

Record of Proceedings of a regular meeting of the Board of Education, School District of University City, St. Louis County, held at Ronald E. McNair Administration Building, 8136 Groby Road, University City, Missouri, August 7, 2008.

The following Board members were present:

Ms. Meg McClelland, President; Mr. Tom Peters, Vice-President; Mr. Todd Gilyard, Secretary; Ms. Ellen Bern, Mr. Stacy Clay, Mr. Bob Elgin, and Ms. Trudy Moon, Directors; and Ms. Kristin Rice, Student Representative to the Board.

Ms. Joylynn Wilson, Superintendent; Dr. Chauna Williams, Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum & Instruction; Dr. Judy Sclair, Assistant Superintendent/Human Resources, Mr. Scott Hafertepe, Chief Financial Officer/Business & Financial Management, and approximately 25 staff members, students, and citizens were present.

#### CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum present, Ms. McClelland called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kristin Rice highlighted events at University City High School. She reported that this week the Student Government opened its offices in the Black & Gold hallway. The dance team, along with other students, packed book bags for the Back-to-School Rally.

August 15 is the first day of school for incoming freshmen. All other students begin on August 18. The first game of the football season is against Hazelwood Central, on their campus and the first home game is September 6 against Parkway North.

Board members in attendance highlighted activities they engaged in since the last Board meeting. Nathaniel Hawthorne was recognized by one Board member for meeting its Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for five years. Activities included attendance at the Back-to-School Rally, which was very successful.

August 7, 2008

Ms. Wilson

- ! At the Midwest Army National Wrestling tournament held July 12 in Bloomington, IL, UCHS student's Justin Nicks and DeMarco Kemp both placed first in their weight classes to become national champions. Justin went undefeated in the 116 lb. weight class in the 11/12th grade division, as did DeMarco, who dominated the 236 lb. weight class, going 4-0 to take first place. DeMarco is also currently the third ranked sophomore (from school year 2007-2008) in the country according to InterMat, a Web site designated to wrestling.
- ! On July 18, Zack Levinson presented his research project. He was part of the Stars Program at Washington University and he was confirmed a research scholar for the 2008 Stars Confirmation Ceremony. His project was called "Heat Transfer in Bubble Column for Energy Efficient Clean Fuel Production." Zack will be recognized at the next Board meeting, along with Justin and DeMarco.
- ! I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped with the Back-to-School Rally held at Jackson Park Elementary School this past Saturday. Hundreds of school children received backpacks filled with school supplies and lunch boxes. Many of the items were donated from Cardinal's Care.
- ! The next Community Engagement meetings will be held next week, Wednesday, August 13 starting at 6:30 p.m. at Brittany Woods Middle School and Saturday at 9:30 a.m. at the Julia Goldstein Early Childhood Education Center. We will be talking about the academic proposals for the school district to make us a School District of Distinction. We invite everyone to come out.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

The following individual addressed the Board:

1. Celina McGinnis, 6931 Dartmouth
2. Mike Miller, 1331 Purdue
3. Walter Daniels, 7523 Drexel

Ms. Wilson introduced the two newest members of the administrative team, Mr. DeClan Fitzpatrick, Communication Arts/Social Studies Coordinator, and Mr.

Brian Rich, UCHS Interim Assistant Principal.  
August 7, 2008

## PREVIOUS MINUTES

A motion to approve the July 17, 2008 minutes was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

## CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were presented under the Consent Agenda which can be approved by a single motion and vote.

|        |       |                                         |
|--------|-------|-----------------------------------------|
| Action | 09-14 | Order for Drawing Checks                |
| Action | 09-15 | Reaffirmation of Policies & Regulations |

A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

### 09-16          2008-2009 REFUNDING RESOLUTION

It was recommended that the Board of Education adopt the resolution authorizing and directing the issuance, sale and delivery of general obligation refunding bonds.

The Administration analyzed the District's outstanding general obligation bond issues in order to determine whether the District would realize cost savings by refunding a portion of its outstanding general obligation bonds. Based on such analysis, the Administration concluded that the District will realize significant savings by refunding a portion of its 1998 and 1999 general obligation bond issues.

Mr. Hafertepe, Chief Financial Office, along with Ms. Debbie Rush, Attorney, Thompson, Coburn, and Lorenzo Boyd, Senior Vice President, Stifle, Nicholas, presented this item and responded to questions from the Board.

