey Becker, Gil Adkins, and several students and community members.

Adopt the Agenda

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

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED

Reading of Minutes

Mr. Cremeans made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 21, 2014 regular meeting. Mr. Niemesh seconded. No discussion.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

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MOTION CARRIED

Communications and/or Visitors to the Board

Sarah Baker and students Madi Allen, Lauren Frederick, Kasey Schroeder, and Taryn Richards spoke about the Women's Select Chorale trip to Latvia for the World Choir Games. Thirteen students and three alumni were able to make the trip to perform in the World Choir Games. They received silver medals in all three categories in which they competed. They were very thankful for the experience and memories that will last a lifetime.

Mrs. Grice complimented the group's performance at the Ohio Statehouse the week prior. She told them she was very impressed and she thought the Chorale gave a wonderful performance. Mr. Power informed the visitors that the Women's Select Chorale had been invited to perform at the Statehouse during a dedication ceremony for an exhibit honoring Ohio Medal of Honor recipients. The Chorale was then presented a state resolution from the House of Representatives, recognizing it for its performance at the World Choir Games.

Superintendent Greg Power gave the Board an enrollment update. He reported that LMSD currently has 4,244 students, up three from last month and still maintaining all students that started at the beginning of the 2014-15 school year.

Mr. Power reported to the Board that the wood shop equipment auction went better than he expected. He received a breakdown from Hilton Auctioneers showing the total sale was \$24,191.50. After paying the Hilton Auctioneers commission, LMSD cleared \$20,067.35.

Biff Arnold gave an update on the weight room conversion. He stated that unfortunately Reconstructive Orthopedics would not be partnering with the LM Boosters at this time. He is reaching out to Clinton Memorial and Beacon to see if they have any interest in investing in the weight room. In addition he said that the Green & Gold Committee is partnering with Legend Web Works to sell advertisement on the Little Miami district web site. Mr. Arnold also said that the committee drafted a fund-raiser letter and asked if it could be sent out districtwide with the help of Little Miami's Community Relations Coordinator, Neil Schmidt. Mr. Power approved. Mr. Arnold further said that the Warren County Career Center has agreed to do the HVAC and electrical work if it can be scheduled before spring. Mr. Arnold is in the process of finding a plumber as well as a manager that can manage the work permits and scheduling of the contractors.

Financial Reports

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

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

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MOTION CARRIED

Bus Lease-Purchase

Mr. Cremeans made a motion to approve the lease-purchase of two new 77-passenger buses for a total of \$170,920. Mr. Haas seconded.

Mr. Haas wanted to know if the two buses were replacement buses or additional. Mr. Power confirmed that they were additional buses that the district needed. Mr. Power also stated that the district will need more buses in the near future.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED

Contracts

Mr. Haas made a motion to approve the following contracts. Mr. Cremeans seconded.

COMPANY	AMOUNT	PERIOD	TYPE	PURPOSE
Countryside YMCA	\$20.00 per lane, per hour, plus meet costs	Nov. 2, 2014 – Feb. 19, 2015	Rental	Pool rental for swim team

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED

Personnel

Mr. Cremeans 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. Journeay seconded.

Mr. Power pointed out that Lisa Wiles was retiring after 30 years of driving a bus for Little Miami Schools. He complimented her on being a great employee and said she will be missed.

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CERTIFIED PERSONNEL – RESIGNATION

