MEETING NOTES

Meeting Notes are not official until voted on by the Board of Education at its following Regular Meeting.

A1 President called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

A2 Members present: Mark Abate, Paul Lambert, Nadia Long, Brian Perry, and Lisa Whiting

A3 Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Abate welcomed everyone to tonight’s meeting. We moved the June Board meetings to the first and third Mondays so they would not overlap with Hilliard City Council meetings.

B PROGRAMS / PRESENTATIONS

B1 2020-21 Budget Presentation – Brian Wilson

The important thing to know is the budget for the majority of funds assumes the status quo. For example, the general fund is assuming the status quo because we don’t know what this fall is going to bring. As we get closer to fall and have more information, we may have to do a budget revision. Other funds that are status quo (and makes sense they are status quo) are permanent improvement funds, enterprise funds, and bond funds. They all have expenditures that won’t change due to the pandemic.

The 2020-21 budget is $287,164,059.00. The majority of the budget is the general fund at 73%. The proprietary fund, 15%, consists mostly of our medical/dental insurance and workers’ compensation. The remainder of the budget includes 6% in special revenue funds, 5% in debt service, and 2% capital project funds.

Our general fund revenue is estimated to be $203,128,547. 69% comes from local sources (property taxes, interest income, and tuition), 31% from the state, and virtually zero from federal funds. Most of the federal funds we receive are all included in the special revenue fund (Title I, special education IDEA fund). The small number of federal dollars in the general fund are reimbursements for the interest of qualified school construction bonds and E-Rate dollars.

Of the local sources, approximately $135 million comes from property taxes. We receive $1 million from both the interest income and tuition sources and $4.3 million from payment in lieu of taxes. I believe last year’s revenue was 68% local and 32% from the state. Part of the decrease from the state is the $3.1 million reductions just recently announced.

Mr. Lambert asked for the distribution of residential property taxes versus commercial property taxes. The trend for the past several years that we receive more revenue from residential than commercial property taxes. Mr. Wilson did not have this information at this time but will research and provide the information as soon as possible. Recently we began receiving slightly more revenue from public utility property taxes. The increase in public utility taxes mostly due to the electrical infrastructure for Amazon Web Services.
The general fund revenue per pupil includes local, school foundation aid, and state reimbursement revenue. The local revenue per pupil increases when we pass an operating levy (2012 and 2016). School foundation per-pupil funding was $2,241 in 2012 and is projected to increase to $2,992 in 2021. However, $2,992 is down from about $3,100 in 2019. State reimbursement revenue has decreased since 2012 due to the loss of business tangible property tax reimbursement that was phased out in 2018.

Looking at the general fund budget by object, we tend to fluctuate between 85% - 88% in salaries and fringe benefits. Right now, we are at the lower end at 85%. We are a people business, and the fund by object shows this.

The general fund expenditures by function show that pupil instructional support is now 13% of the budget versus 14% last year. This decrease is from the recent reduction of math/literacy coach positions. The math/literacy staff members were moved back into a classroom setting, so those funds are now part of the cost of instruction at 62% of the budget. The remaining fund expenditures by function are administration at 8%, operations at 15%, and extracurricular at 2%. 75% of our budget is related to teachers and student instruction.

In the fiscal year 2012, our budget expenditures were $158 million, and now we are at $209 million for 2021. The compounded annual growth rate for per-pupil spending is approximately 2.4%.

The significant changes to the fiscal year 2021 general fund budget are (1) a $3.6 million (2.8%) increase in personal services, (2) special education scholarship costs and out-of-district placements are estimated at $4.8 million (a 14% increase), and (3) payments to STEM schools and Community Schools will cost approximately $2.6 million. Out-of-district placements are one of our biggest worries, with a 40% increase in costs in 2020 and estimated to increase by 16% for 2021. In talking with treasurers around Central Ohio, this increase seems to be a trend for all school districts in Central Ohio.

C ROUTINES

C1 The agenda is correct, as submitted.

C2 The Board of Education adopted the agenda.

C3 The Board of Education approved minutes from the following meetings:

  a. May 11th, 2020 – regular meeting
  b. May 26th, 2020 – work session
  c. May 11th, 2020 – meeting notes
  d. May 26th, 2020 – meeting notes

D PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No public participation.

E CONSENT AGENDA

E1 The Board of Education approved item E1, consisting of certified personnel matters. You can find the complete list of personnel matters as an attachment to the Minutes.
Mrs. Long asked for some information on the additional stipends for online learning development. Dr. Marschhausen explained that we had a “bare-bones” online option for the 70 courses we have in middle school and high school. These online courses did not include some of our honors, fine arts, and other elective courses. At the high school level, we had an online curriculum that was designed to meet the needs of students who were either behind or needed a core-general class to graduate. As we look at a potentially entire online option for grades 7-12 for next year, we are adding courses to create a more traditional course offering for students. For example, we are adding foreign languages, fine arts, and other electives for a more comprehensive course offering for students in grades 7-12.

