

MINUTES
CARTHAGE ESD #317
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 18, 2012

The regular meeting of the Carthage E.S.D. #317 Board of Education was called to order at 7:30 p.m by Board President Jamie Pettit. Roll Call: Mr. Ufkes, present; Mrs. Fritz, present; Mr. Menn, present; Mrs. Markley, absent; Mrs. Stoverink, present; Mrs. Huston, present; Mr. Pettit, present.

There were no additional agenda items.

There were no individuals wishing to address the board on stated agenda items.

Mrs. Markley entered the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Certificates of Recognition were presented to the players, managers and coaches of the 8th grade Bluegirls for advancing to state.

Administrative Reports

Mrs. Hardy shared that the Joint Committee met last week and reviewed the state information on reductions in force. It was the decision of the committee to utilize the state's model, which she shared with the Board. It was required that a decision be made for this prior to February 1. From this point forward, the Joint Committee is required to meet annually. Members of the Committee are Michelle Bavery, Lyle Klein, Diane Pepple and Vicki Hardy.

Diane has received a lot of donations on items for the "blue store" from stores and the community. The Volunteer Assembly went very well and the lantern launch was very uplifting. She handed out a summary of the parent survey that she disseminated to primary school parents. She was concerned about the participation because the survey was rather lengthy, but had a very good return rate of at least 50% at all levels. The next survey will be the middle school parents, then students, then staff.

It was moved by Mrs. Markley and seconded by Mr. Ufkes to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll Call: Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr.

Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes; Mrs. Stoverink, yes; Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Mrs. Hardy reviewed the FY13 calendar as proposed by the three superintendents. We will be taking Veterans' Day on Monday since the actual holiday falls on Sunday this year. The other districts are submitting their calendars with full day school improvement days since they already have waivers in place.

As mentioned above, we will be conducting a waiver hearing next month for the purpose of allowing full day school improvement days. The waiver request must be approved by the General Assembly. Once approved, we will amend our calendar to match the others.

Mrs. Hardy said that we need to be thinking about what our vision is as far as technology and clarified that, in no way is she proposing that next year we go full one-on-one. She has checked on insurance coverage with our agent, Larry Bielema of Callendar and Company. The iPad's would be covered under our property insurance as long as they aren't being sent home. If they are to be sent home, the coverage would cost the district approximately \$10 per unit. She really would like to provide them for the staff members that are interested in working with them; however, she would like some direction from the board.

Conversation ensued and, while it was recognized that these are the way of the future, there are concerns such as families without internet access, infrastructure upgrades, software or apps being downloaded at home and the impact of accessing social media such as Facebook and Twitter.

Diane is hoping that e-rate is going to fund internal connections so that the wireless upgrade could be funded at 90% based on our poverty rate of 50% at the primary school this year. That figure is up from last year.

If the county sales tax increase passes, Mrs. Hardy stated that those monies could be used for technology. While we have already approved purchasing a PowerSchool server in the spring, we are still in need of purchasing additional servers. Diane took the oldest server down today and transferred everything to another server.

Mrs. Hardy shared information received from Mendon superintendent Diane Robertson. Their original budget for this project was \$270,000 and they are currently about half that.

It was asked about possibly starting at the middle school and providing them for seventh and eighth graders. It was also asked if the Kindle's require the same infrastructure and responded that yes they do. Suggestion was made that Mrs. Hardy come up with a timeline. Diane informed the board that she will be writing a new three-year technology plan next year which will have to be done by October.

In discussing revenue sources to fund such a project, Mrs. Hardy pointed out that we do have working cash funds available.

It was moved by Mrs. Stoverink and seconded by Mrs. Markley to enter into executive session at 8:45 for the purpose of discussing personnel. Roll Call: Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr. Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes; Mrs. Stoverink, yes; Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

It was moved by Mr. Menn and seconded by Mr. Ufkes to approve the hourly rate of \$15.97 for Shannon Twaddle for FY13. Roll Call: Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr. Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes; Mrs. Stoverink, yes; Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

It was moved by Mr. Ufkes and seconded by Mrs. Stoverink to approve the annual salary of \$5,463.18 for district treasurer Ginny Hurwitz for FY13. Roll Call: Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr. Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes; Mrs. Stoverink, yes; Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

It was moved by Mrs. Markley and seconded by Mr. Menn to approve the hourly rate of \$19.94 for bookkeeper Carol Whewell for FY13. Roll Call: Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr. Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes; Mrs. Stoverink, yes; Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

It was moved by Mr. Ufkes and seconded by Mrs. Markley to approve the annual salary of \$4,969.63 for transportation director Carol Whewell for FY13. Roll Call: Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr. Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes; Mrs. Stoverink, yes; Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

It was moved by Mr. Menn and seconded by Mr. Pettit to approve the hourly rate of \$17.69 for maintenance director Rick Fretueg for FY13. Roll Call: Mr.

Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr. Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes; Mrs. Stoverink, yes; Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

It was moved by Mrs. Markley and seconded by Mr. Menn to adjourn the meeting at 11:31 p.m. Roll Call: Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr. Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes; Mrs. Stoverink, yes; Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes. Motion carried 7 – 0.