Ken Gray – effective end of 2014-15 school year

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL – EMPLOYMENT

Veronica Tobler – Van Driver, Part Time, effective 10/14/14

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL – MATERNITY LEAVE

April Vearil – approx. 1/22/15 - 3/19/15

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL – RESIGNATION

Lisa Wiles – Retirement effective 12/31/14

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL – SUBSTITUTE EMPLOYMENT

Brenda Doerr – Bus Aide, Cook

Tonya Oriol – Building Aide, Sp. Ed. Aide, Bus Aide

Cleo Speckert – Cook, Bus Aide, Building Aide, Sp. Ed. Aide

Tara Ward – Building Aide, Sp. Ed. Aide

Janice Viox - Cook

SUPPLEMENTAL PERSONNEL – EMPLOYMENT

Brooke Barrett – JH Girls “B” Basketball Coach

David Huber – HS Wrestling Volunteer Coach

VOLUNTEER

Adrian Opp – After school program at Salem

Jami Garneret

Bekkah Isaacs

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Cremeans

Yes

Mr. Niemesh

Yes

Mrs. Journey

Yes

Mr. Haas

Yes

Mrs. Grice

Yes

MOTION CARRIED

Memorandum of Understanding

Mrs. Journey made a motion to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation of approval of a memorandum of understanding between the Little Miami Board of Education and the Little Miami Teachers Association to update the previous MOU regarding the evaluation frequency of teaching employees under the district’s Ohio Teacher Evaluation System. Mr. Cremeans seconded.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding is entered into by the **LITTLE MIAMI SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION** (“Board”) and the **LITTLE MIAMI TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

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("Association") for the purpose of addressing changes to Ohio law related to teachers' performance evaluations.

WHEREAS, the Board and the Association are parties to a current Collective Bargaining Agreement in effect from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017; and

WHEREAS, recent changes to Ohio law set forth in House Bill 362 authorize the Board of Education to modify the frequency of evaluations for certain teaching employees who are evaluated under the district's Ohio Teacher Evaluation System policy ("Evaluation Policy"); and

WHEREAS, both the Board and the Association have agreed to adopt the following changes to the district's Evaluation Policy in accordance with the new law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AGREED UPON, by the Board and the Association as follows:

1. Accomplished Teachers

A teacher who has been granted a continuing contract or who is not in the last year of a limited contract, and who receives a final summative rating score of "Accomplished" on his/her most recent evaluation may at the discretion of the Superintendent/designee be formally evaluated every three years as long as the teacher receives a Student Growth Measure Score of "At Expected Growth" or "Above Expected Growth" in the most recent school year. Teachers who qualify for this exception will receive one observation and a post-conference interview with a credentialed evaluator using the Off Cycle Observation Form in any year that he/she is exempt from the formal evaluation process. The teacher will also continue to receive a Student Growth Measure score every year, and will be placed on a Growth or Improvement Plan in accordance with this policy.

2. Skilled Teachers

A teacher who has been granted a continuing contract or who is not in the last year of a limited contract, and who receives a final summative rating score of "Skilled" on his/her most recent evaluation may at the discretion of the Superintendent/designee be formally evaluated every other year as long as the teacher receives a Student Growth Measure Score of "At Expected Growth" or "Above Expected Growth" in the most recent school year. Teachers who qualify for this exception will receive one observation and a post-conference interview with a credentialed evaluator using the Off Cycle Evaluation Form in any year that he/she is exempt from the formal evaluation process. The teacher will also continue to receive a Student Growth Measure score every year, and will be placed on a Growth or Improvement Plan in accordance with this policy.

3. Retiring Teachers

The Superintendent/Designee may waive the evaluation requirements for a teacher who has submitted a notice of retirement by November 1st , as long as the board of education has accepted the retirement by December 1st.

4. Teachers on Extended Leave

The Superintendent/Designee may waive the evaluation requirements of a teacher who is on leave from the district for fifty percent (50%) or more of the school year.

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5. The Board and Association further acknowledge, agree and understand that nothing contained herein shall be construed or utilized as “past practice” or “precedent setting” in any related or unrelated, current or future grievance, arbitration, litigation or matter of contract interpretation involving the Board and the Association.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the duly authorized representatives of the Little Miami Local School District Board of Education and the Little Miami Teachers’ Association have executed this Memorandum on the dates opposite their signatures.

**LITTLE MIAMI LOCAL SCHOOL
DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Date: _____

By: _____

President

By: _____

Treasurer

**LITTLE MIAMI TEACHERS’
ASSOCIATION**

Date: _____

By: _____

President

By: _____

Secretary

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution 1400-003, Proposed 2015-2016 School Calendar

Mr. Haas made a motion to approve a resolution to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation to adopt calendar option C for the 2015-2016 school year. Mr. Cremeans seconded.

