

Augusta Independent Board of Education

August 14, 2014 6:00 PM
207 Bracken Street
Augusta, KY

Attendance Taken at 6:00 PM:

Present Board Members:

Mrs. Laura Bach
Gene Groves
Ms. Jacqueline Hopkins
Mrs. Dionne Laycock
Mrs. Chasity Saunders

I. Call to Order

Rationale:

Welcome Back Students, Faculty, Staff, Parents, and Community to a New Academic Year!

I.*. Roll Call

I.*. Pledge of Allegiance

I.*. Mission Statement

Rationale:

The mission of Augusta Independent Schools is to enable all students to become self-sufficient, responsible, ever-learning members of society while sustaining our unique Augusta community and school.

I.*. Approval of Agenda

Order #14-164 - Motion Passed: Approval of the agenda as presented. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Dionne Laycock and a second by Gene Groves.

Mrs. Laura Bach	Yes
Gene Groves	Yes
Ms. Jacqueline Hopkins	Yes
Mrs. Dionne Laycock	Yes
Mrs. Chasity Saunders	Yes

II. Faculty Recognition

Rationale:

Welcome New Faculty and Staff Members!

Mr. Terry Bray-Middle School Social Studies

Mrs. Packy Hargett- School Nurse

Mr. Dan Hildebrand- High School Spanish

Mrs. Erin Neal- Middle School English

II.*. *BREAK

III. Round Table Discussion

III.*. Principal's Report/Student Achievement

Rationale:

Principal, Robin Kelsch informed board members KPREP scores were embargoed but preliminary data is encouraging and indicates progress.

Mr. Kelsch shared a new initiative being offered to all students Monday through Thursday until 4:00 p.m. The Homework Clinic will provide assistance with homework, tutoring, remediation and general academic needs led by certified staff. Mr. Kelsch stated all teachers will be participating on a rotation to provide the program.

Board members heard the Attendance Incentive Plan for the 2014-2015 school year. Mr. Kelsch stated the attendance percentage had raised over 95% the past couple of years and the bar is being raised to achieve 96%. Students with perfect attendance will be rewarded each semester with educational field trips and activities as rewards.

III.*. Budget

Rationale:

Finance Officer, Tim Litteral reported the 2013-2014 Annual Financial Report indicated the general fund contingency ended the year at \$156,912, a decrease of \$137,000. However, without the prior period adjustment made to Fund 2, the fund balance would have increased \$24,000. Revenue exceeded prior year amounts by \$83,000 and expenditures without regard to prior period adjustments and on-behalf amounts provided by the state were \$31,500 less than FY 2013. Salary and benefit costs decreased by \$9264 in spite of increasing retirement match and unemployment insurance costs. Transportation costs were \$10,000 less than last year. Utility expenditures were level with last year in spite of a very cold winter. Mr. Litteral stated, continuing the current budget plan should increase the fund balance at the end of 2015. The KSBIT assessment of \$9,175 had been taken into account on the Annual Financial Report.

The Special Revenue Fund (Fund 2) indicates grants were within budget and there are carryover amounts to apply to FY 2015. All prior year grants have been closed out so the district will not have to use local funds to support grants in the future.

The Capital Outlay Fund transferred \$26,720 to the General Fund and maintains a balance of \$12,088 in escrow for the School Facilities Construction Commission offer and the Building Fund is at a zero balance. All revenue was used to retire debt.

Food Service revenue was \$25,000 less than in 2013, primarily due to the KDE assessment. It appears that assessment may now be abated. Food Service expenditures were \$26,000 less than 2013. Without the assessment the Food Service Fund would have a balance of \$7200. It currently has a balance of zero for FY 2014.

Mr. Litteral updated board members on the July 2014 Budget Report. He stated the General Fund for the first month indicates receipts exceed last year's by approximately \$19,000 due to increased SEEK. Expenditures for the first month were approximately \$110,500. Receipts exceeded expenditures by more than \$32,000 in the first period. Compared to last year during the first month, expenditures were down by about \$5,000.

Mr. Litteral stated with the carry-over, the school instructional allotment for the new fiscal year is \$32,100. He said \$8,400 has been expended thus far for new English textbooks and math workbooks but \$6,000 of the cost would be paid for by district instructional resource funds.

Maintenance costs for the first month were \$34,682. Mr. Litteral explained the number might seem high, but beyond the extra maintenance that occurs in the summer months, district property insurance totaled \$27,000. Of the approximate \$8,200 spent on transportation in July, approximately 61% of that amount was for fleet insurance, so expenditures were relatively low. The Special Revenue (Fund 2) expenditures continue to be on target with regards to the budget and the Food Service Fund beginning balance on the report indicates we are beginning with a \$0 balance due to the assessment from KDE. However, once the assessment is abated, our beginning balance is approximately \$7,000.

Superintendent, Lisa McCane presented the board options for paying the KSBIT assessment of \$9,175. The payment options include: 1.) Pay in full 2.) Participate in a bond issue 3.) Pay 25% down (\$2,294) and pay the remaining balance in equal payments, interest free over 2-6 yrs beginning August 31, 2015. Superintendent McCane recommended the board pay 25% down and pay the remaining balance in equal payments, interest free over 6-years. She stated the payment would be approximately \$1,150.

Superintendent McCane recommended two extra duty contracts to the board members for approval including; High School Volleyball Extra Duty Contract: Raise from \$800 to \$1,200 and Bus Driver Extra Duty Contract for Field Trips/Extracurricular Trips for \$1,963.85.

Order #14-165 - Motion Passed: Approve Extra Duty Volleyball Contract Raise from \$800 to \$1,200 and Extra Duty Bus Driver Contract for Field Trips/Extracurricular Trips for \$1,963.85. Passed with a motion by Gene Groves and a second by Ms. Jacqueline Hopkins.

