

Record of Proceedings Minutes of Regular Meeting

**Board of Education
Regular Meeting**

**Monday
March 13, 2023**

The Field Local School District Board of Education held its Regular Meeting on Monday, March 13, 2023 in the Field High School Cafeteria, 2900 State Route 43, Mogadore, OH 44260 at 7:00 P.M.

**Pledge of Allegiance
Silent Meditation
Roll Call**

Randy Porter-Yes, Larry Stewart-Yes, Ethan Miller-Yes, William Evans-Yes, Steve Calcei-Yes

Student Representative Emma Norman-Yes

Member Porter moved, seconded by Member Miller that the Field Local Board of Education approve the minutes from the February 13, 2023, regular meeting. **23-0029**

Roll Call: Porter-Yes, Miller-Yes, Stewart-Yes, Evans-Yes, Calcei-Yes.

President declared the motion carried.

Member Evans moved, seconded by Member Stewart that the Field Local Board of Education adopt the following agenda for the March 13, 2023, regular meeting. **23-0030**

Roll Call: Evans-Yes, Stewart-Yes, Porter-Yes, Miller-Yes, Calcei-Yes.

President declared the motion carried.

Student Representative Report - Athletics: Track and Field: Practices for the Field High School Track and Field team have officially begun, and their first meet will take place on April 1st, 2023 in Newton Falls for the Tiger Invitational at 10:00 a.m. Baseball: Practices for the Field High School Baseball team have officially begun, and their first scrimmage is this Thursday, March 16th at 5:00 p.m. against Canton McKinley High School. Softball: Practices for the Field High School Softball team have officially begun, and the ladies will face off in a scrimmage against Boardman High School on March 21st at 5:00 p.m. Boys Tennis: With the season officially beginning, the Field High School Boys Tennis team will have their first match at Firestone Park in Akron on March 27th against Kenmore-Garfield./Select athletes from the aforementioned teams will also be attending the MAC Media Day on March 15th, 2023 at Woodridge High School./School Calendar: The end of the 3rd quarter is on March 31st. Field High School will be closed on Friday, April 7th for Good Friday. Field High School will be closed for spring break beginning on April 10th and continuing through April 14th. The juniors of Field High School will be taking the ACT on March 14th, and the rest of the student body will have the day off as a result./Clubs: NHS: The National Honor Society of Field High School has recently granted membership to new juniors and seniors, and will be hosting an induction ceremony on March 14th at 7:00 p.m./Orchestrated by Mrs. Underwood, a group of sophomore and junior girls will be attending the STEM Conference hosted by Kent State University at the campus in Trumbull Country, where they will get to hear from female experts in many different STEM fields and learn more about their desired STEM majors.

Superintendent's Report - Mr. Heflinger talked about putting the two levy renewals on the ballot this November. We will need to pass resolutions in the coming months so that we can certify everything and have it on the ballot. One of the questions that we have been asked is what we will do with the PI money. The plans for the PI money for the renewal would be to turf the stadium, put new lights in the stadium and new lights and poles. Also, do an electrical upgrade to this building that is estimated to be between half and 3/4 of a million dollars. If we do all those projects, we would still be able to have a few hundred thousand dollars leftover based on estimates so that we would have money to continue doing what we've been doing. Since we built the parking lot, we've already sealed them and restriped them. We will continue to do that and crack fill each year so that we do not develop any of the problems that caused the previous parking lot to look like it did. We are trying to stay on top of things plus any other projects that come up. There are a lot of projects that come up even with the two newer buildings. They are not new anymore and there are plenty of maintenance projects that come up and things you have to check and replace. I think these plans would be embraced by the community. A turf field that could be used by multiple sports and at times when they want to be outside even if the weather is too wet. It would also allow a lot of opportunities for youth sports to get out on the field. Even with football and soccer playing continually on the field, we will not have the current issues with having the field torn up. We know there are people interested in fundraising. We would target the fundraising to build a fund for maintenance and replacement because turf has about a 12 year lifespan. We would be looking at people who are interested in doing fundraising that people can donate towards the replacement turf the second time around. It will be cheaper to replace than to build the first time because you don't have to redo everything underground with all the drainage but it is still several hundred thousand dollars when it comes time for replacement./ We had a preliminary meeting last week with the Ohio facilities Construction Commission which is the old OSFC. In April, you will see a resolution to enter into an agreement with them to begin preliminary conversations and studies about a potential building project down the road. This will not commit the district to anything. We will look at numbers and what would be paid for somewhere down the road. We are currently throwing a lot of money at the middle school. We have started to slow that down a bit with the thought that perhaps that's a building that we may not have here long term because of its current condition and needs. This building is in considerably better shape. Just so you know, we are taking a look at these things for the future and you will see a resolution next month./ On the legislative front, there are all sorts of things happening in Columbus of interest to education. The reorganization of the Ohio Department of Education seems like it's going to happen. Most likely, it will become the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce. The State Superintendent would be a Governor appointment. The current State Board of Education and the State Superintendent would transition into very different roles with very little responsibility. The responsibilities would center around teacher discipline, teacher licensing and territory transfers but beyond that everything else for schools would be run out of the new Ohio Department of Education and Workforce./ There are also three voucher proposals on the table. One from the Governor, one from the Senate and one from the House. They are all varying degrees of taking money and offering money for students to go elsewhere. None of them would be things that we're excited about. There is going to be a voucher expansion. We will be working toward making sure that whatever voucher expansion happens, it is the least worst option for Field and that would be our priority./ There is also H.B. 1. If you have not familiarized yourself with H.B. 1, it is a multi-pronged Bill. The primary goal is to lower the state income tax. This has been a goal in Columbus for some time. Currently, we have a tiered tax system set up like the federal tier tax system. The highest rate in Ohio is just about 4%. This would go to a flat tax of 2.75%. This primarily would benefit better off wage earners because people who are at the higher end of the income tax bracket would have their taxes lowered. In order to offset that money and the collections that come with it, they are looking at changing the way they do property taxes in Ohio. Part of the proposal is that when you look at your property tax bill, there is a 10% rollback or