Mr. Power explained that option C calendar mirrored the 14-15 calendar’s first semester with the exception of a professional day being added prior to the students’ arrival. He also stated that due to the conversion of calamity days being switched to hours this year, calendar C has 79 extra hours above the state minimum worked into it, which converts to approximately 13 school days.

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Calendar C also allows the proper timing for seniors to be in session for the AP tests in May prior to their last day.

**LITTLE MIAMI LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION #14-003**

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code 3313.48 requires the Board of Education of each city, local, exempted village of JVSD to adopt school calendar which meets the minimum hours of instruction as follows: Kindergarten: 455, Grades 1-6: 910, Grades 7-12: 1001; and

WHEREAS, Revised Code 3313.48 specifies that school districts conduct a public calendar hearing at least 30 days prior to the adoption of a school calendar and the Little Miami Board of Education conducted such a hearing in a Special Board Meeting on October 14, 2014;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Little Miami Board of Education that a school calendar be adopted that reflects the following hours of instruction: Kindergarten: 491.5, Grades 1-6: 989.5, Grades 7-12: 1080; with a starting date of August 10, 2014 for staff and a starting date of August 12, 2015 for students; and a concluding date of May 25, 2016 for students and May 26, 2016 for staff.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED

New Business

Mrs. Grice congratulated the Digital Media Arts class student team, instructed by WCCC teacher Brian Shoff, for winning the top prize in the Ohio School Board Association's annual student video contest. She told the community, "We have a lot to be proud of with our students at Little Miami."

Mr. Cremeans reminded the audience that the board holds six listening sessions per year. He said the first three did not have a very good community turnout, and he hopes that the next three will have a better turnout. He said that the board will have the next three dates soon.

Next Board meeting will be Tuesday, December 16, 2014 at Little Miami High School.

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Community Comments – Non-Agenda Items

Casey Shirey approached the Board and said she had hung spirit signs in the high school hallways and was concerned because she believed they were taken down. She also inquired about repair of the speakers at HiFive Field. In closing, Mrs. Shirey asked the Board if it knew how many students LM has lost to charter schools, and then wanted to know what the Board had to offer athletes.

Jeff Sellars posed a question to the Board asking that once the weight room is completed, what does it intend to do for athletes who would like to better themselves by staying after school and working out in the weight room.

Andrew D'Andrea said he donated a net structure several months ago and was concerned that it isn't being used. Mr. D'Andrea also raised a concern about the college readiness of LMHS students if they didn't take traditional end-of-semester exams.

Tim Patton approached the Board with a concern about the football program. Mrs. Grice replied that the Board members needed to discuss this before they could comment.

Jeff Szekely raised a concern about the football program.

Biff Arnold addressed the Board but turned to the community members and said that the LM athletes have to get stronger and faster and that is why we need the new weight room. He then stressed the importance of everyone coming together and pitching in. He said that district parents and employees need to make something positive for the athletes but that it will take a lot of help and ideas.

Matt Purinton raised a concern about the football program.

Stacy Becker raised a concern about the football program.

Susan Szekely raised a concern about the football program.

Gil Adkins asked the Board why it was hanging onto the plot of land on Ford Road. He suggested that the district sell it and pay down its debt. He also suggested the Board look into Mount Healthy's fundraising idea, Bingo Night.

Randy Haas spoke up in regards to the assertions and concerns expressed by some of the parents. He said that this Board has done everything that has been asked of it to help get the weight room in place for athletics. He reminded the community that the Board has legal boundaries where personnel is concerned and therefore they as Board members need to meet in executive session to discuss everything that has been brought to their attention. He further said that the Board would do its best to listen to and help fix the problems.

Bobbie Grice stated that the Board would meet to discuss the issues brought to it.

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Adjourned

Mr. Cremeans made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Niemesh seconded.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED

The Board adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Bobbie Grice, President

Terry Gonda, Treasurer