Mrs. Laura Bach	Yes
Gene Groves	Yes
Ms. Jacqueline Hopkins	Yes
Mrs. Dionne Laycock	Yes
Mrs. Chasity Saunders	Yes

III.*. KSBIT Assessment Payment Option

Rationale:

Pay 25% of the \$9,175 and make interest free equal payments over 6-years. The payment will be approximately \$1,150 per year.

Order #14-166 - Motion Passed: Approve KSBIT payment option to pay 25% down and equal payments over 6-years. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Dionne Laycock and a second by Mrs. Chasity Saunders.

Mrs. Laura Bach	Yes
Gene Groves	Yes
Ms. Jacqueline Hopkins	Yes
Mrs. Dionne Laycock	Yes
Mrs. Chasity Saunders	Yes

III.*. Facilities Update

Rationale:

The Energy Management Report for the June billing period indicated a reduction in electricity consumption of 1,681 kWhs (3.3%) and a decrease in natural gas consumption of 37 CCF, which created a reduction in total energy cost of \$211 for the month, as compared to the three year baseline averages (FY2010-FY2012). Our district has reduced the total electrical energy consumption during FY2014 by 46,450 kWhs (6.9%), which has created a savings in electrical energy cost of over \$4,645. Unfortunately this year, we have also had an increase in natural gas consumption of 2,298 CCF (26.7%) which increased that cost by approximately \$2,663. The reduction in electricity consumption has helped to offset the added cost in natural gas this year. The district ended FY2014 with a savings of approximately \$1,982 in total energy cost (\$4,645-\$2,663), as compared to our three year averages.

Monthly Maintenance:

Completed building maintenance to open the school year

Painted fire escapes

Lightning damage required Windstream phone repairs and Double Dome for the fire system (damage mainly to Band building)

Repaired cafeteria scrubber

Installed air conditioner in server room of Library

Replaced air conditioner in Kindergarten room

III.*. Property Tax Rates

Rationale:

Superintendent McCane updated the board on property tax options stating the compensating rate would produce approximately \$1,500 more revenue than last year after collection costs. The 4% rate would produce \$13,234 more than last year, a difference of approximately \$11,000 compared to the compensating rate. She stated the district has not raised property taxes in more than 15-years and the district has already cut personnel and school programs. The additional revenue would help offset rising costs and declining revenue. She stated taking the 4% increase combined with Clopay returning to the property tax rolls in 2018, might propel the district for another 15-years.

Superintendent McCane informed board members the 4% tax rate increase requires advertisement for two-weeks and a public hearing but not subject to a recall and the compensating rate requires on board action.

Order #14-167 - Motion Passed: Approve to authorize the Superintendent to Advertise for a Public Tax Hearing. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Chasity Saunders and a second by Mrs. Laura Bach.

Mrs. Laura Bach	Yes
Gene Groves	Yes
Ms. Jacqueline Hopkins	Yes
Mrs. Dionne Laycock	Yes
Mrs. Chasity Saunders	Yes

III.*. Superintendent's District Goals 2014-2015

Order #14-168 - Motion Passed: Approve the 2014-2015 District Goals. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Dionne Laycock and a second by Ms. Jacqueline Hopkins.

Mrs. Laura Bach	Yes
Gene Groves	Yes
Ms. Jacqueline Hopkins	Yes
Mrs. Dionne Laycock	Yes
Mrs. Chasity Saunders	Yes

IV. Communications

IV.*. Superintendent's Report

Rationale:

Superintendent McCane reported efforts to lobby legislators regarding the district's recent food service penalty of \$13,544 was an effective action step. KDE officials contacted the district with news the penalty would be recalculated to a minimal amount of a few hundred dollars. Superintendent McCane stated KDE was recalculating all school districts with substantial penalties and stated the action steps taken resulted in the USDA and KDE officials to revise the entire process for fiscally penalizing food service departments.

Superintendent McCane requested board members to verify the Bracken County Voting Precincts for the county clerk's office.

The board members learned the board minutes are now available to the public on the district website and in an effort to increase school/district communication with local businesses, organizations, clubs, etc. a list is being generated of email addresses to send monthly newsletters, school/district updates, upcoming events, etc.

The annual district audit is scheduled for the week of September 8th-12th, 2014.

Current enrollment: K-12 is 276

IV.*. Citizens

IV.*. Board Members

V. Business and Consent

Order #14-169 - Motion Passed: Approval of the Business and Consent items as presented passed with a motion by Gene Groves and a second by Mrs. Chasity Saunders.

Mrs. Laura Bach	Yes
Gene Groves	Yes
Ms. Jacqueline Hopkins	Yes

Mrs. Dionne Laycock Yes
Mrs. Chasity Saunders Yes

- V.*. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes**
- V.*. Approve Use of District Property**
- V.*. Approve Bills**
- V.*. Approve Treasurer's Report**

VI. Personnel

Rationale:
Resignations
Mary Ann Perkins- Middle School Social Studies

Hires
Terry Bray- Middle School Social Studies

VII. Adjournment

Rationale:
Picture Day: August 19th

Alumni Banquet: August 30th at 6:00 p.m.

Labor Day-No School: September 1st

Grandparents' Day Luncheons (PS-5th): September 2nd-12th

Next Board Meeting: September 11th at 6:00 p.m.

Order #14-170 - Motion Passed: Approve to adjourn the meeting. Passed with a motion by Ms. Jacqueline Hopkins and a second by Mrs. Dionne Laycock.

Mrs. Laura Bach Yes
Gene Groves Yes
Ms. Jacqueline Hopkins Yes
Mrs. Dionne Laycock Yes
Mrs. Chasity Saunders Yes

Laura Bach, Chairperson

Lisa McCane, Superintendent