A brief discussion took place.

A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

### 09-17          2008-2009 DEFEASANCE RESOLUTION

The Administration reviewed options related to the funds currently on deposit in the District's debt service fund. After reviewing the available options, the

Administration concluded that it is in the best interest of the District to realize the economic benefit of interest savings by using a portion of the money in the August 7, 2008

District's debt service fund to purchase securities and place them in an escrow fund. These funds will be used to make principal and interest payments on certain maturities of the District's 2007 general obligation bond issue.

It was recommended that the Board of Education adopt the Resolution detailing this opportunity.

A brief discussion ensued.

A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

09-18 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

It was recommended the Board of Education approve group insurance programs with the following providers, Group Health Plan, Delta Dental of Missouri, Reliance Standard and Vision Benefits of America, at the rates indicated from October 1, 2008 to September 30, 2009.

**Current Medical Benefits Program**

|                   | GHP - HMO<br><u>Monthly Rates</u> | GHP - POS<br><u>Monthly Rates</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Employee          | \$ 431.01                         | \$ 489.68                         |
| Employee/Spouse   | 844.79                            | 959.77                            |
| Employee/Children | 741.34                            | 842.25                            |
| Employee/Family   | 1,176.66                          | 1,336.83                          |

**Proposed Medical Benefits Program**

|                   | GHP - HMO<br><u>Monthly Rates</u> | GHP - POS<br><u>Monthly Rates</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Employee          | \$ 454.63                         | \$ 516.51                         |
| Employee/Spouse   | 891.07                            | 1,012.36                          |
| Employee/Children | 781.96                            | 888.40                            |
| Employee/Family   | 1,241.13                          | 1,410.07                          |

**Dental Benefits Program**

|          | <b><u>Current</u></b><br>Delta Dental<br><u>Monthly Rates</u> | <b><u>Proposed</u></b><br>Delta Dental<br><u>Monthly Rates</u> |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Employee | \$ 30.48                                                      | \$ 29.86                                                       |

|                   |       |       |
|-------------------|-------|-------|
| Employee/Spouse   | 59.73 | 58.52 |
| Employee/Children | 71.61 | 70.16 |

August 7, 2008

|                 |       |       |
|-----------------|-------|-------|
| Employee/Family | 96.97 | 94.71 |
|-----------------|-------|-------|

This represents a 2.0% decrease in District costs

**Disability Benefits Program**

|          | <u>Current</u>       | <u>Proposed</u>   |
|----------|----------------------|-------------------|
|          | Assurant             | Reliance Standard |
|          | <u>Current Rates</u> | <u>New Rates</u>  |
| Employee | \$.26 per \$100      | \$.26 per \$100   |

This represents no change in District costs

**Life Insurance Benefits Program**

|          | <u>Current</u>       | <u>Proposed</u>   |
|----------|----------------------|-------------------|
|          | Assurant             | Reliance Standard |
|          | <u>Current Rates</u> | <u>New Rates</u>  |
| Employee | \$.17 per \$1000     | \$.17 per \$1000  |

This represents no change in District costs

**Vision Benefits Program**

|                 | <u>Current</u>             | <u>Proposed</u>            |
|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
|                 | Vision Benefits of America | Vision Benefits of America |
|                 | <u>Current Rates</u>       | <u>New Rates</u>           |
| Employee        | \$ 1.60                    | \$ 1.79                    |
| Employee +1     | 3.55                       | 3.98                       |
| Employee/Family | 5.20                       | 5.82                       |

This represents a 12.0% increase in District costs.

The District will pay \$516.51 towards medical insurance for all eligible employees. For those employees choosing the base plan, the difference of \$61.88 will be applied to their dependent coverage costs. Eligible employees who opt out of medical coverage will receive a \$100 monthly payment. Employees will be required to show proof of other insurance.

The District pays 100% of the premium for individual employee coverages for group life, medical, vision and dental coverage for all full-time employees. Part-time employees working at least 6 hours per day, pay 25% of the premium cost. Part-time employees working at least 4 hours per day pay 50% the premium cost.

A brief discussion took place.

August 7, 2008

Mr. Hafertepe and Dr. Judy Sclair presented this item and responded to questions from the Board.

