



WEBSTER GROVES SCHOOL DISTRICT
The Board of Education
Special/Workshop Meeting
MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2012
Bristol Elementary School Library
20 Gray Avenue
Webster Groves, Missouri 63119

CALL TO ORDER

A special/workshop meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:58 p.m., Monday, October 22, 2012, by its president, Amy O'Brien. The following members were present:

Amy O'Brien	President
Emerson Smith	Vice President
Amy Clendennen	
Jean Dugan	
Michael Kearney	
Steve Loher	

Also present were:

Sarah Riss	Superintendent
Diane Moore	Assistant Superintendent/COO
John Simpson	Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
John M. Thomas	Director of Student Services
Cathy Vespereny	Director of Community Relations
Nancy Zitzmann	Bristol Principal
Katie Brookes	Secretary

PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE

Ms. O'Brien called for and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag prior to beginning the meeting.

AGENDA

Mrs. Dugan moved, seconded by Mr. Kearney, approval of the agenda as presented. The motion carried 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Dave Buck, Hixson parent, spoke about the district being "good" and becoming "great." He commented on the percentage of students who receive straight A's and the need for a rigorous program. He indicated he would love to help the district become great.

REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT AND STAFF

RESTRUCTURING BOND DEBT

Dr. Moore opened the discussion of restructuring the district's bond debt and introduced Greg Bricker from George K. Baum, the bond underwriter for the district.

Mr. Bricker explained the best option for restructuring/refunding the district's general obligation bonds, which was determined by following a holistic viewpoint of district finances. He noted the district currently has five bond issues outstanding - three from 2010, one from 2007, and one from 2006. The 2010 bond issues currently have a low interest rate and the 2007 bond issue has no call provision; therefore, the 2006 bond issue is the only possibility for restructuring. He also explained the background of bank qualified bonds, which are limited to \$10 million in a calendar year.

The proposed restructuring strategy involves issuing multiple bank qualified \$10 million bonds over several years. The callable bonds to be refunded are from the \$40 million 2006 bond issue and involve the first issuance of \$32 million. For the 2012 transaction crossover bonds would be used to pay off \$9,310,000 callable 2006 general obligation bonds. The net nominal savings for this refunding would be \$1,910,000. The present value savings as a percent of old par would equal 17.10%. The district would complete the 2012 refunding process by December 2012. The next bank qualified refunding opportunity would occur in the spring of 2013. This refunding would be combined with the sale of most if not all of the district's remaining \$6.5 million 2010 bonds which haven't been sold. The district would anticipate refunding an additional \$4,045,000 of the callable 2006 general obligation bonds. The net nominal savings for this refunding is projected to be \$554,000. The present value savings as a percent of old par would equal 11.88%. The total net nominal savings for these two refundings would be approximately \$2,464,000, a net present value of \$2,072,839 and a net present value savings of 15.5% of the \$13,355,000 par refunded.

Since the proposed refunding would result in savings for the district which would be good for the community, the board encouraged Dr. Moore to develop a proposal to bring to the board for consideration.

BRISTOL SCHOOL
REPORT

Bristol Principal Nancy Zitzmann opened the presentation of her school's report. She noted Bristol successes, including a consistently high attendance rate, 100% parent participation in parent/teacher conferences, and the school's strong and positive PBIS program which achieved the Bronze Award at the state level. She also noted improvements in MAP scores in communication arts and mathematics for the same cohorts of students, the increase in the number of 5th grade students scoring proficient or advanced in science, as well as actions which supported Bristol's successes, actions taken to address needs, and points of pride.

Ms. Zitzmann then introduced Bristol staff members who shared activities taking place in the school in support of the goals be respectful, be responsible, be safe, and be supportive. They noted efforts to reinforce positive behavior, interventions and supports used, PBIS incentives, and PBIS leadership which includes student representatives.

Board members commented that student involvement in PBIS is great and congratulated the school on their continuing improvement in MAP scores.

STUDENT SUCCESS
DATA AREA REPORT

Dr. Simpson opened the presentation of the student success data area report with a summary of the indicators. He then shared celebrations and critical issues in connection with student success. This was followed by information concerning curriculum and involved students. Dr. Simpson stated that the district's curriculum is always in the process of revision and shared information about extracurricular activities. Mr. Thomas discussed the responsible students indicator, including more consistent office referrals and consistent discipline infraction codes. He also shared actions to promote safe and healthy lifestyles. Dr. Simpson returned to discuss high achieving students performance measures and noted that the district achieved 14 out of 14 on the APR and showed statistical gains in a variety of areas. He also shared actions influencing student success and discussed the after graduation indicators. Dr. Simpson then noted the progress being made toward targeted objectives.

Board members commented on the ACT scores, the safe schools hotline, the difficulty tracking graduates, and the number of fights. They also discussed the implementation of PBIS and the fact that Clark and Edgar Road follow different but similar programs.

Board members then participated in a small group discussion of the information provided in the student success report.

BOARD CALENDAR
REVIEW AND
MEETING
STRUCTURE

Board members discussed upcoming events and possible changes to the BOE meeting structure. They discussed having school reports presented on alternate years, but with a school summary report provided for review each year; keeping two meetings per month as currently scheduled; only having one meeting during months when there is a retreat; coming up with topics for meetings at the January retreat; and only having five school reports this year.

They also discussed the need to be prepared for meetings, the value of Bagels with the Board, the best use of the time spent in meetings, the importance of the voices of the committees, having more dialogue and less listening to reports at workshop meetings, and streamlining meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no additional public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Loher moved, seconded by Mr. Smith, to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m. The motion carried 6-0.

President

Secretary