

LITTLE MIAMI LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
Feb. 21, 2017
6 P.M.

The Board of Education of the Little Miami Local School District, Warren County, Ohio met in special session on Jan. 31, 2017 at 6 p.m. in the media center at Little Miami Intermediate School, 7247 Zoar Road, Maineville OH 45039.

Call to Order and Roll Call

Mr. Haas called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

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

Others in attendance were: Greg Power, Terry Gonda, Regina Morgan, Melinda Briggs, Pamela Coates, Christie Boron, Terry Liette, David Griggs, Cindy Marshall, Jon Hansted, John Poe, Rusty Holman, Mark Sousa, Tina Thompson.

Adopt the Agenda

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

ROLL CALL:

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

MOTION CARRIED

Board Work Session

Facility Master Plan: Mrs. Boron brought additional information to the Board for comparison's sake when discussing facilities. She said out of 610 school districts in the state, 382 districts had grade-level buildings. Out of these 382 districts, the majority had 2-4 buildings each. Total enrollment of these districts is considerably smaller (84% have an enrollment of less than 2,000). Also, 96% of middle schools in the state have fewer than 1,000 students contained within them. And no districts larger than 80 square miles have only one high school with an enrollment nearing 2,000. She said this puts Little Miami in the top tier of sizeable districts with grade level buildings which, in turn, means several transitions for students.

Mrs. Boron also discussed what expanding the current high school would mean, given that several areas of the building are undersized according to OFCC regulations.

To accommodate 1,500 students OFCC would suggest the district would need to add 48,000 sq. ft. to the high school in these areas:

- Academic: Short by 37,000 sq. ft. per OFCC; Boron suggests 23,300 sq. ft.
- Administration suite: Need 4,500 sq. ft. per OFCC; Boron suggests 3,500 sq. ft.
- PE spaces: OFCC does not see a deficit, but members of the public have urged the district to expand areas such wrestling room and pair of locker rooms, which would amount to about 5,200 sq. ft.

She pointed out that on Day 1 of opening day of Phase 1 of a construction plan, the high school would already be over the 1,500-student enrollment mark. She also said that to make the high school

accommodate an 1,800 student enrollment, the district would need to add 94,000 sq. ft., or about another 50%. This would include the gymnasium, as the recommended size for gym for a 1,800 student building is 17,400 sq. ft. The gym now is 12,000 sq. ft.

General discussion followed regarding the options. Mr. Hansted said that the sticker shock of the new buildings is going to be there no matter what. It would be better do what's collectively best for the students. He said his concern was with the amount of operating dollars that would be needed moving forward.

Mr. Poe encouraged the Board to look carefully at what it was proposing to do with Morrow. He said several entities needed the space, like the Salem Twp. Library. Mr. Cremeans said he did not want the district to put a lot of money into the building and would like to see it off the district's books. Mrs. Grice said she agreed and that the Board has asked for input from many groups and the time has come to make a decision on the property.

The Board discussed having an item on its Feb. 28 agenda to put the building up for auction and allowing Mr. Poe to see if he could pull together a community improvement corporation to perhaps purchase the property.

Board members then discussed elements of option 2c. All Board members agreed that Salem Twp. Elementary could be demolished and a new 1,000 student elementary built on the site. All Board members agreed that the Intermediate building should have a full addition construction.

Mr. Haas and Mr. Cremeans said they would like to see a full 700-student addition constructed at the Jr. High. Mrs. Grice said she preferred a 500-student addition. Mrs. Journey said she preferred a 200-student addition there. Mr. Niemesh said his preference on the Jr. High would be tied to whatever would happen at the high school.

Mrs. Grice said she was now in favor of a new high school after the supportive words of Mr. Hansted. Mr. Niemesh said he agrees, because delaying the construction of a new high school would end up costing taxpayers more if the district waits. Mr. Cremeans and Mr. Haas said they would like to add on to the existing high school. Mrs. Journey said she would like to build a new high school for 1,700 students.

All Board members agreed they would like to create a central office out of the Maineville site. Mr. Haas said that he wants to do everything possible to keep Butlerville open to the community. It was suggested that the space might be used for a training center or demonstration classrooms. The Board also said they would like to look in to purchasing the Traci Fletcher-Garrett house and property immediately adjacent to the high school to expand the high school site for possible practice fields, etc.

Motion to Adjourn

Mrs. Grice made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Niemesh seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED

The Board adjourned at 9:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda Briggs
Community Relations Coordinator

Randy Haas, President

Terry Gonda, Treasurer