A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

#### 09-19           VEHICLE PURCHASE

It was recommended that the Board of Education approve the purchase of a 2009 Ford E-350 from Dave Sinclair Ford in the amount of \$28,002.00.

District Vehicle #06, a 1997 GMC box truck was involved in an accident and totaled out. The District's insurance provider has determined that the repair cost exceeds the vehicle's value. The box truck is utilized daily to transport meals, deliver supplies and mail to the schools, and haul district furniture throughout the District.

Mr. Karl Scheidt presented this item and responded to questions from the Board.

A brief discussion ensued.

A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

#### 09-20           TUNGSTEN UPDATE

For three years, the School District of University City has used the Tungsten Benchmark Assessment System, a formative assessment, to make sound instructional decisions in the classroom. Tungsten features monthly online benchmark assessments in both math and reading for grades 2-8.

The assessments are aligned with the Missouri Show Me Standards and the Grade Level Expectations. The assessment system compares where our students are at the time of the assessment to where they should be by the end of the school year in order to be successful on the MAP assessment. It also provides immediate feedback on group and individual student performance. In addition, teachers are given teaching notes and instructional strategies to use in the classroom. The program saves instructional time by pinpointing gaps in student learning and allows teachers to target those areas of need.

Ms. Bridget Cochren presented this informational item and responded to questions from the Board.




A lengthy discussion took place.  
August 7, 2008

The following individual addressed the Board.

1. Greg Byrne, teacher, FP

09-21 TUNGSTEN LEARNING BENCHMARK ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

It was recommended that the Board of Education approve the renewal of the three-year contract with Edison Schools for Tungsten Learning Benchmark Assessment System at the following cost:

|                                                                                    |                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
|   | \$54,932.52 in SY2008 - 2009 |
|   | \$56,580.50 in SY2009 - 2010 |
|  | \$58,277.91 in SY2010 - 2011 |

The School District of University City began using the Tungsten Learning Benchmark Assessment System for grades 2-8 in the 2005-2006 school year. The Tungsten provides monthly online assessments in the content areas of Communication Arts and Mathematics. The monthly assessments are aligned with the Missouri Show-Me-Standards and the Grade Level Expectations to help classrooms teachers better identify those areas of need to support student achievement. The cost for the 2007-2008 school year was \$47,379.

A lengthy frank and cordial exchange of views took place.

A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed by a roll call vote of 5 yes: Ms. Bern, Mr. Clay, Mr. Elgin, Mr. Gilyard, Ms. McClelland and 2 no: Ms. Moon, and Mr. Peters.

09-22 K-8 COMMUNICATION ARTS CURRICULUM

It was recommended that the Board of Education approve the implementation of the revised K-8 Communication Arts curriculum.














In preparation for the Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP) Fourth Cycle implementation, the Curriculum & Instruction Department is reviewing and

rewriting curricula that incorporates local, state, and national standards of what students should know and be able to do upon graduation from the 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

Curriculum and instruction are important components of the educational philosophy, mission statement, and goals of the School District of University City. The curriculum is intended to ensure that all students are provided a rigorous, consistent program of study to be mastered at each grade level within particular subjects.

August 7, 2008

The curriculum guide describes the process of study within a discipline. The School District of University City curriculum guides include the following:

-  Introduction: District Mission Statement, CA Mission, Acknowledgments, National Council Rationale, and K-12 Goals for Graduates
-  Course Rationale
-  Course or Grade Level Description
-  Scope and Sequence per grade level
-  Learner Objectives
-  Integrated Skills
-  Instructional Methods
-  Student Academic Activities
-  Ongoing Assessments
-  Four Common Assessments per Course or Grade Level
-  Scoring Guides for the Assessments
-  A Book List for Students
-  Supplemental Materials/Resources

Ms. Rebecca O'Connell, Director of Instruction, along with representatives from the Communication Arts committee, presented this item and responded to questions from the Board.

A brief discussion ensued.

A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

## 09-23 PROGRAM EVALUATION TIMELINE

It was recommended that the Board of Education approve the proposed Program Evaluation Timeline in compliance with MSIP Standard 8.1 School Services for the 2008-2010 school years.

School Improvement is a continuous, systematic process to enhance student

learning, improve educational opportunities, and increase the effectiveness of the educational programs and services provided to students. It involves studying the effectiveness of current programs, services, and performance levels; expanding one's knowledge of effective educational practices developing goals or outcomes for improvement based upon this information and, organizing the school and community to accomplish the needed improvements.

