

JEFFERSON LOCAL SCHOOLS
Special Meeting
March 6, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

West Jefferson, Ohio High School, the Jefferson Local Board of Education met in special session at 6:00 pm with the following members present: Mrs. Duemmel, Mr. Quinn, Dr. Hiss, Ms. Newman, Mrs. Roberts, Superintendent, Mr. Mullett, and Treasurer, Mr. Ingles.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Mullett led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Lifewise Representatives

Representatives from Lifewise Academy presented to the Board and answered questions. The program is a bible-based character education release time program. The representatives addressed concerns surrounding liability, teacher licensure, scheduling, and attendance accountability. The organization is requesting the ability to hold release time programs for Norwood elementary students utilizing the current release time Board policy.

Board Docs

The Board liked the presentation and would like to move forward with BoardDocs. It feels that option three at \$10,600 would suit the Board best. Mr. Ingles and Mr. Dennis will move forward with implementation.

Treasurer Update

Mr. Ingles provided an update on the recently completed audit and EMIS. Ms. Newman asked if EMIS can handle all of the student registration. Mr. Ingles stated that he didn't feel that it was feasible in the current set up. Mr. Ingles addressed questions from the Board.

Long-Term Substitute Requirements

The Board expressed interest in defining long-term substitutes as those who are hired to cover absences of 10 or more consecutive days, such as for medical leaves. The long-term sub would be paid at the \$150/day rate starting day 1. Mr. Mullett will communicate this guidance to the building principals for future recommendations.

Continuing Contracts

Mr. Mullett explained the process of receiving a continuing contract. The process is guided by collective bargaining agreements and the Ohio Revised Code. Mr. Mullett provided a list of staff on continuing contracts and those who applied for the status for this coming school year. Mr. Mullett addressed questions from the Board.

Supplemental Contracts

Mrs. Roberts shared a spreadsheet she put together comparing the supplemental pay for contiguous districts. She noted that Jefferson LSD has fewer positions in comparison and in some cases lower pay. Mr. Mullett brought up a possible supplemental for a District communications position. Mr. Mullett noted that the supplemental pay schedule is a bargaining item but the Board and administration has the ability to add positions if it chooses to.

Update on Superintendent/Treasurer Goals

Mr. Mullett provided an update on his goals. He is working with Mr. Hiss on evaluating the facility needs of the District. Mr. Mullett has met with all of the middle school teachers to get their thoughts. Once testing data is available, Mr. Mullett will meet with Mr. Adams and Mrs. Kearns to discuss and formulate recommendations.

Mr. Mullett and Mr. Ingles addressed the shared goal of developing an administrative pay scale. They noted it will require negotiation between the administrators and the Board, with some aspects of the recommendation liked by one side and maybe not the other. Mr. Ingles has reached out to the District's similar districts per the Ohio Department of Education and has gathered data on how those districts handle administrative pay. It is generally across the board, with some districts not having a scale and others tying it to the teacher pay schedule. The next step is to meet with the administrators and then present to the Board.

Mr. Ingles previously discussed one of his goals in BoardDocs earlier in the meeting. Mr. Ingles discussed using ArbiterPay to streamline the sports official payment process. The Board would like Mr. Ingles to continue with the implementation of that program. Ms. Newman asked about payment of supplemental contracts. Mr. Ingles noted the new schedule in place.

Athletics

The Board discussed the practice of coaches attending conferences. There is interest in limiting the attendance of conferences to in-state. Mr. Mullett noted that would also include teacher conferences and there should be exceptions. Ms. Newman is concerned that not all coaches are aware of the option to attend conferences. Dr. Hiss noted that at a future work session the Board will discuss the current travel policy.

Mr. Mullett was asked about the coach evaluation process and whether interference with regular District jobs are taken into consideration in giving out contracts. Mr. Mullett noted that possible interference is considered in the awarding contracts.

Ms. Newman asked if the distributed coaches survey was word or data based.

Shared Google Calendar for C.O. Staff

Mrs. Duemmel feels it is important to have a central calendar for central office staff so building staff knows if staff members are present in the building. Specifically putting in planned leave or remote work days on the calendar. Mr. Mullett and Mr. Ingles are ok with that idea. Mrs. Duemmel noted that there are complaints that people are not present in the building. Mr. Mullett noted that some of that is perception due to the layout of the building and the lack of a receptionist. Mr. Dennis will set up the calendar.

Central office security was discussed. A buzzer system would be preferred.

Plan for Staff Appreciation Week

Norwood PTO is planning events during Staff Appreciation Week. The Board would like to provide breakfast for the staff. Chartwells will be used for catering. Mrs. Roberts notes that the staff should be asked about dietary restrictions.

Student Achievement Liason for OSBA

Dr. Hiss agreed to take on this role on behalf of the Board.

Tolles Request for 9th Grade Career Exploration Class as Graduation Requirement

Dr. Hoadely, Tolle’s Superintendent, feels strongly about having this be a required course for graduation. The Board expressed concern about scheduling and the ability for students to take electives. Mr. Mullett noted that the Board would have to approve the course as a graduation requirement. There is general support for the idea but concerns about scheduling.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (#2023-47)

Moved by Ms. Newman and seconded by Mrs. Roberts that the Board enter into executive session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee (ORC 1211.22 (G)(1).

The ayes: Dr. Hiss, Mrs. Roberts, Ms. Newman, Mrs. Duemmel, Mr. Quinn.

The Board entered executive session at 8:48 pm

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to open session at 9:10 pm.

Ms. Newman asked about the process of setting up a scholarship.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Quinn and seconded by Ms. Newman that the Board adjourn the meeting at 9:14 pm.

The ayes: Dr. Hiss, Mrs. Roberts, Ms. Newman, Mrs. Duemmel, Mr. Quinn.

Meeting adjourned.

President

Treasurer