



## ***Tri-Village Local Schools***

The Tri-Village Local School District Board of Education held a public hearing on October 16, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. to solely address a proposal to change its inside millage. Mrs. Chowning shared the purpose of the public hearing and the reason for such consideration. Questions and concerns were raised by visitors. Paul Rutter, district attorney from Bricker Graydon, was present as well to field questions. The hearing adjourned at 6:38.

The Tri-Village Local School District Board of Education met in regular session on October 16, 2023, at 6:40 p.m. with the following members present: Tim Bevins, Darin Dubbs, Tracy Frech, Tom Schlechty, and Justin Spencer.

The Board of Education approved the minutes of the regular meeting held on September 18, 2023.

**Elementary Principal's Report:** Mr. Mead highlighted the district's 5-star rating and stated that he could not be more proud of his students and staff. He's been in the classrooms observing and evaluating teachers as part of the OTES process and is seeing great things happening. Professional development is an important piece of achieving goals. The administrators continue to seek areas of improvement. As such, Emily Kappel from Kappel Consulting will be on campus December 6 and 7, 2023 and March 6, 2024, which are early release days, to provide professional development for math teachers in grades 3-8. Emily will observe in the mornings and then meet with the teachers in the afternoon. Mead mentioned that the third grade RIMP's are in place and are awaiting parent signatures which teachers will obtain at parent/teacher conferences on October 17 and 19. Third grade ELA testing will take place on October 25 and 26 with make-up testing on the 27<sup>th</sup>. The results should be received by mid-December. "Teach Like a Pirate" lessons continue to take place at all grade levels. Mr. Burgess was here a few years ago and he challenged our teachers to provide lessons outside of the box. Each teacher will need to complete two mini anti-bullying lessons for the month of October, which is anti-bullying month. The New Madison Fire Department was on site October 11 as part of a three-hour fire prevention program. Mr. Mead thanked Tyler Cook and the other volunteers who came in to speak with the K-2 students as well as allowing them to climb in the fire engines. Kona Ice will be here on October 25. The Watch D.O.G.S. sign-ups are on October 26 with the first official day being November 3. Beginning this school year, each elementary grade level will have a Patriot of the Month. Mr. Mead congratulated the following grade level recipients for the month of September: Kindergarten Austin Chasteen, 1<sup>st</sup> Jenna Gerig, 2<sup>nd</sup> Gabi Marshall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Megan Blackford, 4<sup>th</sup> Kendall Lytle, 5<sup>th</sup> Elizabeth Eckert, and 6<sup>th</sup> Sadie Moore. Each of these students will have a sign placed in their yard. A lunch with the principal will take place on October 27. Mr. Mead concluded his report stating, "There are a lot of good things happening for Tri-Village students!" He could not be more proud of the great start to the school year. Teachers have hit the ground running and the students are enjoying the lessons. Mr. Bevins stated that our staff and administration are justifiably proud of the 5 stars but wondered if the students grasped the significance of it. Mr. Mead feels like the junior high/high school students understand the achievement more so than the elementary age students.

**High School Principal's Report:** Mr. Morris responded to Mr. Bevin's statement and said that we have a student population that really knows how to compete. Students step up and try to do their best for each next "big" test and because they see the administration taking goals seriously, the students do as well. Mr. Morris is focusing on both the 5-star district achievement and the "All In" mission. The district's most recent performance index is 89, up from 88.7 from last year. Tri-Village maintained their place in the Top 15 in the Miami Valley and 12<sup>th</sup> place for the second year in a row. Mr. Morris and Mrs. Renfro traveled to Clark State Community College looking at some different program options for the special education consortium units. The district houses three multiple disability units and one severe behavioral unit. Morris attended an Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators (OASSA) conference on October 2 and 3<sup>rd</sup>. He attended several sessions and shared a few of the guest speakers' messages (John B. Gordon III, Dr. Scott Grant, and Shawn Harper). The Senior Seminar class has taken college visits to IU East and Wright State thus far. This class will again offer Life Skill Fridays and a few workforce visits this school year. Mrs. Burns, Mr. Saba, Mr. Schmitz, and Mr. Wirrig are in year two of the Resident Educator program. Mr. Morris highlighted support staff that our kids can connect with as follows: Amanda Dyson -Family Advocate, Tina Huffman - Family Health Nurse Practitioner, Jodi Fritz - School Nurse, Jessica Gebhart - Behavior Health and Wellness Therapist, Annette Black - K-12 Guidance Counselor, Dan Stockslager - Darke County Sheriff School Resource Officer, and Jeff Vaughn and Toby Metzgar from the ACES gateway program. The student council

