

## **BUCKEYE LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING SUMMARY**

The Buckeye Local Board of Education met in regular session on Wednesday, January 7, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at Buckeye Local Central Office, Dillonvale. In attendance were Mr. DeLuca, Mrs. Kolkedy, Mr. Moore, Mr. Signorini and Mr. Zelek. Also present were Mr. Miller, Ms. Prebeg, Mrs. Vargo and Mrs. Hicks. Mrs. Kolkedy gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance. She welcomed all those in attendance.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Board, Administration, High School Principal and Coaches presented a plaque to Bobby Spence on being named All State Player of the Year. Mr. Spence was commended on his sporting ability as well as his academic achievements. Principal Celestin and Coaches Pabolish and Laase congratulated Bobby on his accomplishments on and off the field. Bobby's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Spence, were present for the presentation.

The Board also presented a Certificate of Achievement to Coach Pabolish who was named District III Coach of the Year.

Mr. Buck and his daughter Miranda questioned Board policy with regard to teacher use of cell phones. Mr. Miller stated that teachers are not permitted to use cell phones during class time and that he would look into this particular situation. Mr. Buck also wanted to know why there was not longer an enrichment class offered. Mr. Miller stated that the teacher who taught the enrichment class had moved out of the area and was not replaced for financial reasons. Mr. Miller stated that the district has instituted alternate enrichment activities and that Mr. Buck should contact Mrs. Hicks for details.

### EDUCATIONAL REPORTS

Mrs. Wallace, North Middle Principal, detailed for the Board the efforts being made at North Middle as part of the district school improvement program. She discussed various hands-on materials being implemented including workbooks, practice papers, and individual dry erase boards. She stated that they have found that many students have difficulty reading the problem in the test booklet and then transferring their answer to the answer document. Practice tests developed by the teachers should help students master this technique. These practice tests are pinpointing weak areas recognized when past test performance was evaluated. Time has been set aside where there can be one on one assistance offered to students who need extra help mastering certain skills.

Heather Weekly described to the Board a community outreach program which she and others instituted about 8 years ago to assist Buckeye Local families. The program began as an effort to purchase Christmas presents for needy children and has grown into a program whereby food baskets, clothing, etc. are distributed at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Community organizations such as volunteer fire departments, the Lions Club, and individuals have become aware of this program and have come forward to help. Mrs. Weekley stressed that the program would not be possible without the unselfish efforts of many individuals. This year alone, 10 families were provided food baskets at Thanksgiving (baskets included all necessary items to provide breakfast, lunch and dinner). During the Christmas season 31 students received presents as well as needed clothing, and food baskets. The Board commended Mrs. Weekley and the others who go above and beyond to make the wonderful program possible.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Athletic Council met in December to review all fall sports. Where the golf team would play and practice was discussed as well as the junior high football program. For the 09/10 school year there will be one combined 7th grade football team and one 8th grade football team comprised of players from both Middle Schools. Where the teams will practice and play is still being discussed and evaluated. Mr. Moore stated that this move was primarily dictated by the low number of students participating. Separate volleyball and basketball teams will be maintained as long as we have separate middle schools.

Community Engagement - Gary Slocum and John DeFrance of Fanning/Howey stated that the Board will be making many decisions in regard to the School Facilities Building Project. First and foremost they will need to develop a plan of community involvement. They suggested that a kick off meeting be held as soon as possible. Mr. DeLuca stated that any actions and issues need to be addressed openly and with substantial input from constituents. He expects Fanning/Howey to help us make good decisions based on their prior experience with school building projects. A Building Committee needs to be appointed as soon as possible.

TREASURER'S REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Approved the minutes, bills, financial statement, reconciliation statement and checks for the month of December, 2008.
2. Approved the following supplemental/revised appropriations:

Class of 2012	200-973Z	+\$14,000.00
Public Preschool	439-9009	(\$ 5,759.00)
OACHE	019-9020	+\$ 2,000.00
OACHE	019-9009	+\$ 7,500.00
ECE Entitlement	439-909P	(\$ 2,370.00)
Title I School Imp.	572-909I	+\$60,000.00

NEW BUSINESS

Personnel

3. Approved maternity leave for Christine Butkus beginning approximately April 2, 2009 extending through the end of the 2008/09 school year.

Miscellaneous

4. Entered into a resolution of acceptance in the Ohio School Facilities Commission Classroom Facilities Assistance Program.
5. Selected and authorized negotiation of agreements with the design firm of Fanning/ Howey Associates, Inc. as the firm most qualified to provide professional design services to the Board for the Ohio School Facilities Project.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMUNICATION

- A. Mr. Miller informed the Board that Karen Vargo has been reassigned to the position of Special Education Supervisor for the remainder of this school year. The ESC is making arrangements to cover Mrs. Vargo speech therapy duties by employing an additional Speech Therapist. We anticipate this person to be Leslie Adamsky, a former Buckeye Local graduate.
- B. January 23 - End of 1st Semester
- C. Minimum Wage increased to \$7.30 effective January 1, 2009. Substitute wages will be adjusted accordingly.

Mr. DeLuca suggested that if we are going to do any community outreach activities that we consider enlisting the media department of the JVS. Students do an excellent job and would ensure uniform distribution of accurate information at a reasonable cost. Mr. Miller stated that the Interactive Media class at our High School has volunteered to help in the development of informational brochures.

Mr. Moore stated that he had been approached by Dustin Kinsey in regard to the use of West Elementary for the Lion's Club Minstrel. The Board had no objection.

Mr. Celestin, High School Principal, stated that earlier this week Ben Hazelton, a member of the BLHS Bowling Team, had bowled a 300 game in competition. He will be named Athlete of the Week by local media. A plaque in his honor will be placed in the school trophy case.

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 23, 2009, AT BUCKEYE LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE, DILLONVALE. MEETING BEGINS AT 7:00 PM.**