

**Board of Education Meeting
March 10, 2008**

The Board of Education of the Findlay City Schools met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in the Gymnasium at Whittier Primary School.

President Dysinger called the meeting to order. Present were: Mrs. Dysinger, Mr. Hoffman, Mrs. Lockard, Mr. Shrader, Superintendent Wittwer and Treasurer Barnhart. Dr. Browning arrived at 7:37 p.m.

CELEBRATIONS

Susan Chesebro, Principal of Whittier Primary School, welcomed the Board, staff and community members to Whittier. She highlighted the school's theme of Teamwork. The kindergarten team, both staff and students, are busy looking ahead and working on graduation. The first grade team is meeting every Thursday to discuss new teaching techniques. The second grade team recently worked with their students to hold a "wax museum" based on biography work of a famous person. The students dressed as their character, had a poster summarizing their research and brought in props. They did a great job. Whittier also kicked off their first year of a Clothe-A-Child program. They were able to shop with ten children at Christmas with approximately \$1,200.00 which was raised by staff and Whittier families.

Jeff Walton, Tech Prep Instructor at Millstream, and Deb Rollins, Assistant Principal at Glenwood, were recognized for their grant writing. The Board accepted a Community Foundation Grant that awarded \$23,321.00 to partially support technology to implement the Glenwood During and After School Program.

Joan Bauer, Special Education Teacher at Jacobs, received a Martha Holden Jennings Foundation Grant that awarded \$1,770.00 to Findlay City Schools and Ms. Bauer for her grant titled "Can-yo Read".

Thank you to the Findlay Music Ministers Association, the Calming the Waters Together Committee, and our community for their generous donations at the Flood Relief Benefit. All money will assist Central and Washington in replacing materials, books, and equipment lost in the flood.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

FEA President Dee Groman acknowledged the accomplishments of the 2007-08 National Merit Scholars; thanked the community for their generous gifts; and said a proposal was being submitted to change the end of this 9 week grading period, currently scheduled to end on March 20, to one week later: with the calamity and delay days, and end of school being extended, this would be a more equitable distribution of the 9 week periods. Dr. Wittwer indicated he would discuss with the building principals to review any potential issues and then a decision would be made.

Debbie Reynolds, Findlay High School Librarian and member of the Findlay High School Task Force Climate Committee, made a presentation to the Board regarding the current out of school suspension policy as it related to students being allowed to make up the work and receive 100% credit. At this time, it takes approximately 36 minutes for a Findlay High School teacher to prepare school work for a student being placed on out of school suspension, when only 14% of the students actually return the school work. The committee recommends reviewing options and perhaps re-implementing the community service component. Dr. Wittwer indicated he would speak with the middle school and high school principals and bring back to the Board.

Maureen Stansberry, parent, thanked Dennis McPherson for his work on the Central cafeteria. She inquired about the timeline for fixing the Central locker rooms. Dennis indicated the new benches should be in shortly and the work would be completed on the locker rooms in the near future. Mrs. Stansberry also urged the Board to consider making the 3-hour delay/1-hour extension a permanent alternative rather than just an option when running low on calamity days. Dr. Wittwer indicated this topic would be a discussion item in the upcoming negotiations.

2008-03-001 Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Mrs. Lockard, seconded by Mr. Shrader to approve the minutes of the special meeting on February 21, 2008 and the regular meeting on February 25, 2008.

Roll call: Mrs. Lockard, aye; Mr. Shrader, aye; Mrs. Dysinger, aye; Mr. Hoffman, aye. President Dysinger declared the motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Barnhart presented a letter to the Board from the county auditor, indicating our 5.9 mil, 5 year levy will expire in 2009. The levy could be placed on the ballot as early as November 2008 or as late as November 2009.

Dr. Wittwer shared the new makeup mechanism from ODE. Once a school district used 10 calamity days, the 11th day can be made up by adding time to other days remaining on the district's calendar.

CONSENT ITEMS

2008-03-002 Consent Items A-M

It was moved by Mr. Shrader, seconded by Mr. Hoffman to approve Consent Items A-M as follows:

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

A. Resignation

The superintendent recommends that the following resignation be accepted:

Amy Mack (Whittier, Grade 1 – from leave of absence)	(8 years)
Reason: Personal	Eff: 6/11/08

B. Leaves of Absence (will use paid sick leave, if available)

The superintendent recommends that the following leaves of absence be granted to the following certificated personnel:

Amber Elliott (FHS, Mathematics)
Effective: January 22 – March 12, 2008
Reason: FMLA – Maternity

Angela Geiser (Northview, Preschool/Itinerant)
Effective: January 14 – February 25, 2008
Reason: FMLA – Maternity

Arika Hatch (Jacobs, Grade 1)
Effective: February 15 – March 20, 2008
Reason: FMLA – Maternity

Christine Klosterman (Central, Orchestra)
Effective: January 21 – February 29, 2008
Reason: FMLA – Medical

Heather Welty (Wilson Vance, ESL Tutor)
Effective: January 7 – February 15, 2008
Reason: FMLA – Maternity

Renee Zimmerly (Chamberlin Hill, Grade 3)
Effective: February 18 – March 14, 2008
Reason: FMLA – Medical

C. Leaves of Absence (without pay)

The superintendent recommends that the following leaves of absence, without pay, be granted to the following certificated personnel:

Amber Elliott (FHS, Mathematics)
Effective: March 13 – April 22, 2008
Reason: FMLA – Maternity

Arika Hatch (Jacobs, Grade 1)
Effective: March 31 – April 11, 2008
Reason: FMLA – Maternity

Heather Welty (Wilson Vance, ESL Tutor)
Effective: February 18 – February 29, 2008
Reason: FMLA – Maternity

D. Extension of Leaves of Absence (will use paid sick leave, if available)

The superintendent recommends that an extension of the leave of absence be granted to the following certified personnel:

Jeanette Jordan (Donnell, Grade 8)
Effective: February 21 – February 28, 2008
Reason: FMLA – Medical

Summer Thomas (Glenwood, Health)
Effective: January 28 – February 1, 2008
Reason: FMLA – Maternity

Dawn Reens – Adult Education Instructor (Eff: 7/1/07)
FROM: \$20.02/hour, Step 0
TO: \$20.08/hour, Step 0

K. Monthly Financial Report

The superintendent recommends that the monthly financial report for February 2008, be accepted as presented by the treasurer. (EXHIBIT A)

L. Resolution Accepting Tax Rates

The superintendent recommends that a resolution accepting the amount and rates as determined by the County Budget Commission, authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor, be adopted, as shown in EXHIBIT B.

M. Acceptance of Gifts

The superintendent recommends the acceptance and written expression of appreciation for the gifts, listed below, which have been given to the Findlay City School District:

GIFT: \$100.00
FROM: The E. Heminger Family
TO: Lincoln Elementary School in memory of Miss Nancye Fleming

GIFT: \$110.00
FROM: Mr. Elliott Nguyen
TO: FHS, Junior Statesmen of America Club

Roll call: Mr. Shrader, aye; Mr. Hoffman, aye; Mrs. Dysinger, aye; Mrs. Lockard, aye. President Dysinger declared the motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

2008-03-003 Acceptance of Community Foundation Grant

It was moved by Mr. Shrader, seconded by Mrs. Lockard to approve the superintendent's recommendation for acceptance of a Community Foundation Grant that awarded \$23,321.00 to Glenwood Middle School to partially support technology to implement the Glenwood During and After School Program, (funding source: L. Dale Dorney Fund) as shown in EXHIBIT C.

Roll call: Mr. Shrader, aye; Mrs. Lockard, aye; Dr. Browning, aye; Mrs. Dysinger, aye; Mr. Hoffman, aye. President Dysinger declared the motion carried.

2008-03-004 Acceptance of Martha Holden Jennings Foundation Grant

It was moved by Mr. Shrader, seconded by Mrs. Lockard to approve the superintendent's recommendation for acceptance of the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation Grant that awarded \$1,770.00 to the Findlay City School District and Ms. Joan Bauer for her grant titled "Can-yo Read", which is explained in EXHIBIT D.

Roll call: Mr. Shrader, aye; Mrs. Lockard, aye; Dr. Browning, aye; Mrs. Dysinger, aye; Mr. Hoffman, aye. President Dysinger declared the motion carried.

REPORTS

A. Management Team Committee Reports

1. Policy Committee EXHIBIT E

Mr. Hoffman reported the committee met on February 26 and seven policies have been presented to the FEA for the two weeks notice period.

2. Finance Committee

Mr. Shrader reported the committee discussed the all-day kindergarten budget, levies and facilities.

3. Facilities Committee

Dr. Browning reported the committee worked to identify tasks needing to be done.

B. Public/Private Partnerships

Rich Rowe, We Believe Committee, presented his concept related to increasing "curb appeal" for our community and improving our schools.

C. All-Day Everyday Kindergarten Pilot at Lincoln School EXHIBIT F

Dick Dillon discussed the all-day everyday kindergarten pilot at Lincoln School.

D. Findlay Digital Academy Video

Sandy White presented a Findlay Digital Academy video.

E. Millstream Career & Technology Center Video

Kathy Wilson presented a Millstream Career & Technology Center video.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

There was none.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Dr. Wittwer indicated that we have received responses from nine architectural firms from our RFP for the Exceptional Needs Program (ENP). He also noted that a community facilities committee may be created to assist in this process. Dr. Wittwer also said that State Superintendent Dr. Susan Zelman will be visiting and touring the Millstream locations on Thursday, March 13. Open forums will be held from 3:15 – 4:15 p.m. at Millstream South.

BOARD'S COMMENTS

Mrs. Dysinger said the 2007-08 National Merit Scholars will be recognized for their achievements at the April 14 Board of Education meeting.

2008-03-005 Executive Session

It was moved by Mr. Shrader, seconded by Mr. Hoffman to recess to executive session to discuss the potential purchase and/or sale of property and employment and compensation of personnel at 8:55 p.m.

The Board of Education returned to regular session at 9:44 p.m.

Roll call: Mr. Shrader, aye; Mr. Hoffman, aye; Dr. Browning, aye; Mrs. Dysinger, aye; Mrs. Lockard, aye. President Dysinger declared the motion carried.

2008-03-006 ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Dysinger, seconded by Mr. Shrader to adjourn at 9:45 p.m.

Roll call: Mrs. Dysinger, aye; Mr. Shrader, aye; Dr. Browning, aye; Mr. Hoffman, aye; Mrs. Lockard, aye. President Dysinger declared the motion carried.

President

Treasurer

Read and approved April 14, 2008.