Mr. Abate asked about the hourly rate for ESY teacher (summer school) positions. Do we have a typical budget for summer school? Dr. Marschhausen replied we are going to see a little higher cost for this summer than in past years. We are looking at the extended school year service for students who didn’t make what was the anticipated progress during the school.

Mrs. Long asked how the stipends for curriculum writing 6-12 partners up with the online learning development. We are continually reviewing and changing our curriculum where needed. The curriculum guides both online and traditional in-class courses.

F ACTION AGENDA

F1 The Board of Education approved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on March 14th, 2020, Amy Acton, MD, MPH, Director of the Ohio Department of Health, ordered all school buildings that provide any kindergarten through grade twelve instruction in the State of Ohio be closed to students beginning on March 17th, 2020 to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the State of Ohio;

WHEREAS, Dr. Acton’s order and/or school closings now have been extended for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year;

WHEREAS, the Hilliard City School District Board of Education is subject to policies, individual contracts and collective bargaining agreement(s) (“Agreement(s)” ) that provide for the payment of regular and/or supplemental contract duties, which typically are based on Board-adopted salary schedules;

WHEREAS, the policies, contracts and Agreement(s) do not contemplate a lengthy school closure or address the payment of regular and/or supplemental salaries during a lengthy closure;

WHEREAS, statutes, including without limitation R.C. Sections 3313.53, 3319.08 and 3319.081, also provide for the payment of regular and/or supplemental contracts, and these statutes also do not address payment during a lengthy school closure;

WHEREAS, the Hilliard City School District Board of Education declares it to be a proper public purpose to continue paying regular and supplemental salaries during the current school closure to facilitate continuity of services in future school years, and to resolve any ambiguity regarding the issue of payment for regular and supplemental salaries;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Hilliard City School District Board of Education that the Board will continue paying regular and supplemental contracts during the 2019-2020 school year, consistent with its policies, contracts, Agreement(s) and R.C. Sections 3313.53, 3319.08 and 3319.081, et seq. during the current school closure.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this action is specifically limited to the 2019-2020 school year unless it is specifically extended by the Board, and it creates no binding practice or precedent for future school years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board authorizes and directs the administration to take all actions necessary and consistent with this resolution.

Discussion: The state auditor wants us to reaffirm that we are going to follow the Ohio Revised Code as far as compensation of our employees. Mr. Lambert remarked that due to some ambiguity around the state, this is to make it clear that the Board authorizes you to make payments according to that ruling.

F2 The Board of Education adopted the school calendar for the 2020-2021 school year as presented.

We have added two professional development days for staff that replaces the 45-minute weekly meetings. Dr. Marschhausen and Mr. Abate learned during the listening tour that the 45-minute weekly sessions were universally unpopular. In exchange, the teachers are adding one day to their contract year. We also adjusted spring break so that it is now just one week.

F3 The Board of Education approved the following certified personnel actions:

Employment – Stipends-Non-Contractual – effective for the 2019/2020 school year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STAFF MEMBER</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY AREA</th>
<th>BLDG</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Abate, Nikole Marzanno</td>
<td>Curriculum Writing 6-12</td>
<td>COA</td>
<td>$1,750.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This personnel action was removed from the consent agenda so that Mr. Abate would not have to abstain from all of the other personnel actions.

F4 The Board of Education authorized the Director of Business to award the following bid for the 2020 Hilliard Davidson Transportation paving project to Vasco at the cost of $21,776.00.

Mr. McDonough, as you remember, last week, you approved the paving project for Darby High School. This was part of the same bid proposal. The cost of this project came in way under our estimate, so we wanted to review the specifications and check some references. Dave Huston completed the review and reference checks, and we are comfortable with awarding this bid.

Mr. Perry asked if we have approved the bid for the Britton/Norwich campus. Mr. McDonough explained that the cost of the Britton/Norwich campus project falls under the threshold that requires the bid process. We followed the Board policy and obtained three estimates and have contracted with Chemcote to perform the work.
G REPORTS / INFORMATION / EXHIBIT ITEM

G1 Student handbooks submitted for a second reading

1) Preschool/Elementary Student Handbook
2) Sixth Grade & Middle School Student Handbook
3) High School Student Handbook
4) Athletic Manual for Parents-Athletes-Coaches
5) Performing Arts Handbook

Discussion: Mr. McDonough mentioned that there is a school calendar in the Preschool/Elementary handbook but not in any of the other handbooks. We would like to remove the school calendar from the handbook since it is available on the district website. Any update to the school calendar would not be made in the handbook, so we would prefer to remove it as the website is kept up-to-date with any changes.

