

CHILLICOTHE R-II SCHOOL DISTRICT

Members:

Paul Thomas-President
David Meneely-Vice President
Robin Westphal-Treasurer
Julie McCoy-Member

Michael Leamer-Member
Shawn Skoglund-Member
Jason Bone-Member

Tax Rate Hearing, August 16, 2011

The Board of Education of the Chillicothe R-II School District held a tax rate hearing at the Administrative Office, 1020 Old Hwy 36 West, in the City of Chillicothe, state of Missouri, on Tuesday August 16, 2011 at 6:15 p.m.

Members Present: Mr. Thomas, Mr. Meneely, Mrs. Westphal, Mrs. McCoy, Mr. Leamer, Mr. Skoglund and Mr. Bone.

Also Present: Superintendent Dr. Roger Barnes, Assistant Superintendent Jim Ruse, Jayme Caughron, Ron Wolf, Roger Wolf, Cynthia Foster, Karie Black, Shelly Turner, Marty Rogers, Melanie Rucker, Philip Pohren, Brian Sherrow, Terry Mammen, Pam Fetter, Mary Pauley, Dan Nagel, Pamela Brobst, Kristi Christy, Anna McNay, Laura Schuler, Tom Tingerthal, KCHI; Drew VanDyke, C-T; and Jillian Malloy, KMZU.

Dr. Barnes stated that the total assessed valuation increased \$2,390,298 (or 1.84 percent) for a total of \$132,091,560. However, because the District's assessed valuation has not grown as projected in past years, Dr. Barnes recommended that the Debt Service Fund (Fund 3) be raised \$0.04 per \$100 of assessed valuation, so the District can make its payments. He recommended the tax rate for the 2011-2012 school year to be set at \$4.29 per \$100 assessed valuation as follows:

Fund 1 – Incidental	\$3.63
Fund 2 – Teachers	\$0.00
Fund 3 – Debt Service	\$0.54 (increase of \$0.04 from 2010-2011)
Fund 4 – Capital Projects	<u>\$0.12</u>
Total-	\$4.29

The increase in the tax levy would net the district \$5,440,058 based on a 96 percent collection rate. Mr. Thomas then opened the floor for public comments concerning the proposed tax rate for 2011-2012. Hearing none, Mr. Skoglund made a motion to set the 2011-2012 tax levy at \$3.63 in Fund 1, \$0.54 in Fund 3, \$0.12 in Fund 4 for a total of \$4.29. Mrs. Westphal second. Motion carried 6-0.

Regular Open Board Meeting August 16, 2011

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Chillicothe R-II School District was held at the Administrative Office, 1020 Old Hwy 36 West, in the city of Chillicothe, state of Missouri, on August 16, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Mr. Thomas, Mr. Meneely, Mrs. Westphal, Mrs. McCoy, Mr. Leamer, Mr. Skoglund and Mr. Bone.

Also Present: Superintendent Dr. Roger Barnes, Assistant Superintendent Jim Ruse, Jayme Caughron, Cynthia Foster, Karie Black, Shelly Turner, Marty Rogers, Melanie Rucker, Philip Pohren, Brian Sherrow, Terry Mammen, Pam Fetter, Mary Pauley, Dan Nagel, Pamela Brobst, Kristi Christy, Anna McNay, Laura Schuler, Tom Tingerthal, KCHI; Drew VanDyke, C-T; and Jillian Malloy, KMZU.

CALL TO ORDER

Board President Paul Thomas called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Thomas asked those present to participate in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Leamer made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Meneely second. Motion carried 6-0.

WELCOME AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Thomas welcomed all in attendance and then opened the floor for public comments. There were no comments from the audience.

REPORT TO THE BOARD

Exemplary School Bus Maintenance Award

Mr. Ruse told the board the R-II Transportation Department had earned the 2011 Exemplary School Bus Maintenance Award from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. He noted that the award is given to school districts which have 90 percent or more of their buses pass the Missouri State Highway Patrol spring school bus inspection on the first inspection. Mr. Ruse told the board that 90 percent of the District's bus fleet passed inspection on the first inspection. He then presented the award to Terry Mammen, Bus Maintenance worker.

