

**THE GIST  
BROOKFIELD R-III SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OPEN SESSION --- REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
JULY 20, 2021**

The Brookfield R-III Board of Education, Brookfield, Missouri met in open session on Tuesday, July 20, 2021, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in person in the HS Media Center. The following board members were present in person: Jim McIntyre, Blake DeVoy, Jered Wallace, Galen Hicks, Dave Shaw and Noel Staddie. Mandy Tarpenting was absent. President McIntyre called the meeting to order and led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance. The board unanimously approved the Agenda and Consent Agenda Items as presented. There were no public comments. There were no communications and petitions, nor any program evaluation for the month of July.

The board discussed the upcoming calendar dates. Dr. Collins reviewed the schedule for Teacher Work Days in August with the board.

Dr. Collins reviewed the monthly finance reports for June 30, 2021, which will eventually be finalized as Becky completes the ASBR and it is approved by the auditor and DESE. It looks as if the district will end the 20-21 some \$700,000 in the black, which is very good news after all the unknowns that have occurred during the 2020-21 school year. Unexpected revenue, along with lower expenditures in several areas helped lead to this surplus ending. Final figures will be reported to the board at a future board meeting.

Dr. Collins gave a construction update. The parking lots are on schedule to be completed by the end of July. The athletic field construction is still running considerably behind schedule. The sports lighting poles are to be delivered on August 9, 2021. Dr. Collins has had many discussions with the contractor and engineer about how far behind schedule the project is. He will continue to push them and keep the board updated on the project.

Dr. Collins reported that the HVAC work is running along very smoothly. Substantial completion on controls, filtration system, ductwork, and water pump booster is expected by August 15, 2021. The roof-top-units at the Career Center will be installed the second week in September at the earliest. However, there will still be AC to the Career Center throughout the summer until the switch is made.

Dr. Collins and the board discussed the request that Boys Cross Country be added as a high sport offering. Dr. Collins recommended that the board approve this request. It will be no added expense as far as coaches or travel goes, as the boys' team will use the same coach and take part in the same meets as the girls' cross country team. He noted that it will have very little or no impact on our Title IX requirements because the numbers of males expected to go out for this sport is very low. Director DeVoy moved to add Boys Cross Country as a Brookfield High School sport offering, effective immediately. Director Shaw seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A report on Summer School 2021 prepared by Mrs. Wilbeck and Ms. Carlson was reviewed by the board. It relayed the following information:

**Summer School 2021 Summary**

- Summer School was in session for 20 days, from Thursday, June 3 through Wednesday, June 30.
- Students were in attendance from 8:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
- Breakfast and lunch were provided free of charge.
- K-8 students participated in local field trips 3 of the 4 Fridays (Brookfield Aquatic Center and Reel Time Cinema).
- All classes, K-12, were held in the elementary building to accommodate technology updates, HVAC improvements, and cleaning and maintenance schedules.

## Enrollment and Participation

Elementary (K-4)	55 students enrolled, 45 students attended consistently
Middle School (5-8)	42 students enrolled, 38 students attended consistently
High School	Invited 40 - 45 students to participate in Credit Recovery (1/2 credit available per content area) 3 successfully recovered an English Credit 2 successfully recovered a Science Credit 10 successfully recovered a Math Credit 5 successfully recovered a History Credit

NOTE: 2 HS students successfully completed requirements in 2 courses

Dr. Collins reported that the plans for returning to school for the 2021-22 school year, in regards to the rules and regulations we will have in place due to Covid, have not changed from what he reported last month in the mandatory document that the board approved titled SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN (SRCSP).

Dr. Collins reported that he received a letter from the Missouri Attorney General's Office in regard to the district's formal complaint concerning the Symmetry bill we received for our usage in February 2021 in the amount of \$36,596.20. The letter basically stated that the MO AG's office cannot do anything to help us with this matter, but will keep on top of it and get back to us if anything changes. Dr. Collins also received a letter from Symmetry stating that it is working with the MSBA Natural Gas Consortium to come up with some sort of settlement offer and they will contact us when that offer is finalized. Dr. Collins will continue to update the board on this matter.

Director DeVoy moved to officially set the annual Tax Rate Hearing for August 17, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. in the HS Media Center, just prior to the regular August board meeting. Director Wallace seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Staddie moved to keep the non-resident student tuition rate for 2021-22 at the current \$3500.00 per year per student. Director DeVoy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Collins and the board discussed substitute teacher pay. All agreed it was important for the district to stay competitive in this area as subs can be very difficult to find throughout the year. Current pay for substitute teachers is \$80/day for non-certified teachers and \$85/day for certified teachers. Director Staddie moved to raise substitute teacher pay to \$90/day for non-certified teachers and \$95/day for certified teachers. Director Shaw seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Collins discussed with the board the impact of a Missouri case titled Blankenship v. Franklin County Tax Collector. We were notified by the State Auditor's office that this court case impacts the Brookfield R-III School District directly in that our district will lose about \$0.25 in tax levy, which amounts to approximately \$165,000 per year because of this ruling. This is highly significant and Dr. Collins feel it must be addressed in the near future with the voters because he has been advised by legal that it has very little chance of being overturned and we will see the loss in revenue. The board will need to decided how to proceed in order to recoup these funds. Dr. Collins also stated that the budget will need to be updated throughout the year. Because the district ended FY 2021 with higher than projected fund balances, it will still begin and end with higher than projected fund balances for FY 2022. However, due to the loss of tax revenue connected to the Blankenship v. Franklin County Tax Collector, the district will show a higher deficit spending balance for 2022.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m. and the board moved into closed session. During closed session Anna Stinson was hired as special education teacher for the 2021-2022 school year.