

Lexington Community Unit #7 School District
Lexington, Illinois
Regular Board Meeting
April 21, 2016

President Jason Thomas called the regular meeting to order in the district office at 7:00 p.m. Roll was called with the following members present: Mike Beard, Mike Hawkins, Andrea Hoggins, Bruce Klein, Chris Olson, Andy Schuler and Jason Thomas. Also present were: Dwight Stricklin, Superintendent/ High School Principal; Paul Deters, Elementary/ Junior High Principal; Patti Thomas, recording secretary. There was one visitor present.

There was no public participation.

Chris Olson moved to approve the Consent Agenda:

- A.) March 17, 2016, regular session minutes.
- B.) Lexington April 21, 2016, regular bills, the payroll liabilities and necessary additional payments made in March, 2016, and ratify Tri-County Special Education Association's bills for March, 2016.
- C.) District Finances: March 31, 2016 Treasurer's Report.
- D.) Approved the letter of resignation from Judy Wick from the Cafeteria
- E.) Approved the letter of resignation from Ellen Fuller from the Cafeteria.
- F.) Approved the letter of resignation from Dave Lingle as junior high baseball coach.
- G.) Approved the amended calendar for 2015-16.
- H.) Approved the policy updates 6:300, 7:150, 7:190, 7:200, 7:210, 7:220, 7:240, 7:305.

Seconded by Greg Eckhart. Roll call vote:

Beard	- yes	Olson	- yes
Hawkins	- yes	Schuler	- yes
Hoggins	- yes	Thomas	- yes
Klein	- yes		

Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Stricklin reported on the following:

- The budget continues to be on track. It has been announced that the State has been overpaying all public entities in their corporate property replacement tax monies. It is my understanding that starting January of 2017, the State will be reducing the amount each public body receives to pay the difference. The overpayment came to \$26,000. We received our April payment today and it was almost 23% less than the payment we received last April. I would expect the May payment to be less than last year. If this holds true, then my projection of \$220,000 will be reduced to \$202,000. However, even with this reduction, I am still going to predict that we will end the year in the black in the Education Fund.
- We have started the transition of our student data base program from the current Specialized Data Systems to the new Teacherease system.

- We are looking into adding the full package that Bushue Human Resources has to offer. We currently use Bushue for insurance and background checks only. One added feature they offer in the full package is updating all of our job descriptions to make sure that we are legal.
- The new sound system for the big gym will not be installed in time for the Graduation ceremonies. It's currently planned to be installed in early June.

Dwight Stricklin, High School Principal, reported the following:

- Congratulations to Gabby Freed and Ashland Eckhart on recently being chosen to attend the Illinois Principals Association Student Recognition Luncheon. The girls were chosen by their teacher for their outstanding efforts in and out of the classroom. Although the girls were unable to attend the luncheon due to the musical presentation it was a great honor to be chosen.
- Congratulations to the cast and crew of the Wizard of Oz productions. They did an amazing job. A big thank you to Mr. Bonny, Mrs. Swearingen and Ms. Long for an outstanding job leading the production.
- High School Enrollment as of April 2016
 - 9th Grade 32
 - 10th Grade 44
 - 11th Grade 35
 - 12th Grade 31
 - Apex 1
 - Total 143

Elementary Principal Paul Deters reported on the following:

- The Pre k- 8 Enrollment: 337
 - Preschool: 13
 - Kindergarten: 33
 - 1st Grade: 29
 - 2nd Grade: 41
 - 3rd Grade: 45
 - 4th Grade: 33
 - 5th Grade: 41
 - 6th Grade: 32
 - 7th Grade: 35
 - 8th Grade: 35
- Congratulation to 8th graders Madison Barth and Sydney Scurlock and 5th graders Zach Bork and Isabelle Bennett on recently being chosen to attend the Illinois Principals Association Student Recognition Luncheon at the Hancock Stadium Club on ISU campus. These students were chosen by their teachers for their outstanding efforts in and out of the classroom.

