

The Board of Education of the Fairfield City School District in the County of Butler, Ohio, held a Work Session on the 3rd of November 2011 in the Catherine D. Milligan Community Room.

The meeting was called to order by the President at 6:30 pm.

ROLL CALL – Present: Mr. Kearns, Dr. Morris, Mr. Nuss & Mrs. Shorter
Absent: Mr. Murray

Also present: Mr. Otten, Mrs. Lane, Mr. Martin, Mr. Lewis, Mrs. Wildow & Mr. Clemmons

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENTATION

A. Energy Excellence Award – Jim Semans, Energy Education

11-156 RESIGNATIONS/LEAVES OF ABSENCE/EMPLOYMENT

MOTION – Moved by Dr. Morris to approve the following:

SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS

Mr. Murray arrived at 6:37 pm

A. Personnel -- Classified

1. Resignations

a. Kathy Woodall, Middle, Food Service Assistant
(effective the end of the day October 20, 2011; for personal reasons)

2. Leaves of Absence

a. Linda Bowen, West, Educational Assistant
(effective November 8, 2011 through January 2, 2012; extension of unpaid personal medical)

b. Michael Furginson, Freshman, Custodian
(effective November 1, 2011 through November 30, 2011; extension of unpaid Workers Compensation)

c. Johnna Morgan, Transportation, Bus Driver
(effective October 24, 2011 through January 26, 2012; extension of unpaid Workers Compensation)

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Shorter

Public comments: None

Board comments: None

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Kearns, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray, Mr. Nuss & Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

One citizen addressed the Board regarding the school levy and the school board race.

ITEMS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION

A. Youth Commission – Billy Smith

High school student representatives expressed their thoughts on the levy.

They really want the levy to pass and are concerned about how the cuts will impact the extracurricular programs.

Some high school students have discussed moving to another district. Fairfield is not alone in the funding issues.

Students asked questions about the levy and expressed that students want to support the district.

B. Update on “Race to the Top” - Roger Martin

Mr. Martin attended the “Race to the Top” conference in Columbus and has held the first Transformation Team Meeting. Three subcommittee meetings have been held.

The staff will be updated via email.

The Fairfield City School District is part of a PILOT for formative assessments.

C. Proposed Board policy ING - Animals in Schools – Roger Martin

The policy will return on November 17th for approval.

D. New items for discussion - None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

November 8, 2011 - Election Day/Inservice Day – No students

November 17, 2011 - Board meeting, 6:30 PM, North Elementary

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Nuss

He stated that Election Day is important and that the right to vote is one of the foundations of this country. He reminded everyone of those who have fought to preserve that right for us.

He supports Jerome and Balena and asked everyone to get out and vote.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (cont.)

Dr. Morris

He asked if all of the school buildings are polling sites and was told by Mr. Otten that they are. Mr. Otten and Dr. Morris discussed that the reason schools are closed is a safety measure for the students.

Dr. Morris stated that accommodating the needs of the poll workers and the community shows a good partnership with the school district.

He asked everyone to vote for the levy and to vote for Mr. Kearns and Mrs. Shorter.

Mr. Kearns

He stated that the Energy Education effort has been great. He appreciates the cost savings of \$900,000 that we have reached with the cooperation of the staff.

He reiterated the fact that the right to vote has been established by many that have come before him. He stated that he would not jeopardize a person's right to vote by asking people to vote for one candidate.

He did ask that everyone vote for Mrs. Shorter and stated that he would be honored to come back and work for the Board next year.

He asked for support of the levy to allow the Board to continue to provide for the students of the district.

He reminded everyone that he and Balena Shorter are the only two candidates without a pending court date.

Mr. Murray

He apologized for being late for the meeting tonight.

He stated that everyone 18 and over has the right to vote; everyone under 18 has the right to a solid education.

He reminded everyone that foreclosures are higher here than others in the state. One way to curb them is to draw people to our community. Real estate staff will tell you that schools are the top 2-3 issues that draw people to the community.

He pointed out that we have stretched money from a levy with a seven year anniversary that should have only lasted 3-4 years.

He stated that the Board has made tough decisions over the past few years in order to extend the levy monies. The Board has shown that the district can be run on a tight budget and achieve results.

He stated that now is the time to provide our kids with an education that will allow them to compete with the rest of the world in this global economy.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (cont.)

Mr. Murray (cont.)

He complimented Board members Balena Shorter and Jerome Kearns on their dedication to kids. He encouraged everyone to vote for them.

Mrs. Shorter

She thanked her fellow board members and encouraged our community to vote on November 8th. She stated that she is from Birmingham, Alabama and that the right to vote is very important to her.

She believes that Fairfield has “top notch citizens” and that we will be in a different category than neighboring districts and that we will pass the levy.

She feels confident that Fairfield will be one of the communities where people will want to come and live.

She thanked the parents and Board members that have worked so hard on the levy.

She asked the community to return her and Jerome back to the Board.

Mr. Otten’s Comments:

Mr. Otten commended the students that presented tonight.

He stated that he attended a marching band competition for the first time last weekend and that he was very impressed with the performance. He and Billy Smith, FHS principal, had the opportunity to address the students before the competition. It was emotional for him and he commended the students for the hard work and long hours that they put into the program. He felt honored to be in the stands and enjoy the performance.

11-157 EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Murray to recess to Executive Session at 7:18 pm to discuss the following:

The appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of public employees 121.22 (G) (1)

Purchase or Sale of Real Estate 121.22 (G) (2)

Court Action 121.22 (G) (3) – Pending or Imminent Litigation

SECOND – Seconded by Mrs. Shorter

Public comments: None

Board comments: None

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Kearns, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray, Mr. Nuss & Mrs. Shorter

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

The Board resumed the meeting at 7:58.

11-158 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION – Moved by Mr. Kearns to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND – Seconded by Mr. Murray

Public comments: None

Board comments: None

ROLL CALL – Ayes: Mr. Kearns, Dr. Morris, Mr. Murray, Mrs. Shorter & Mr. Nuss

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 5-0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm by the President, Mr. Kearns.

President

Attest: _____
Treasurer