NEW BUSINESS

Consent Agenda

After reviewing the items on the consent agenda, Mr. Leamer noted that in the Minutes of the July regular board meeting, it was stated that the Board decided to re-examine the Even Start program's funding needs for fiscal year 2011-2012 at the August meeting before officially supporting the program at the behest of a local foundation. Mr. Leamer noted the item was not listed on the agenda. Pam Fetter then told Board the program has enough funds to operate the program until next semester. She said she would bring information regarding Even Start's funding needs to the September meeting.

Mr. Meneely made a motion to approve the items on the consent agenda. Mr. Skoglund second. Motion carried 6-0. Items on the consent agenda included:

- 1) Minutes of the July 19, 2011 regular meeting
- 2) Payment of bills totaling \$212,774.97
- 3) Fund II Transfer – There was no Fund II Transfer for the month of July 2011.

Financial Report

Dr. Barnes presented to the Board the General Ledger and Monthly Finance Report for the month ending July 2011. Also included for comparison was the Monthly Finance Statement from July 2010. Ending balances for each fund are as follows:

Fund 1	\$2,503,785.98
Fund 2	\$201,668.41
Fund 3	\$182,555.01
Fund 4	<u>\$474,593.28</u>
Total	\$3,362,602.68

Dr. Barnes presented to the Board the Chillicothe R-II Investments and bank accounts balances as of July 31, 2011, which were shown as follows:

Now Checking Account	\$3,604,293.46 (<i>Total All General Funds</i>)
Employee Health Care and Flex Care Funds	\$637,289.56

Bond Refinance

Dr. Barnes presented Dick Bartow, of George K. Baum & Company. Mr. Bartow told the board that refinancing the 2001 bond issue could result in saving the District tax payers considerable interest and provide for some flexibility in bond restructuring. Currently the bond is scheduled to mature in 2022. The Board members advised Dr. Barnes to come back in September with a recommendation of actual rates to present for board consideration.

Preliminary AYP Results

Dr. Barnes presented the 2011 Preliminary AYP Results for the Chillicothe R-II School District. He said that the results show that the District did not meet Adequate Yearly Progress in Communication Arts, Mathematics or Graduation Rate, but did meet AYP in Attendance Rate. However, Dr. Barnes noted that, using the growth model, the District has made improvement in each area each year. He also mentioned that the District's continuing exemplary Attendance Rate (in which the District has met AYP every year since 2002), speaks well for the District and can be attributed to the efforts of the District's staff. If the preliminary AYP Results stand, Dr. Barnes said the District will now move into Level 3 School Improvement, which means that the District will have an opportunity to hire an outside agency for tutoring at District cost funded through Federal dollars. Federal dollars will also become available for professional development and will cover some educational services.

Conflict of Interest Ordinance Re-adoption

Dr. Barnes recommended the board re-adopt the Conflict of Interest Ordinance (Policy BBFA: Board Member Conflict of Interest and Financial Disclosure) as per the Missouri Ethics Commission. Missouri law requires that the portion of policy BBFA dealing with the financial interest statement be adopted in an open meeting every other year by September 15. A certified copy of this policy/resolution should be sent to the Missouri Ethics Commission within 10 days of the adoption. Mr. Leamer made a motion to approve policy BBFA as presented. Mrs. McCoy second. Motion carried 6-0.

2011-2012 District Tuition Rate

Dr. Barnes reviewed the District's Tuition Rate (set on June 21, 2005) as follows:

K-8	\$3,965
Secondary	\$5,485

Utilizing the state calculation tool, Dr. Barnes told the Board that calculations indicate the cost of educating R-II students, for the 2010-2011 year was \$8,802.47.

