

EAST CARTER COUNTY R-II SCHOOL

24 South Herren Avenue

Ellsinore, MO 63937

News Release: August 25, 2022; Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

EAST CARTER COUNTY R-II BOARD OF EDUCATION

August 25, 2022

TAX RATE HEARING AND REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Board President Ben Thies called the meeting to order at 6:15 in the East Carter County Elementary Cafeteria. The following Board members were present: Ben Thies, John Walker, Stonie Croy, Becky Fischer, Johnathan Collins, JoEllen Carter and Bryan House. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Richard Sullivan, High School Principal Matt Stahl, Middle School Principal Theresa Kearbey, Elementary Principal Kacie Kendrick, SpEd Director Veronica Hollis, Network Administrator Connor Kelch, Curriculum Director Jesse Cupp, Bookkeeper Jamie Shaffer and Board Secretary Kathey Dalton. Staff members in attendance, Christy Moore, Tim Gaebler, Mary Gargac, Chrystal Pratt, Jennifer Robertson, Jordan Penn, Amanda Daughhette, Janelle Mischka, Denise Murphy, Tabitha Hensley, David Kingston, Kayla Peterman, Kennedy Thies and Katy Stromatt. Also present Olivia Price, Susie Fann, Sally Stahl, Wes Lutton, Fred Weber, Keegan Corrigan, Mitch Wood, Scott Downing and Joe Gundelfinger.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Sullivan reported the electric bill was up \$1,418.69 from this time last year. Many summer projects were tackled this year including: Removing tile and extra subfloor in 2 of the 3 third grade rooms, patching, sanding the floors and repainted the walls. Removed the tile in the elementary kitchen and teacher workroom and laying underlayment. We had a company retile both areas. Removed carpet in the multiple areas around campus. Upgraded the lighting in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade hallway. Relocated the hot water heater for 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Lowered the batting cage in the elementary gym. Our painter painted the elementary teacher lounge, 4-classrooms, an office, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade hallway and many other areas around campus. Painted the softball concession stand. Our sanitizing HVAC project went very well this summer, with many of the units installed or upgraded before school started back. School has started, with an opening enrollment of 637, our numbers may change until after Labor Day, as some families move in/out of district. Bills were discussed.

Minutes/Bills

The Board approved the July 28, 2022 Regular Board meeting minutes, bills were approved for payment as presented.

## New Business

The Tax Rate Hearing was held in the Elementary Cafeteria prior to the Regular Board Meeting. The Board by utilization of amendment 2 set General Fund Tax Rate of Fund 1 at \$2.7500, set Special Fund Tax Rate of Fund 2 at \$0.0000, set Debt Service Fund Rate of Fund 3 at \$0.0000, and set Capital Projects Fund Tax Rate of Fund 4 at \$0.0000. New Staff members were introduced to the Board of Education. Three companies presented Design-Build-Contact-Trace Entry Door- Socially Distance Meeting Spaces to the Board. The Board approved the Annual Secretary of the Board Report (ASBR), Local Plan for Compliance with State Regulations Part B of the Idea. The Board appointed Kathey Dalton as Custodian of Records. The Board accepted the resignations of Hattie Shepherd as High School ELA Teacher and High School Cross-Country Head Coach, Kimberly Foster as District Nurse and Jordan Penn as Elementary Boys Head Basketball Coach. The Board approved the transfer of \$250,518.88 from Fund 1 to Fund 4. The Board approved recommendations that we amend Policy JGA concerning Corporal Punishment per MSBA's recommendation and legislation. Board Members participated in a 1-hour MSBA refresher training on preventing student sexual abuse.

## Old Business

Dr. Sullivan updated the Board on the Concrete Project, the 4-day school week was discussed, no action was taken. Volleyball was discussed, no action was taken.

## Staff/Committee Reports

CTA President Jordan Penn talked about the 4-day school week forum that was held in the High School gym on August 18, 2022. The Board was given handouts of concerns with the 4-day school week. Coach Penn said that several high school staff have commented on how great Connor Kelch has been doing as Network Administrator. He had been helpful and quick to resolve issues. Special services staff have commented on how well the high school faculty has been working together to develop plans in students' best interest. Everybody has been willing to help each other and adjust plans to meet student needs. The Family and Consumer Science courses have grown a lot this year. Enrollment in all classes is up front last year. We are offering two new courses this year: Food Entrepreneurship and US Foods/World Foods. In July, we had 3 students who competed at the National FCCLA Conference/Competition and they placed 13<sup>th</sup> in the nation, receiving silver medals. Jr. Beta took 27 students to Nationals this summer and they represented up very well. We did not place in the top 10, but we had students in the following categories. Group Talent, Solo/Duo/Trio, 8<sup>th</sup> grade science, 8<sup>th</sup> grade math, Black and White Photo, Digital Art, Fiber Arts and Sculpture. Band class numbers are up from last year and looking forward to a great year. Several Middle School Staff have commented that our air smells cleaner and it's wonderful to have working air-conditioning this year. High School Principal Matt Stahl gave the Board a handout with Academic Banquet Options. He said he would recommend Option 3 which would include Top 10, 9<sup>th</sup> thru 11<sup>th</sup> graders and 3.5 GPA or Higher for 12<sup>th</sup> grade. He said this would be based off 1<sup>st</sup> semester grades. Middle School Principal Theresa Kearbey said the Middle School started out smooth. The number of students enrolled are up a little. She said they really like the new air conditioners. Jesse Cupp discussed Curriculum. David Kingston said we had a gas line issue in the elementary playground over the summer and that has been taken care of. MFA did our gas line pressure test before school started and we had to make several repairs. They did find a leak at the high school and that has been taken care of. Network Administrator Connor Kelch said that everything in the Technology Department is going smoothly. He said we had issues with our internet service the second

half of one day which caused a problem with Chromebook deployment. He said everything has been repaired and things are going well.

The Board moved to enter into Executive Session in accordance with Public Law, Section 610:21 items 3, 13 and 14 for a closed meeting to the extent authorized by law. Meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm.

#### Executive Meeting

The Executive meeting was called to order by Board President Ben Thies at 9:45 pm. The Board approved the July 28, 2022 Executive Session Board meeting minutes. The Board approved Jaden Douglas, Jennifer Parrish, Jaci Douglas, Melissa Colyott, Audrey Carter, Makenna Moore, Jaime Bell, Aaron Miller, Macy Cyr, Mallory Parr, Hailey Smith and McKenzie Newman as substitute teachers. The Board approved to hire Marilyn Webb as Critical Shortage High School ELA Teacher, Brooke Hampton as District Nurse, Theresa Kearbey as half time bus driver, Heather Shell and Kennedy Thies as Co-Cross-Country Head Coach and Kristen Penn as Middle School Assistant Cross-Country Coach. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 p.m.