

Record of the Board of Education of the Columbia School District

Special Session, 24th day of February, 2011

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The Board of Education of the School District of Columbia, Boone County, Missouri, met in special session at the Administration Building, 1818 West Worley Street, at the hour of 7:30 a.m., Central Standard Time, Monday, the 24th day of February, 2011. Those in attendance were as follows:

President Jan Mees
Vice President Dr. Tom Rose
Member Christine King
Member Michelle Pruitt
Member Jonathan Sessions
Member James Whitt
Superintendent Dr. Chris Belcher
Deputy Superintendent and Secretary Dr. Nick Boren
Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer Linda Quinley

Absent: Member Dr. Ines Segert

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Mees at 7:34 a.m.

Consideration of Agenda

The first matter of business was consideration of approval of the agenda for the February 24, 2011, meeting of the Board of Education. It was moved by Dr. Rose that the agenda be approved as presented. The second was by Ms. King. The vote was 6 yes—0 no—1 absent.

Small Autonomous Schools

Dr. Peter Stiepleman, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education, led a discussion on small autonomous schools. This concept is being considered for implementation at Benton, Lee, and Ridgeway elementary schools. Topics discussed included the effects of mobility on student achievement and ways to create consistency and build capacity.

Junior Achievement Report

A report on the school district's involvement with Junior Achievement was presented by Michelle Baumstark, the district's community relations coordinator; Craig Adams, the district's practical arts coordinator; and Meridith Knapp, Junior Achievement vice president. Junior Achievement was piloted in Columbia last year for the first time, with about 600 students participating. The program is now in 11 schools with 2,700 students in the program.

Summer School 2011 Update

Dr. Belcher announced it appears 2011 summer school funding will be included in the state foundation formula, and district administrators are moving forward with full plans for summer school. Summer school starts for elementary students on June 6, 2011, and for secondary students on June 9, 2011.

Consideration of School Improvement Grant

Dr. Sally Beth Lyon, Chief Academic Officer, and Dr. Peter Stiepleman, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education, presented an overview of a grant proposal to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The purpose of the Special Education Elementary Achievement School Improvement Grant is to reduce the likelihood of African-American students being suspended proportionally more than other races and reduce achievement disparities by supporting three-tier models of intervention. It was moved by Ms. King that the grant application be approved. The second was by Mr. Whitt. The vote was 5 yes—0 no—1 absent—1 abstention (Ms. Pruitt abstained).

Hickman High School Schedule Discussion

Dr. Wanda Brown, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education, and Dr. Tracey Conrad, principal of Hickman High School, led a discussion of the Hickman schedule. There is support at the school for making a change from traditional scheduling to block scheduling, and the various aspects of each type of scheduling were discussed. The school is considering adopting a modified block schedule which would include "academic prep," a common, mandatory built-in time during the school day in which students can prepare for classes as needed.

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Adjournment

It was moved by Dr. Rose that the Board of Education adjourn to meet in executive session at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 14, 2011, at the Administration Building, 1818 West Worley Street, for the purpose of considering personnel issues as authorized by the provisions of Section 610.021(3)(13) of the Missouri statutes. The second was by Mr. Sessions. The roll call vote was as follows:

Ms. Pruitt voted	Yes
Ms. King voted	Yes
Dr. Rose voted	Yes
Dr. Segert was	Absent
Mr. Sessions voted	Yes
Mr. Whitt voted	Yes
President Mees voted	Yes

There was no further business to come before the Board, and the meeting was declared adjourned at 9:20 a.m.