offset that the state pays. The state would stop paying that 10% so you would say that means everyone's tax bill goes up 10% because the auditor is still going to collect that money if the state doesn't pay it. There are a couple different ways of looking at this. One is what I think they meant from everything I read that they initially proposed is they don't want to have a 10% tax increase on every property owner. So, what they would want to do is have a different offset and that means when you look at your property taxes they have what your house is valued at and they take 35% as the assessment rate and then they tax on that. This proposal would lower the 35 % to 31.5 %. Lowering the assessment rate in theory would take away the 10% that they're currently funding except for H.B. 920. This is the Bill from the 70's that impacts all school funding. That is why we always need levies. Because H.B. 920 does not allow for growth because it only allows districts to collect the same amount of money no matter what the effective mileage rate is. If property values go up or down, we only collect the same amount of money as was voted. If that applies, then the early implications from people who know a lot more about Ohio taxes than I do is that H.B. 920 would apply to the lower assessed value of 31.5%. Which means, the auditor will still collect the same amount of money. This will have an effective mileage increase on people's taxes as opposed to a decrease they usually see. This would impact everyone with voted mileage not just schools. It would impact fire departments, libraries, parks, and everybody who receives voted mileage. My biggest concern is that we make sure we explain this in Columbus and I assure you if this looks like it's going to go through and there's going to be a tax increase that our residents are going pay, I will be advertising whose fault that is and that it is not us. We have nothing to do with it and that it is all coming out of Columbus. The ultimate goal of this and there is a theme, they want to have an easier time selling to companies to move to Ohio and they are not shy about saying that there are several states that have a 0% state income tax. They are competing with those states so they feel like they can draw in more jobs by lowering the Income Tax rate. Since the Ohio Department of Education will now be the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce, they again are saying, part of the primary focus of this is to create workers for the economic development they are going to spur. So, there is a big focus on job creation preparing people for the jobs they're creating and lots of a focus on how we're supposed to pay to create the people who are going to take the jobs that they are going to create. I am in Columbus Thursday and again next Tuesday and these will be topics at my regular legislative meeting. I will be at the Statehouse and meeting with actual legislators, and we'll be discussing all these topics. I have talked to some superintendents at meetings in the last month about a lot of these things. /There is an old political trick that says you don't pay attention to the burning building in front of you but look over there at that pretty bird in the tree. Let's all watch the bird and see how long before it flies away while the building burns to the ground. There has also been a lot of talk about Fair School Funding because they are increasing it a little bit and they know we like that about the Fair School Funding plan. While they have proposed that, in essence, they are saying don't worry about the voucher proposals in H.B. 1. Don't look over there. While all this is happening, ODE cruised right on through committee hearings with H.B. 1 which has a lot of moving parts. I believe the Ohio Department of Education does need reformed. My problem is that I don't think they have spent a lot of time and I don't know what the big rush is. They couldn't get it through in the lame duck session and they brought it back immediately. Pushing the hearings right through and I guess I just feel like this is a big change. Maybe the practitioners in the field would have something to offer.

