
BIG WALNUT

LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES
BIG WALNUT LOCAL SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

February 2, 2013

8:00 AM, Big Walnut Intermediate School, Central Office Conference Room

OUR MISSION:

The mission of the Big Walnut Local Schools is to inspire and guide each student to his or her maximum potential

OUR VISION:

In order to realize our mission, we will strive to achieve and maintain our vision of:

- *Student-focused, professional, collaborative staff*
- *Student-focused, challenging and current curriculum*
- *Supportive, involved and informed community*
- *Safe, respectful and welcoming environment*

DISTRICT GOALS:

- *Improve academic achievement*
- *Improve communication*
- *Plan for growth (facility plan)*
- *Financial responsibility*

President

- A. Call to Order
- B. Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Mrs. Meyer, Mrs. Hines, Dr. Fagan, Mrs. Lillie, Mr. Wecker

13-25 Motion by Mrs. Lillie, Seconded by Mrs. Meyer recommending the Board enter into their Work Session to discuss the following:

- Improving Communication
 - Dialogue vs Discussion
 - *Dr. Fagan encouraged the board to engage in more dialogue during public session. Board members acknowledged the value of more dialogue and discussion during meetings expressing their commitment to have more dialogue.*
 - Board Responsibilities
 - *Dr. Fagan and Mrs. Meyer provided an update on current issues from the OSBA New President workshop that included clarification about when to table an action item versus when to postpone an action item.*
 - *Dr. Fagan indicated that an effective board is to govern not to manage the organization.*
 - *Mr. Wecker stated that management is doing things right and leadership is doing the right thing.*
 - *Dr. Fagan asked for administrative feedback regarding board oversight. Mrs. Drummey acknowledged that the board did a great job establishing organizational goals with the directive to make the levy last for its full five year term. Once the board established that goal it then allowed the administration to identify options and set a course of action to achieve that goal.*

- *Mrs. Lillie said that our board members are so passionate it is often difficult to refrain from jumping in and helping the administration whenever possible.*
 - *Mr. Mazzi stated the board does an exceptional job of utilizing their individual strengths in support of district needs and achievement of organizational goals.*
 - *Dr. Fagan asked the board to reflect on how they would like to communicate with the administrative team.*
- **District Timeline for Board Actions**
 - *Mr. Mazzi and Mrs. Drummey distributed handouts documenting the timelines for action in each of their respective operational areas.*
- **Board Communication Practices**
 - *Attendees discussed the most efficient and effective methods to communicating information between meetings that are also compliant with sunshine laws.*
- **Communication Audit**
 - *Mrs. Meyer and Mr. Barber discussed the merits of a communication audit to identify opportunities for improved information sharing with our community.*
- **Improving Academic Achievement – District Goal #1**
 - **New Graduation Requirements**
 - *Mrs. Pollock shared that students must pass all five sections of the Ohio Graduation Test and reviewed the number of units required in each subject to graduate from High School.*
 - **Secondary Options**
 - *Mrs. Pollock explained the higher learning programs available to High School students ranging from post-secondary enrollment, dual enrollment with Columbus State, more classes with DACC and increased AP offerings.*
 - **New Standards**
 - *Mrs. Pollock explained the districts must meet the new standards in the 2014-2015 school year. She further explained elements of the core standards for English, Science, Math and Social Studies.*
 - **New Assessments**
 - *Mrs. Pollock explained that two consortia are developing the proposed on-line assessments and that assessments between the two will be comparable. She also outlined the grade level and subjects to be tested.*
 - **New Evaluation System**
 - *Mrs. Pollock discussed the teacher evaluation system that must be in place for the 2014-2015 school year. She explained that value added data will account for 50% of teachers evaluations and SLO's will be used to measure student growth for those teachers who don't have value added data available.*
 - **Third Grade Guarantee**
 - *Mrs. Pollock explained that reading diagnostics will be required for students aged Kindergarten through Third grade to determine if these students are on-track to meet the state minimum reading requirements. For students requiring intervention assistance, only teachers with a reading endorsement will be qualified to provide instruction.*
 - **Instructional Technology**
 - *Mrs. Pollock shared the technology investments necessary to support on-line assessments and curriculum goals. She noted that much technology was updated this year from a wireless network, smart boards and computer labs to technology tutors.*
- **Planning for Growth – District Goal #3**
 - **Redistricting**
 - *Mr. Barber shared the redistricting options developed using our GIS mapping system to relieve overcrowding at our elementary schools.*
 - **Facility Assessment**
 - *Mr. Barber explained that an assessment will be completed by the spring so that cost projections for improvements at Harrison Street can be shared at the March board meeting.*
 - **Staff and Additional Building**
 - *Mr. Barber illustrated the detailed staffing needs of approximately 16 staff members at an estimated cost of \$720,000.*