and volleyball teams hosted a Cancer Awareness Week October 9 – 13. Through their efforts, they were able to donate over \$1,100 to the Darke County Cancer Association. Mr. Morris included in his report a listing of important dates for the remainder of October and November. He also handed out Veteran's Day breakfast invitations to those in attendance to share with family members who have served. These invitations will also be dropped off at area churches and the public library as well.

**Superintendent's Report:** Mr. Sagester began his report discussing the temporary restraining order that blocks the transfer of K-12 governance powers from the Ohio Department of Education's State Board of Education and state superintendent to the governor's cabinet. The district was recently notified by ODE that due to the district's academic success (5-star rating), Tri-Village has met an exempt status for three years. As a result, the district can be exempt from the following: teacher qualification requirements under the third grade reading guarantee, Ohio Resident Educator Program's mentoring component if a local approach is utilized, provisions requiring a minimum or maximum class size, and any provisions requiring teachers to be licensed specifically in the grade level they are teaching. Mr. Sagester confirmed that there is no need for any exemptions at this time. The auditorium renovations are almost complete and the following items have been finished: stage floor, front of stage, concrete steps, wall surfaces, railings, and door frames all painted, the basement area and storage room has been reorganized to make space for all new sound and light equipment, construction and painting of new sound booth, hung and painted plywood and trim on the old carpeted areas of the walls, hung the sound treatment tiles on the new plywood walls, patched the ceiling carpet above the seats, painted the drywall repair of the ceiling, new lighting installed and sound upgrades, and electrical upgrades for sound and light. The new stage curtains have been ordered and should be delivered soon. The poles are up, and footers have been poured for the baseball and softball backstops. A three-foot brick wall will be constructed soon and netting installation following. A kickoff meeting with Level MB took place on September 20 regarding updates to the baseball and softball complex. Items discussed included site logistics, current drawings, permits, schedule (5-month duration), utilities, and submittal discussion. The Bureau of Workers Compensation Safety Intervention grant that was applied for back in May was recently approved and funds were received in early October. The grant will offset the cost of updating the hallways in the elementary wing. Schoolhouse Electronics was on site October 10 and 11 updating the Commons technology. Chris Pearson is working on updating the rotunda lighting in the entry hallway to improve lighting capacity at the entrance. Mr. Sagester will be interviewed on Tiger radio on October 25. House Bill 187 and Senate Bill 153 were highlighted. HB 187 would require the use of a three-year average for re-evaluating property values, resulting in real property valuations being based equally on the past three years. The bill would also require similar averaging for current agricultural use values (CAUV) over the same three-year period for farmland in counties that undergo a property tax reappraisal or triennial update. HB 187 would only pertain to tax years 2023, 2024, and 2025. Further, it also gives county auditors rather than the Tax Commission, the final authority regarding the property tax equalization of a county's real property. SB 153 is a companion bill to HB 187 and suggests amendments to the 20-mill floor. Mr. Sagester stated that interim reports went home on October 5. As Mr. Mead mentioned, Kappel Consulting will be here on some early release days to provide professional development. The following topics will be covered: What is a mathematician, student centered classrooms, instruction, MAP and IXL benchmark to drive instruction, and coaching. The district is going to be piloting a program called YouScience which is a career exploration assessment for junior high and high school students. Congratulations to Trey Homan who was a district qualifier for the boys' golf team and Reagan Brewer who was the girl's golf WOAC player of the year for a second year in a row. She finished in 10<sup>th</sup> place at the district meet. The varsity football team record is 8-1, JV 4-1, and JH 5-2 currently. Varsity volleyball has a 10-11 record, JV 14-5, 8<sup>th</sup> grade 17-1, and 7<sup>th</sup> grade 16-2. The eighth-grade team won the WOAC tournament championship on October 14. Congratulations to Tammy Foremen and her team. The seventh-grade team finished runner-up in the WOAC. Congratulations to Jimmy Foreman and his team. The JH/HS WOAC cross county meet was held on October 14 at Preble Shawnee. The athletic department will be hosting a Night of Champions during half-time of an upcoming home boys varsity basketball game. The 1974 District baseball champions (50 years) and the 1979 (45 years) State Final Four softball team will be honored. The FFA soil teams travelled to Lancaster, OH to compete in the State Finals on October 14. The competition included the Top 50 teams in each division from across the state. There are 400 chapters in Ohio. The Urban Team placed 11<sup>th</sup> overall, led by Lucas Howell (14<sup>th</sup>) and Kiersten Wilcox (36<sup>th</sup>). First year evaluator Leana Metzcar placed (91<sup>st</sup>) and Darcy Miller (102<sup>nd</sup>). There were 164 Urban contestants at the State Finals. The Ag/Rural Team placed 28<sup>th</sup>. The team consisted of Macy Howell (49), Josh Metzcar (111), Hunter Ridout (121) and Alexa Light (156). There were 181 Ag/Rural contestants in the State Finals.