Legislative Liaison Report

Recognition of visitors

Public participation is encouraged during this portion of the Field Local business meeting. If you have questions, suggestions, or concerns, your first contact should be with the teacher or principal at the school building level. If you are not satisfied with the response you may contact the superintendent. By following this procedure, you will generally receive a prompt, informed response. The Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing citizens to present helpful suggestions for the school district. Public participation at board meetings is governed by the following guidelines:

Public comment is permitted during the recognition of visitor's portion of the meeting and will not exceed thirty minutes total. Attendees must register their intention to participate in the public portion of the meeting upon their arrival at the meeting. Speakers must be recognized by the presiding officer and preface their comments by stating their name, address, and group affiliation, if appropriate. Each speaker is limited to three minutes and may not speak twice on the same subject until all have spoken. Persons desiring more time should follow the procedure of the board to be placed on the regular agenda. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no person may address or question Board members individually.

(R.C.3313.20 Board Policy | Chapter 1 - Board of Education | Policy 1.16 | Adopted August 10, 2015)

SUPERINTENDENT CONSENT AGENDA

Member Stewart moved, seconded by Member Miller that the Field Local Board of Education approve the Superintendent consent agenda items as presented. 23-0031

Mr. Heflinger commented that Aliza Pennington is resigning as the full-time Transportation Secretary and the part time secretary is now in the Administration office. Nikki Parkhill is replacing Candice Monteith. Candace Monteith had been doing Special Services and Curriculum which covers a wide range of things that take care of Bethany and Megan daily. Nikki has started in our office, and she has gotten off to a great start. She has a terrific personality and seems to be a quick learner. We are excited to have her. We are advertising now and hope to find a permanent replacement in the bus garage. We are restructuring that role so that what has been a full-time job and a part time job is now going to be just one full time job but on a split shift. This will present a savings to the district by eliminating that part time position. I also want to mention the resignation of Taylor Spates. She is the part time secretary at the front door of the middle school. Taylor has been there three or four years now and has done a fantastic job. Her husband has taken a job out of state and so she'll be leaving in the summer but Taylor will be missed by everybody.

*Roll Call: Stewart-Yes, Miller-Yes, Porter-Yes, Evans-Yes, Calcei-Yes.
President declared the motion carried.*

Superintendent Items

- **Employment** – The Superintendent recommends that the Field Local Board of Education employ the following pending proper paperwork/certification/licensure:

Certified Employment

1. Samantha Ganzer, 5 Hr. Tutor at Brimfield Elementary for the remaining 66 days of the 2022-2023 school year.

B+15 Step 0

Classified Employment

1. Betsy Nienhius, Paraprofessional at the High School effective February 27, 2023, for the remaining 69 days of the 2022-2023 school year. Rate of pay per Negotiated Agreement.
2. Kerrie Horning, 3 Hr. Custodial/Cleaner at the Middle School effective February 21, 2023 for the remaining 73 days of the 2022-2023 school year. Rate of pay per Negotiated Agreement.
3. Timothy Hopkins, 5 Hr. Bus Driver effective February 24, 2023, for the remaining 70 days of the 2022-2023 school year. Rate of pay per Negotiated Agreement.
4. Nikki Parkhill, Special Services Secretary, 217 days per year, 8 hours per day effective March 2, 2023, continuing contract on step 5 of the Non-Certified Salary Schedule.
5. Mark Beck, 5 Hr. Bus Driver effective February 21, 2023, for the remaining 73 days of the 2022-2023 school year. Rate of pay per Negotiated Agreement.

Classified Substitute Employment

Carolyn Johnson Kelli Mensch

- **Resignations**– The Superintendent recommends that the Field Local Board of Education accept the resignations of the following:

1. Candice Monteith, Special Services Secretary effective March 1, 2023.
2. Taylor Spates, 5.5 Hr. Secretary at the Middle School effective June 16, 2023.
3. Kelli Mensch, 5.5 Hr. Parapro at Suffield Elementary effective March 10, 2023.
4. Stacy Davis, 4.5 Hr. Cook/Cashier at the High School effective February 24, 2023.
5. Nikki Parkhill, 5.5 Hr. Sub Call/Transportation secretary effective March 1, 2023 (contingent on being awarded Special Services Secretary contract).
6. Aliza Pennington, 8 Hr. Bus Transportation Secretary effective March 19, 2023.

