

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12

22

Approved February 15, 2022

The Urbana City School Board of Education met for a regular board meeting Wednesday, January 12, 2022, at 1673 S US Hwy 68, Urbana, Ohio. President Darrell Thomas called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Roll call: Mr. Arter, present; Mr. Engle, present; Ms. Finch, present; Ms. Paul, present; Mr. Thomas, present.

Five members present.

(Motion #0122.08) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Ms. Paul and seconded by Mr. Arter to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call: Ms. Finch, aye; Ms. Paul, aye; Mr. Thomas, aye; Mr. Arter, aye; Mr. Engle, aye.
Motion carried.

RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/BOARD COMMENDATIONS

Kurt Hanson and Mandy Hildebrand worked with our E-Rate consultant to submit an application to the Emergency Connectivity Fund grant. We submitted a proposal for the purchase of Chromebooks to assist students and families with technology to complete classwork and homework. The district was notified last week that we were awarded funds in the amount of \$93,492 to purchase the Chromebooks.

Mr. Thomas read the Students of the Month.

Elementary: Lydia Martinez
Hannah Dinnell
Emma Mishler
Dylan Dailey

Junior High: Dylan Canizo
Alex McCrae
Layla Wooten
Jordan Morgan

High School: Colton Lafferty
Peyton Mounce

School Board Recognition Month: January is School Board Recognition Month. Each Board Member was presented with a certificate from the Ohio School Boards Association in recognition of their service to the district. Mr. Engle is beginning his fifteenth year on the board, Ms. Finch her fifth, Mr. Thomas his sixth, Ms. Paul her fifth, and Mr. Arter is beginning his thirteenth year on the board.

Public Participation: There was no public participation.

(Motion #0122.09) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Engle and seconded by Ms. Finch to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 20, 2021.

Roll Call: Ms. Paul, aye; Mr. Thomas, aye; Mr. Arter, aye; Mr. Engle, aye; Ms. Finch, aye.
Motion carried.

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22

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(Motion #0122.10) TREASURER’S REPORT

It was moved by Ms. Paul and seconded by Ms. Finch to approve the Treasurer’s Report as follows:

- A. Approve monthly reports
- B. Review new foundation funding summary
- C. Approve fiscal year 2023 tax budget
- D. Approve the following donations:
 - To Urbana Athletics, from The Boosters, \$2,475.
 - To Urbana High School PBIS, from Sutphen and Johnson Welded Products, a total of \$1,000.
 - To Urbana Junior High PBIS, from Amy Hegyi, \$25.
 - To Urbana Junior High, from YMCA, \$20.
 - To Urbana High School French Club, from Kroger Rewards, \$97.75.

Roll Call: Mr. Thomas, aye; Mr. Arter, aye; Mr. Engle, aye; Ms. Finch, aye; Ms. Paul, aye.
Motion carried.

(Motion #0122.11) APPROVE SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS

Consent Agenda – All matters listed under the Consent Agenda (contingent upon meeting all local/state/federal laws/guidelines) are considered by the Board of Education to be routine and will be enacted by the Board in one motion in the form listed below. The Superintendent of Schools will briefly discuss each item in the consent agenda before they are actively acted upon. However, a board member, staff member, or the public may request that specific items shall be discussed and/or removed from the consent agenda. The Superintendent and administrative staff recommend approval of all consent agenda items.

It was moved by Mr. Arter and seconded by Ms. Paul to approve the Superintendent’s recommendations as follows:

1. The Superintendent recommends the approval of the following bus drivers for the 2021 - 2022 school year, effective January 4, 2022:

Carlene Gray

Allen Evans

2. The Superintendent recommends the approval of the following substitute teachers for the 2021 - 2022 school year:

Lea Shafer

3. The Superintendent recommends the approval of the following volunteers at the elementary for the 2021 – 2022 school year

Cassie Cress

4. The Superintendent recommends the approval of the following substitute employees for the 2021 - 2022 school year:

Stacey Rees

Substitute Bus Aide

5. The Superintendent recommends the approval of the following resignations:

Christopher Roberts Assistant High School Football Coach effective immediately

Ms. Finch asked if we were doing better with bus drivers. Mr. Thiel said we are doing better since we have added some regular drivers, but we could always use more. During a webinar today, the new transportation monitoring system from ODE was discussed, as well as the statewide need for drivers. Upcoming federal regulations are going to make it more difficult for drivers to certify in the future. Mr. Arter asked how we were doing with teacher staffing numbers.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12

22

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Mr. Thiel said we are not doing great, but we are surviving and trying to get people through quarantine measures.