August 7, 2008

The report completed during the on-site review provides a comprehensive description of the educational services provided by the local district in relation to MSIP Standards and Indicators. Standard 8.1 School Services requires at least biennially, that districts review the goals and objectives of each program and service, receive reports on the effectiveness of each program and service; and take action to ensure that these programs effectively achieve their goals.









Dr. Chauna Williams, Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum & Instruction, presented this item and responded to questions from the Board.

A brief discussion took place.

A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

#### 09-24 MISSOURI SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TIMELINE

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education reviews school districts every five years as part of the Missouri School Improvement Program which is what determines a school district's accreditation status. The School District of University City will undergo the Fourth Cycle MSIP review November 10-13, 2008. Accreditation is determined by reviewing the District's Annual Performance standards and indicators in the following areas:

-  MAP, Grades 3-4;6-8;9-11 - Math/Communications Arts
-  ACT
-  Advanced Courses
-  Career Education Courses
-  College Placement
-  Career Education Placement
-  Graduation Rate
-  Attendance Rate

The District will use July, August, and September to help prepare for the review. Additionally, each building will follow a timeline specific to its area.

A brief discussion ensued.

Dr. Chauna Williams presented this item and responded to questions from the Board.

#### 09-25           TRANSPORTATION ROUTES

It was recommended that the Board of Education approve bus route and bus stop information.

August 7, 2008

The District's auditors are recommending that the Board approve the school bus routes and bus stops each year. The administration works with First Student, Inc. in developing the bus routes and bus stops. The vast majority of the routes and bus stops do not change throughout the school year; however, the administration does make minor changes throughout the year to improve the efficiency of the program and to address safety concerns.

Mr. Karl Scheidt presented this item and responded to questions from the Board.

A brief question and answer period ensued.

The following individual addressed the Board:

1.     Mike Miller, 1331 Purdue

A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

#### 09-26           NEW AND/OR REVISED POLICIES & REGULATIONS

Ms. Wilson, along with Ms. Bernadette White, presented the first reading of the listed policies and responded to questions from the Board. She stated that these policies will be brought back for approval at the next scheduled meeting.

|       |                             |
|-------|-----------------------------|
| P1620 | Visits To Schools           |
| P2540 | Graduation Requirements     |
| P6540 | Virtual Instruction Program |

A member asked that the word "sex offenders" be changed to a "listed person" in the new language of Policy 1620 because the meaning could refer to other offenders.

Ms. Wilson indicated that the language would be changed.

The following individuals addressed the Board:

1. Carole Niere, Principal, LLC
2. Celina McGinnis, 6931 Dartmouth

09-27 NEW AND/OR REVISED POLICIES & REGULATIONS

Ms. Wilson presented the first reading/final approval of the following policies and regulations. Final approval is needed because these policies and regulations August 7, 2008

need to be brought forward based on time constraints associated with them. Also, two of the Regulations are a result of Meet and Confer with UCEA.

P1510 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

R1510.1 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Procedural Safeguards

R1510.2 Screening Procedures and Independent Educational Evaluations

R4520 Benefits

R4761 Voluntary Early Retirement: Non-Certified Staff

A Board member suggested that a few minor cosmetic corrections needed to be made prior to distribution.

The following individual addressed the Board:

1. Teresa Brown, Teacher Assistant, FP

A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

#### ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to hold an executive session before the regularly scheduled meeting on August 28, 2008 for discussions of personnel, real estate, legal matters, pupil personnel, and meet and confer. The meeting, records and votes are to be closed to the public. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by a roll call vote: Ms. Bern, Mr. Clay, Mr. Elgin, Mr. Gilyard, Mr. Peters, Ms. Moon, and Ms. McClelland.

A motion was made to hold an executive session before the regularly scheduled meeting on September 4, 2008 for discussions of personnel, real estate, legal matters, pupil personnel, and meet and confer. The meeting, records and votes are to be closed

to the public. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by a roll call vote: Ms. Bern, Mr. Clay, Mr. Elgin, Mr. Gilyard, Mr. Peters, Ms. Moon, and Ms. McClelland.

A motion to adjourn this meeting at 10:12 p.m. was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

---

Meg McClelland, President

---

Todd Gilyard, Secretary