- Developmental screening have been completed. We were able to screen 38 students at the Community Center and 21 students at St. Paul's Preschool. We will host another round of developmental screening at the school in late August.
- The last day of school for our Preschool and Early Childhood students will be Thursday, May 19th. Students and their families will celebrate with a small ceremony at 6:00 pm that evening.
- Kindergarten Orientation took place this evening. Parents were able to meet the kindergarten staff, listen to a presentation about our kindergarten program, and briefly review registration requirements for kindergarten. As of now, we have 35 students signed up to attend next fall.
- The annual Honor Roll Breakfast sponsored by the PTO this year has been adapted to include our junior high students as well. All students in grades 4-8 will attend the ceremony. Breakfast and certificates will be presented to any students in grades 4-8 who made the honor roll for at least one quarter during the school year. The Breakfast will be held on Thursday, May 26th at 8:30 am.
- Congratulation to Mrs. Strating for being chosen as the 2016 Barnes & Noble My Favorite Teacher. Barnes & Noble ran a contest that gave middle and high school students the exciting opportunity to tell their communities just how much they appreciate their teachers. Students nominated their favorite teacher by writing essays, poems or thank-you letters that shared how their teacher had influenced their life and why they appreciated and admired their teacher. Mrs. Strating was nominated by 8th grade student Amber Brown. Mrs. Strating received a special award acknowledging her achievement and additional recognition and praise from her community. Amber Brown, who wrote the winning essay, received a certificate of recognition and was also honored at the ceremony. Amber took the time to recognize Mrs. Strating for her inspiring teaching style that has made her want to be a better writer, and notes that her life would not be the same without Mrs. Strating's efforts..
- Upcoming Dates
 - April 29th: Purple Pride 9:00 am
 - May 2-13th: Spring Benchmarking
 - May 6th: JH/HS School Service Day
 - May 13th: Elementary Spelling Bee 9:00 am
 - May 26th: Honor Roll Breakfast 8:30 am
 - May 26th: JH Promotion 7:00 pm

The facilities committee met with Paul Lunsford, an architect from Southeastern Illinois and took a walk thru of the buildings to see what needs to be done to get the facility up to ours and the state standards. There are several minor updates that will need to be done but overall the facilities are in excellent condition.

The Public Relations committee talked about the upcoming Red Carpet Corridor events that are scheduled to take place the first weekend in May. There are several activities planned to showcase the school and the community during the event.

A discussion was held about whether or not to provide our own transportation services here at the school or to continue to contract it out. There was also a discussion on all the summer work that is planned for June and July. Several projects are in the works and will begin as soon as school is out. The board also discussed the issue with the substitute teacher shortage that we have here and how to remedy the issue.

Bruce Klein moved to employ Julie Strating as athletic director beginning with the 2016-17 school year. Seconded by Andrea Hoggins. Roll call vote:

Hawkins	- yes	Schuler	- yes
Hoggins	- yes	Thomas	- yes
Klein	- yes	Beard	- yes
Olson	- yes		

Motion carried unanimously.

Andy Schuler moved to approve a 5 year leasing contract with Frontier for the new phone system. Seconded by Chris Olson. Roll call vote:

Hoggins	- yes	Thomas	- yes
Klein	- yes	Beard	- yes
Olson	- yes	Hawkins	- yes
Schuler	- yes		

Motion carried unanimously.

Mike Hawkins moved approve the maternity leave for Amy Burcenski for 2016-17. Seconded by Mike Beard.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chris Olson moved approve the maternity leave for Ashley Miller for 2016-17. Seconded by Mike Beard.

Motion carried unanimously.

Andy Schuler moved to go into closed session at 8:30 to consider information regarding appointment, employment, or dismissal of a specific employee. Seconded by Andrea Hoggins.

Motion carried unanimously.

Bruce Klein moved to go into open session at 9:35 pm. Seconded by Mike Hawkins.

Motion carried unanimously.

Andy Schuler moved to adjourn at 9:36 p.m. Seconded by Mike Hawkins. Motion carried unanimously.

Jason Thomas, President

Mike Hawkins, Secretary