Roll Call: Mr. Arter, aye; Mr. Engle, aye; Ms. Finch, aye; Ms. Paul, aye; Mr. Thomas, aye.
Motion carried.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Career-Technical/Activities: Ohio Hi-Point is preparing to move from an old section to a new section of their building. They have seen some delays with some of the equipment and furnishings for some of the lab spaces due to supply chain issues.

(Motion #0122.12) NEW BUSINESS – It was moved by Mr. Arter and seconded by Ms. Paul to approve the memorandum of understanding with OAPSE concerning the MAC/Hi-Point route.

Mr. Thiel explained we, as a district, had combined two routes that went to Bellefontaine in order to address driver shortages. We did not classify this as “another” route and did not place the route up for bid. A grievance was filed due to the lack of a posting. This MOU will resolve the issue and the route will be posted.

Roll Call: Mr. Engle, aye; Ms. Finch, aye; Ms. Paul, aye; Mr. Thomas, aye; Mr. Arter, aye.
Motion carried.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Arter commented it is always enjoyable to read the School Resource Officer’s report and to see the officer is participating in activities in the buildings such as the junior high dodgeball tournament and reading in the classrooms. He said he wants all of our staff to know the Board appreciates them and he knows teachers and staff are not paid what they should earn. He said four years ago he would never do this again. He said this past November there were more people running for school boards in Ohio than ever and there was more turnover than ever before. Even with the questions and issues we dealt with in the fall, he feels that things are relatively calm here. He would like to see some parents run for the school board. He likes the diversity of backgrounds of our current members. Each member is allowed to speak their mind. Everyone listens and can disagree in a polite way and everyone has the same goal, which is to serve the students of Urbana best.

Ms. Paul said she enjoyed hanging pictures at the Moss gym over the weekend and it was nice to see parents looking for pictures from certain years. She said we are going through a rough patch in the education world. She thanked the teachers, administrators, and classified staff for everything they do.

Ms. Finch said she is so proud of everyone and it is great to see kids in school. She loves to see the kids when they come in to play basketball and get a chance to look at the pictures. She also mentioned the blood drive scheduled for Monday at the high school. She thinks it is great that the students get to experience these things.

Mr. Engle said the recent Board training was really nice and it was good to touch up on some things. There were several newly elected board members from other districts at the training. We had four members in attendance and most of what they talked about we are doing. We have a good board and we agree to disagree and have our own opinions. Our goal is to work for the kids and make it smooth for them. Things have changed a lot over the years. Making connections and decisions to do what is best for kids is our ultimate goal. This is a nice place to be.

Mr. Thomas said our boys’ and girls’ basketball teams are having good seasons and it is nice to be able to see them play this year. Mr. Trenor has started a feature called “Hillclimber Highlights”, which profiles successful alumni. Showing these success stories helps to encourage and inspire our current students. This has been a journey for all of us. He said he used to listen to Warren Stevens talk about his time on the board and serving in this capacity never crossed his mind. After Warren passed, he wanted to honor his legacy and carry on his passion for the schools. The things kids face now are so much different and so much more than they were in the past. The job

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of school employees has increased so much more. We say every meeting how much we appreciate our staff and we really do; we appreciate everyone here. There should never be three open seats running unopposed for the school board. The community needs to get involved in what is going on and be the change. He appreciates that Amy and Jim were willing to run again and they are valuable members of the board. The board training was excellent. He has taken it before, but taking it again allowed him to catch things he didn't get the first time. He said it is important to touch base and to continue learning. He really enjoyed hearing the high school choir sing the National Anthem at the basketball game on Saturday and really enjoyed seeing the other team cheering at the end of the performance. There was good sportsmanship during that game. He said he appreciated the members always getting involved in activities like passing out fliers, working concessions, and hanging pictures. He said he is looking forward to another great four years.

Mr. Thiel reminded the members of the Throwback Girls' Basketball game to be held on Saturday to mark the 30th anniversary of the 1992 State Championship Team. The high school games will be played in the Moss gym and members of the 1992 team will be honored prior to the game. There will be a dinner sponsored by the Boosters in the high school dining commons. The National Anthem from the boys' game on Saturday was live-streamed and it got many views, likes, and shares and was a good performance by our students. He reminded the Board members to keep an eye on the calendar and hoped everyone stayed well and healthy.

(Motion #0122.13) ADJOURNMENT - Being no further business to discuss, it was moved by Ms. Finch and seconded by Mr. Engle to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: Ms. Finch, aye; Ms. Paul, aye; Mr. Thomas, aye; Mr. Arter, aye; Mr. Engle, aye.
Motion carried.

The President declared the meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

President

Treasurer