

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Special Board of Education Meeting

February 22

2022

The Mansfield City Schools Board of Education met in a special session on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Lowell T. Smith Boardroom at the Raemelon Administration Building. The following members answered the roll: Renda Cline, present, Gary Feagin, present, Chris Elswick, present, Linda Golden, present, Sheryl Weber, present. Superintendent, Stan Jefferson and Treasurer, Tacy Courtright were also present.

The pledge of allegiance was recited

22 - 34 Resolution to Approve the Agenda

Ms. Cline moved, seconded by Mr. Feagin to approve the agenda

Roll call: Ms. Cline, Yes; Mr. Feagin, Yes; Mr. Elswick, Yes; Mrs. Weber, Yes; Mrs. Golden, Yes

Mrs. Weber read the proposed/revised building restructuring plan that the Administration is asking the board to approve;

- Phase 1
 - Pre-K at *Springmill STEM* would move together to *Sherman Elementary* → Sherman Elementary would be a Pre-K-2 attendance area primary school
 - Grade 3 from *Prospect, Woodland, and Sherman Elementaries* would move together to *Malabar Intermediate* → Malabar Intermediate would serve students in grades 3-6

Mrs. Weber then asked the board members if they had any questions or comments. Mr. Elswick asked how the original proposal evolved into a plan that is referenced as Phase 1. Mr. Jefferson responded as follows:

On January 25, 2022, we submitted a restructuring plan based on the work associated with the strategic plan under the **Renew** goal. Specifically, the building restructuring proposal seeks to:

- Improve the financial and operational efficiency in our schools
- Maximize and focus instructional resources around students in grade-level settings
- Educate students in facilities that meet 21st century learning needs

After this board meeting, we held four in-person meetings and two virtual meetings, for staff, families, and community members to provide feedback and insight about these changes and the future of our district. The Administration reviewed the feedback from these meetings and felt that it was valuable and valid.

Subsequently, on February 15th, we presented a modified plan to the Board of Education. This revised plan consists of two phases, Phase 1, which Mrs. Weber has read, would be implemented in time for the start of the 2022-2023 school year. Phase 2 - With additional study and community input, the MCS administration will determine the next steps for Phase 2, which would be proposed to the Board of Education at a later date.

Board members discussed the proposed plan, asked additional questions, and shared concerns.

Mr. Elswick expressed concern over the changes from the original plan, the timing of this meeting, and did not feel that the board had been adequately informed in regards to the changes made on February 15th. In addition, he would like additional information on the building capacity, class size, and estimated cost savings.

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Mrs. Cline added that she would like additional information on Phase 2 and why the proposed changes were needed and better than the original plan. She expressed the need for all board members to have the same information at the same time.

Mrs. Golden expressed concern associated with delaying action and the potential cost to the district. She recognizes the need to close a building sooner rather than later. Several board members agreed.

Mr. Feagin emphasized that after participating in a virtual parent meeting, he better understood the parent concerns from Spanish Immersion. He also took the time to speak with the superintendent and got additional questions answered. He indicated that he was prepared to vote.

All board members agreed that they would commit more time to this work and would be willing to participate in work sessions.

Mr. Elswick and Ms. Cline asked to postpone the vote to allow for more information to be presented and that additional open discussion would be needed.

After ample discussion, Ms. Weber called for the vote.

22 - 35 Resolution to approve Phase 1 (one) of the 2022-2023 Building Restructuring

Mr. Feagin moved to approve Phase 1 (one) of the 2022-2023 Building Restructuring, the motion was not seconded and the resolution was tabled.

22 – 36 Resolution to Adjourn

Mr. Elswick moved, seconded by Ms. Cline to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Roll call: Mr. Elswick, Yes; Ms. Cline, Yes; Mr. Feagin, Yes; Mrs. Weber, Yes; Mrs. Golden, Yes

Sheryl Weber , President

Tacy Courtright, Treasurer

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