The Board of Education members voted on the following motions:

### **PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS**

1. Recommendation to approve the monthly employment of substitute teachers for the 2023-2024 school year as submitted and updated monthly by the Darke County Educational Service Center.
2. Recommendation to employ Theresa Graham, retro-active to September 12, 2023, as a classified substitute for the 2023-2024 school year.
3. Recommendation to issue a one year (2023-2024) limited supplemental contract to Heather Stump, High School Student Council Advisor.
4. Recommendation to issue a one year (2023-2024) limited supplemental contract to Scott Howell, Volunteer High School Girls Basketball Assistant.
5. Recommendation to approve the following as classified substitutes (custodian) for the 2023-2024 school year.
  - Mary Wyne
  - Jewell Towery – retroactive to August 30, 2023

### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

1. Recommendation to approve the financial reports as presented by the Treasurer.
2. Recommendation to accept the following donations:

<u><b>Donor</b></u>	<u><b>Account</b></u>	<u><b>Amount</b></u>
Beech Grove Church of the Brethren	Archery	\$100.00
Derksen Automotive LLC	Archery	\$300.00
First Rate Industries	Archery	\$500.00
Hydro Edge	Archery	\$100.00
Ironhorse Motorcycle Lodge	Archery	\$500.00
JC's Carpet	Archery	\$100.00
Lefeld Industrial & Welding Supplies	Archery	\$100.00
Medicine and More	Archery	\$200.00
Pick Six Drive-Thru & Pizza	Archery	\$200.00
The Service Company	Archery	\$200.00
Wiley Well Drilling, Inc	Archery	\$200.00
Sherriff-Gosling Company	Athletics/Capital Improvement	\$2,500.00
Anonymous Donor	Baseball	\$1,500.00
Tri-Village FFA Alumni	FFA	\$5,179.80

3. Recommendation to amend the purpose and intent statement for the football account, fund 300 with a special cost center of 9915, to include language for acceptable expenditures adding "donations to families in need."
4. Recommendation to approve Archery Club Fees of \$60.00 per member as per the Archery club Advisor for the 2023-2024 school year. This fee covers state tournament fees, St. Jude Tournament fees and bus travel costs.
5. Recommendation to set the part-time Maintenance and Grounds rate at \$25.00 per hour for the 2023-2024 school year.
6. Recommendation to set the part-time Patriot Activity Center Caretaker rate at \$15.00 per hour for the 2023-2024 school year.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Recommendation to implement the Continuity of Learning Plan for the 2023-2024 school year for calamity days six, seven and eight.
  - The teaching staff at Tri-Village will use Google Meets/Google Classroom to provide online instruction to our students.
  - The Tri-Village Continuity of Learning Plan was signed and approved by TVEA President, Zac Graham.
2. Recommend approving a resolution authorizing an unvoted permanent improvement levy (R.C. Sections 5705.314, 5705.06 and 5705.09) – Motion failed.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** - The Board of Education entered executive session pursuant to ORC Section 121.22 (G)(1) to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official. Time in 7:35 and time 7:48.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST** – Board members reviewed the public hearing.

Mr. Schlechty adjourned the meeting at 8:09.