

**THE GIST
BROOKFIELD R-III SCHOOL DISTRICT
OPEN SESSION --- REGULAR BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 17, 2021**

The Brookfield R-III Board of Education, Brookfield, Missouri met in open session on Tuesday, August 17, 2021, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in person in the HS Media Center. The following board members were present in person: Jim McIntyre, Jered Wallace, Galen Hicks, Dave Shaw, Mandy Tarpenting and Noel Staddie. Blake DeVoy was absent, but arrived later at 5:48 p.m. President McIntyre called the meeting to order and led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Collins asked that "Kindergarten Numbers" and "MO Prosper Sunshine Law Request" be added as items under New Business. The amended Agenda was approved unanimously.

Dr. Collins reviewed his recommendation for the 2021-2022 tax rate, which was complicated by the Blankenship vs. Franklin Co. ruling that caused our tax rate to decrease by .2374. There were no public comments. Director Hicks moved to approve the proposed tax levy for the 2021-2022 school year as follows:

3.7903 Operating Levy (fund 1)
.4242 Temporary Levy (fund 1)
.66 Deb Service Levy (fund 3)
4.8745 Total Levy

Director Tarpenting seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion:

Yeas---McIntyre, Wallace, Hicks, Tarpenting, Shaw, Staddie

Nays---None

The motion carried unanimously.

Director Tarpenting moved to adjourn the tax rate hearing and move into regular session. Director Wallace seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion:

Yeas---McIntyre, Wallace, Hicks, Tarpenting, Shaw, Staddie

Nays---None

The motion carried unanimously.

The following people asked to speak during public comments: Megan Parn, Karyl Drescher, Julie Davison, Amanda Lambert, Brad Parn, Carey Davison, and Matt Parn. All individuals stated they wish to speak regarding a personnel matter. President McIntyre stated that since their matter of interest was a personnel issue that they would need to be heard during closed session. He further stated they would each be given three minutes to speak during closed session, which would take place after the open session adjourns.

The Consent Agenda items were approved unanimously as presented.

Under program evaluations Matt Parn reported on the summer maintenance projects, including the construction of the baseball/softball fields and concession stand and restroom area, the new parking lot, and the HVAC work being done by CTS. The ball field is behind and now we are waiting on a certain kind of ground cover for the field to arrive because not enough was ordered the first time. Until this ground cover arrives, work on the field is stalled, but work continues elsewhere on the ball field complex. Except for one light pole, the parking lot is complete and actually has 249 parking spaces on it compared to the old lot that 231 spaces. CTS continues to do excellent work on overhauling the district's HVAC system. Matt Anderson reported on the summer technology work projects. As of June 30, 2021, the district completed its contract with K12-ITC and Mr. Anderson and his team worked all summer on overhauling the district's network and servers so that everything could be serviced in-house. It has been a long and complicated project with glitches here and there, but overall everything is running smoothly and this will be a very beneficial change for the district. Denise Carlson presented the annual Special Education Compliance Plan to the board for its approval. Not many areas

had any changes from last year, with only a few words here and there being tweaked. The mean and content remained the same. The board approved the 2021-22 Special Education Compliance Plan unanimously, as presented.

The board reviewed the upcoming calendar dates and the July 31, 2021 Finance Report, as well as the Annual Secretary of the Board Report (ASBR). Once the ASBR has been reviewed and approved by our auditor and DESE, the board will vote to approve it.

Dr. Collins reported that he held a Stakeholder's Meeting and conducted a survey regarding the ESSER III money the district has been allotted by the federal government, which is roughly \$2,536,000. The Stakeholder's Meeting and survey were both a ESSER III requirement. There were about 15 people at the Stakeholder's Meeting and 105 surveys were completed. The meeting and the survey revealed the following priorities in regards to the ESSER III funds: Projects - #1 HVAC in EL/MS gym; #2 remodel of district restrooms; #3 HVAC maintenance/upgrades throughout the district; #4 new playground equipment; #5 locker room remodel. Student Needs: #1 mental health support; #2 tutoring; #3 social and emotional learning. Dr. Collins submitted the ESSER III application in order to meet the deadline, but it can be amended many times throughout the process. The board approved the initial ESSER III application submitted by Dr. Collins unanimously.

Dr. Collins updated the board on the Symmetry natural gas bill situation. He was advised by legal and MSBA to pay the bill (which was over \$36,000) for the February 2021 usage, but that the district did not receive until summer so our account would not be in arrears and no late fees charged. The bill has been paid; however, MSBA is still trying to negotiate a reduction in the charge. Dr. Collins will keep the board updated on this matter.

Dr. Collins reported that kindergarten numbers are up from where we expected them to be, so if we get a couple more kindergarten students, we will need to add another kindergarten teacher. It is not an ideal time to do so, but there are some options out there. Right now each of the three kindergarten classrooms has almost 20 students each and this is not ideal. He will keep the board updated on this matter.

Dr. Collins reported that he, along with every other Missouri superintendent, received a Missouri Sunshine Law Request from an organization named Missouri Prosper asking for all kinds of documents district wide that contained any of the following words or phrases: action civics, advocacy, African American, affinity groups, affinity spaces, Allyship, anti racist, anti-racist, antiracist, bias, black liberation, Black Lives Matter, BLM, checking in on yourself, collective guilt, collective humanity, conscious bias, critical theory, critical race theory, culturally responsive, differences, diversity, diverse, educational equity consultants, equity consultants, equality, equality theory, equitable, equity, equity learning, equity plan, equity survey, high order thinking, Identity politics, implicit bias, inclusive, inherently racist, injustice, intersectionality, Juneteenth, learning for justice, leveling (taking away advanced learning), liberal order, listening deeply, literacy, lives shaped by zip codes, micro-aggressions, neo racism, oppressor/oppressed, prejudice plus power, prejudice + power, protest racism, race, racial bias, race conscious, racial injustice, racial justice, racial privilege, racial unrest, racial violence, racism, sensitive, sensitivity training, social constructivism, social emotional learning (SEL), social justice or social justice leader, SJW or social justice warrior, social reconstruction, stereotypes, struggle sessions, system racism, systems of oppression, traditional civil rights, uncomfortable conversations, unconscious bias, universal liberalism, white fragility, white guilt, white people, white privilege, whiteness, whitewashing, 1619 Project, EEC, gender terms. We are required by law to respond to all Missouri Sunshine Law requests; however, we can charge for our time regarding looking up the records/documents requested, the time it takes to copy the records/documents, and the copying costs. Given those multiple terms requested, many districts throughout the state are attempting to come up with some kind of invoice for this organization, Missouri Prosper, before working on this request. The invoice Dr. Collins sent Missouri Prosper included hiring a person at minimum wage to search through all district documents and computers for these terms, which included an estimated: 14,000 hours @ 11.15 (search time) = \$156,100, 560 hours @ 11.15 (copying time) = \$6,244, and 1,000,000 copies @ 10 cents per copy = \$100,000, for an estimated total of \$262,344. The estimated time of that the requested records will be available, at the earliest, is 3:30 p.m. on May 15, 2028. Dr. Collins will keep the board updated on this matter.

Each administrator provided a brief review of the start of the school year. Back-to-School Night is tomorrow, August 18th, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. All classrooms will be open at that time for parents and students to view.

Dr. Collins reported that the CSIP reviews will be held throughout the year as usual. This year the focus continues to be on ACT scores, English language arts, and math. At this time DESE is withholding the testing scores from last year. Dr. Collins will keep the board updated on this matter.

The board held a second reading of the 2021A MSBA Policy Updates.

The open session meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m. and moved into closed session.