He also reviewed GRTS tuition as follows (set on November 17, 2009):

GRTS Secondary sending schools	\$2,200 for 3 hours of instruction
GRTS adult courses	\$5,300 for 6 hours of instruction

Dr. Barnes recommended the same tuition rates for GRTS. He also recommended that the District's Tuition Rate remain the same for the 2011-2012 school year but noted that the board should consider raising the tuition rate in the spring of 2012. Mr. Bone recommended the tuition rate for Chillicothe R-II School District's K-8, Secondary and GRTS secondary and adult courses remain unchanged. Mr. Leamer seconded. Motion carried 6-0.

Grant Applications

Dr. Barnes presented the following grant applications to be approved by the Board:

- 1) "Where do Dairy Products....Come From," Farm Bureau Grant - \$250, fully funded, submitted by Andrea Marriott
- 2) "What's That Smell?" Farm Bureau Grant - \$250, fully funded, submitted by Kari Snyder;
- 3) "Milk Comes from a Jug," Farm Bureau Grant - \$250, fully funded, submitted by Brooke Wolf;
- 4) "More than a Food Group," Farm Bureau Grant - \$250, fully funded, submitted by Linda Hauck;
- 5) "Can Do Challenge," Youth Service America and the Sodexo Foundation Grant - \$5,000, fully-funded, submitted by Ellen Gott;

Mrs. Westphal moved to approve all grant applications presented to the Board. Mrs. McCoy second. Motion carried 6-0.

Bus Routes

Mr. Ruse presented the 2011-2012 Bus Routes for Board approval. He noted that the bus routes are basically the same as those for the 2010-2011 school year. Mr. Leamer moved to approve the 2011-2012 bus routes as presented. Mrs. McCoy second. Motion carried 6-0.

Bus Drivers Handbooks

Mr. Ruse presented the 2011-2012 Bus Drivers Handbooks for Board approval. He noted no changes for the 2011-2012 handbooks. Mr. Leamer moved to approve the 2011-2012 Bus Drivers Handbooks as presented. Mrs. McCoy second. Motion carried 6-0.

Elementary Handbooks

Dr. Barnes presented the handbooks for Dewey, Field, Central Schools and the Chillicothe Alternative Center for Education. All handbooks, except Central School, had no changes for the 2011-2012 school year. The changes to the Central School handbook were as follows:

- 1) Grading: Central Elementary will be giving letter grades for Reading, Writing and Math, and using a +/- system for Science/Social Studies
- 2) Honor Roll: A student is eligible for "A" Honor Roll if they have an A or A- in at least 2 of the core subjects. They could have one B+, B or B- in the other subject area. A student is eligible for "B" Honor Roll if they have a B- or above in at least 2 of the core subjects. They could have a C+, C or C- in the other subject area.
- 3) Discipline: Consequences for assault, threat and theft are more stringent (*To view the updated Student Discipline Procedures and Code of Conduct for 2011-2012, see the Custodian of Records*).

Administrative/BOE Committee Reports

Dr. Barnes told the Board that the District's custodial staff have done well in readying their respective buildings for the start of classes.

Mr. Ruse gave the Board an update on the CMS building and a plumbing project underway at that building. He reported no water leaks currently. Mr. Ruse also noted that the minor issues addressed by a recent fire safety inspection have been addressed.

Mrs. McCoy offered the Board an update on MSBA-related news and noted that the annual MSBA conference is September 30 through October 2.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Thomas opened the floor for public comment. Hearing none, Mr. Thomas told those gathered that he, and several members of the community he has spoken with, are excited about the start of classes for the 2011-2012 school year.

MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Mr. Skoglund made a motion to enter into executive session as provided under Missouri Revised Statute, 610.021.03 for the purpose of employing, discussing and evaluating personnel, discussing real estate and legal matters. Mr. Leamer second. A roll call vote was held. Mr. Thomas – yea. Mr. Meneely – yea. Mrs. Westphal – yea. Mrs. McCoy – yea. Mr. Leamer – yea.. Mr. Skoglund – yea. Mr. Bone – yea. Motion carries 7-0.

Paul Thomas, President

Laura Schuler, Secretary