G2 Policies submitted for a second reading

1) BDC – Executive Sessions
2) BDDG – Minutes
3) GBCB – Staff-Student Relations
4) IJA – Career Advising
5) IKFC – Graduation Plans and Students at Risk of Not Qualifying for a High School Diploma
6) JED – Student Absences and Excuses
7) JEE – Student Attendance Accounting
8) JFCF – Hazing and Bullying
9) JFCF-R – Hazing and Bullying
10) JM – Staff-Student Relations

Mr. Perry commented on the amendment to Policy BDC. Mostly, the changes make us more compliant with ORC 121.22, requiring specificity. It mirrors the language more identically and explains which individuals are allowed to be talked about in executive session.

G3 Policies submitted for a second reading

1) BRA – Family and Medical Leave Act Expansion (new policy)
2) GBRA-A – Family and Medical Leave Act Expansion (new policy)
3) GBRAA – Emergency paid Sick Leave (new policy)
4) GCBE – Professional Staff Vacations and Holidays

Mrs. Long asked if this is where we would manage vacations in regards to quarantine? Mr. McDonough explained that this policy is about the number of vacation days that a staff member can carry-over from one year to the next year. Currently, the maximum number of days that can be carried-over is 40, but due to the current situation, no one has been able to take vacation leave. The request for the increase in the number of days to be carried-over is so that staff does not lose vacation days they have not been able to use.
G4 Committee Reports – Mrs. Nadia Long

OSBA is holding Zoom meetings on Student Achievement offerings. Also, we have been accepted to give a presentation on November 9th of our composting project. We are excited to share our program with districts around the state.

G5 Superintendent’s Update

1) Responsible Restart Plan

We are crafting a responsible restart for the Hilliard City Schools. The state is also working on specific actions and protocols for school reopening in the fall. The state’s information looks a lot like the CDC guidelines for opening schools. Preliminary reports include the following requirements: masks, hand washing, intense cleaning, and disinfecting and social distancing. I believe the debate right now is if these requirements will be mandates or recommendations. This will determine what we do as a district. If the social distancing and wearing of masks is an option/suggestion, then we will have decisions to make as a leadership team and Board of Education. If it is a mandate from the state and/or Board of health, we will have to follow that mandate.

We are currently planning for four different potential levels – green, yellow, orange, and red. COVID-19 Condition Green is all students at school. And of course, this will include regular hand washing and deep cleaning at the end of the school day. In COVID-19 Condition Yellow, education will look very different. Still, at the elementary level, we will get all students will come to school every day by utilizing all available spaces, including gyms, cafeterias, and music rooms. Students in grades 6-12 will attend on alternating days or an AM/PM schedule. COVID-19 Condition Orange would be 50% attendance every day (an A & B schedule). COVID-19 Condition Red is eLearning at home.

One of the most challenging situations is transportation. The recommendation we hear now is one student per seat. So on an 84-passenger bus this 28 student. This would require a new tiered bus schedule, and most likely, we would not be able to transport high school students. There will also be additional costs for temperature checks and maintaining social distancing.

2) Fallon Survey

The survey will begin on June 3rd and will ask parents about eLearning, their current economic condition, a potential levy, and their plans for the next school year. We will have preliminary results at the June 15th Board meeting.

3) Attendance Data

Our attendance rate was 95.37% for the period August 21st, 2019 to March 13th, 2020. During eLearning, our attendance rate was 96.58%. We know that engagement is very different online, and we know that being in front of our kids is essential. We want our kids back in school, but we have to listen to what the health department tells us to do. The increased attendance rate is a testament to the work our teachers did to stay engaged with their students. It’s also a huge testament to the support our parents gave us during this crisis.
4) iPad Collection Data

Mr. Boettner and Mr. Pohlman shared information about the collection of iPads, musical instruments, and athletic uniforms. Our buildings did a tremendous job. We had a 94% collection rate across the district. The buildings are contacting those who have returned their iPads. Also, there are some students permitted to keep their devices over the summer. The teachers were so excited to see their students.

5) Other items as deemed necessary

Mrs. Whiting spoke about everything going in the world right now. Especially the protests going on all over the United States. She wants us to consider the best way for the district to show our support. We do not and will not tolerate racism in our school district. How can we best support our community during these challenging times?

Dr. Marschhausen has had conversations with Dr. Dixon, Columbus City Schools, and Dr. Davis, Dean of College of Education, and we are creating a regional group to look at this as a Central Ohio call to action. We will talk about how the education community can prepare for our students to come back, what education will look like as we prepare this generation, and (2) understanding the trauma this is causing for some students and will cause for some students during the summer months. We also will look at how we, as educational leaders and elected officials, in the field of education, can be a part of real solutions – not words, but action. I anticipate having more information for you at the June 15th Board meeting.

H  EXECUTIVE SESSION / ADJOURNMENT

H1  The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.