- **Leave of Absence**– The Superintendent recommends that the Field Local Board of Education approve an unpaid medical leave of absence for Shayna Dibona. Anticipated date of return will be April 3, 2023.

- **Board Policy** - The Superintendent recommends that the Field Local Board of Education approve the second and final reading of the following board policies:

6.16 Student Records (REV)
7.08 Achievement Testing Policies (REV)

- 7.26 College Credit Plus (REV)
- 7.33 Career Advising (REV)
- 8.01 Investment Policy (REV)
- 8.16 Bulk Fuel Inventory and Usage (NEW)
- 9.04 Gifts, Grants, and Donations (REV)

- **Volunteers** – The Superintendent recommends that the Field Local Board of Education approve the following athletic volunteers for the 2022-2023 school year:

| | |
|---------------|---------------|
| George Wetzel | Mike Harris |
| Mike Brown | Levi Miller |
| Pat Herold | Damon Beasley |

- **Supplemental Contract(s)** – The Superintendent recommends that the Field Local Board of Education employ the following for the 2022-2023 school year.

| <u>Certified Athletic/Academic</u> | <u>Experience (years)</u> |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Matthew Furino, Spring Fitness Advisor-\$1,546.00 | 1 |
| 2. Matthew Furino, Summer Fitness Advisor-\$1,932.00 | 1 |
| 3. Mackenzie Downing, Vocal Music Director-\$1,159.00 | 0 |

- **Informational Items**

Correction to James Dutched High School Asst. Track Coach Supplemental Contract for 2022/2023-\$3,895.00.

Member Porter moved, seconded by Member Calcei that the Field Local Board of Education approve the rescinding of the following supplemental contract for the 2022-2023 school year. 23-0032

Roll Call: Porter-Yes, Calcei-Yes, Stewart-Yes, Miller-Abstain, Evans-Yes.

President declared the motion carried.

1. Arwen Smith, Vocal Music Director.

TREASURER CONSENT AGENDA

Member Miller moved, seconded by Member Stewart that the Field Local Board of Education approve the Treasurer consent agenda items as presented. 23-0033

Mr. Carpenter pointed out the resolution for the bidding out of two new buses through the Ohio School Council. Currently, we are experiencing a 12-to-18-month lag time on new buses. The district has yet to receive the ones from last year that were bid out. It has been determined that our current cargo bus, which has the storage compartments down below, eventually needs to be replaced. A new cargo bus is really needed when the band or other sport groups go on trips. There is just a lot more storage space and a lot less overcrowding on the bus itself.

*Roll Call: Miller-Yes, Stewart-Yes, Porter-Yes, Evans-Yes, Calcei-Yes.
President declared the motion carried.*

Treasurer Items

- **Fiscal – The Treasurer recommends that the Field Local Board of Education approve the following:**
 1. Financial reports for the period ending January 31, 2023.
 2. Approval of the “Amounts and Rates” as determined by the Budget Commission for FY2024 (**Exhibit T-1**).
 3. Approval of a 5 year Depository Agreement with Huntington Bank for a period commencing 4/10/2023 and ending 4/9/2028.

Resolution – The Treasurer recommends that the Field Local Board of Education approve the Ohio Schools Council Cooperative advertising and receiving bids for school bus chassis and bodies.

WHEREAS, the Field Local Board of Education wishes to advertise and receive bids for the purchase of (1) – 83/84 passenger unitized Pusher Transit school bus chassis and body and (1) -77/78 passenger unitized Conventional school bus chassis and body.

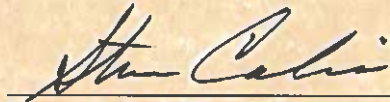
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Field Local Board of Education wishes to participate and authorizes the Ohio Schools Council to advertise and receive bids on behalf of said Board as per the specifications submitted for the cooperative purchase of (1) 83/84 passenger unitized Pusher Transit school bus chassis and body and (1) – 77/78 passenger unitized Conventional school bus chassis and body.

There being no further business to come before the Field Local Board of Education Member Porter moved, seconded by Member Evans to adjourn the March 13, 2023 regular meeting.

23-0034

*Roll Call: Porter-Yes, Evans-Yes, Stewart-Yes, Miller-Yes, Calcei-Yes.
President declared the motion carried.*

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 P.M.



Steve Calcei, President



Attest: Todd Carpenter, Treasurer